



COMMISSIONERS COURT  
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE: 12/06/2022

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
TARRANT COUNTY AND UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER CONCERNING TARRANT COUNTY'S  
BURIAL PROGRAM**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between Tarrant County and the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) for the disposition of indigent and unclaimed minor children or adult decedents.

**BACKGROUND**

On October 2, 2018, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #128682, approved an ILA between Tarrant County and the UNTHSC for the disposition of indigent and unclaimed minor children or adult decedents.

On December 15, 2020 the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #134444, renewed the ILA from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

On January 18, 2021 the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #137281, renewed the ILA from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Section 694.002 of the Texas Health and Safety Code authorizes the County Commissioners Court to provide for the disposition of the body of a decedent pauper by either burial, donation to a medical facility, or cremation.

Section 791.011(C)(2) of the Texas Government Code permits agreements between local governments and state agencies to provide for this governmental function and service.

With approval of this ILA, Tarrant County authorizes the option of providing UNTHSC with decedents as a donation to such medical facility for clinical training, research and medical education programs, after consideration of interment duties provided by section 711.002(a), Texas Health and Safety code, are resolved.

UNTHSC will perform cremation on decedents donated by Tarrant County and accepted by UNTHSC for its programs, at no charge to Tarrant County or the decedent's family, with the ashes being returned to the decedent's family. For decedents that cannot be utilized for medical training, there will be a \$300.00 fee per deceased for cremation. The term of the agreement is January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

SUBMITTED BY:	Human Services	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Tanja Seib Lisa Martin
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The Criminal District Attorney's Office has reviewed and approved this interlocal agreement as to form.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal impact to the County is \$300.00 per deceased donated. Human Services has \$49,800 budgeted in line 10000-2023 572015 5210100000 for FY2023.