

VAN BUREN COUNTY QUORUM COURT

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-8

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, STATE OF ARKANSAS, A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED:

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PROVISION OF CERTIFIED TRAINING FOR 911 EMERGENCY DISPATCHERS IN ARKANSAS; THAT CERTIFIED DEATH INVESTIGATION TRAINING SHOULD LIKEWISE BE AVAILABLE TO DEATH SCENE INVESTIGATORS IN ARKANSAS; AND THAT THE QUORUM COURT OF THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, RECOGNIZES THE NEED AND SUPPORTS THE PROVISION OF CERTIFIED AND IN-STATE TRAINING FOR DEATH SCENE INVESTIGATORS IN ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS: During the 2011 Regular Session the General Assembly adopted Act 640 of 2011 providing for much needed in-state certified training for 911 emergency dispatchers in Arkansas;

WHEREAS: In-state certified training for 911 emergency dispatchers will enhance public safety, provide a higher quality training for 911 emergency dispatchers from the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy ("ALETA"), and having in-state training will result in savings to counties and cities for 911 emergency dispatcher training;

WHEREAS: The Governor and General Assembly are hereby commended for adopting Act 640 of 2011 and the provision of certified in-state training for 911 emergency dispatchers;

WHEREAS: In similar manner, there is a pressing need for certified in-state training for medicolegal death investigations in Arkansas for coroners, medical examiners, death scene investigators and law enforcement;

WHEREAS: Accuracy in death scene investigations has ramifications for both criminal and civil matters, death certifications, adjudicating estates, insurance settlements, court decisions, criminal convictions, disease control and genetic predispositions of siblings;

WHEREAS: The Arkansas Crime Laboratory, the Arkansas State Police, the Coroners Association and the Arkansas Department of Health ("ADH") have partnered with the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy ("ALETA") to establish a course curriculum for a pilot program during the summer of 2012 to provide the certified in-state training for medicolegal death investigation in Arkansas;

WHEREAS: The provision of certified in-state training for death scene investigators, coroners, medical examiner and law enforcement can be made to the highest quality, may result in costs savings to counties, cities and the State of Arkansas, and enhance the services to the citizens of Arkansas:

WHEREAS: Arkansas needs legislation, like other states, assuring an opportunity to conduct proper death investigations prior to destruction of the body and potential evidence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THAT THE GOVERNOR AND THE 88TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY BE COMMENDED FOR ADOPTING ACT 640 OF 2011 AND PROVIDING CERTIFIED IN-STATE TRAINING FOR 911 EMERGENCY DISPATCHERS IN ARKANSAS;

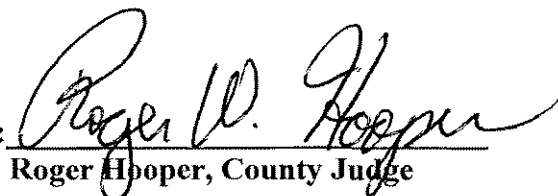
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE QUORUM COURT OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, ARKANSAS, REQUESTS THE GOVERNOR AND THE 88TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONSIDER PROVISION OF CERTIFIED IN-STATE CORONER TRAINING FOR DEATH SCENE INVESTIGATIONS IN ARKANSAS.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THAT ARKANSAS NEEDS LEGISLATION, LIKE OTHER STATES, ASSURING OPPORTUNITY TO CONDUCT PROPER DEATH INVESTIGATIONS PRIOR TO DESTRUCTION OF THE BODY AND POTENTIAL EVIDENCE;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE PROVIDED TO THE ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS COUNTIES TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE FUNERAL HOME DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE INTERIM STUDY OF HB 2175.

Dated this 19^h day of April, 2012.

APPROVED:


Roger Hooper, County Judge

ATTEST:


Ester Bass, County Clerk