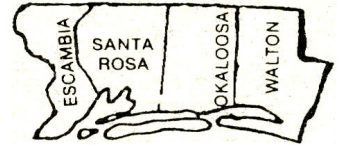


**OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
DISTRICT ONE, FLORIDA**

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Deanna A. Oleske, M.D.
Interim District Medical Examiner

August 17, 2023

DOMES Board,

As I am sure you are all aware, I filed a defamation lawsuit against several Escambia County funeral homes because of their libelous and defamatory letters that were made public back in April 2023. These letters have and will continue to harm my career as a forensic pathologist and expert witness, as well as my professional reputation.

I recognize as a public official that the bar for defamation is higher, but in this case the line was certainly crossed. After multiple discussions with other chiefs and forensic pathologists in Florida and across the country, it was a unanimous opinion that these malicious actions caused my career significant harm and that I need to defend myself. This was a personal attack, therefore, is a personal issue and not a DOMES issue. I made the decision to seek legal counsel independent of DOMES. I am personally paying for legal representation.

My attorneys are seeking public records and have filed requests with Escambia County. They believe these records will inform and support the pending litigation.

Sincerely,

Deanna A. Oleske, M.D.
Interim District Medical
Examiner District One
Medical Examiner's Office
Pensacola, Florida