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**To:** County Judge and Commissioners Court

From: Elizabeth Ventura, MD, Medical Examiner

**Date:** March 24, 2025

**Re:** Consent for Medical Examiner's Office to participate in Department of

State Health Services (DSHS) Texas Overdose Data 2 Action Toxicology

Reimbursement Program

The Medical Examiner's Office respectfully requests consent to participate in the Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Overdose Data 2 Action Reimbursement Program. The Texas Overdose Data to Action (TODA) program will use funds awarded to DSHS to pay for county toxicology testing on all suspected drug poisonings or overdoses. TODA has partnered with NMS Labs to carry out the testing. NMS Labs will provide all testing kits upon request, free of charge to the County. When there is a suspected drug poisoning, the County would submit a toxicology sample and request one of the approved test panels, through the TODA toxicology reimbursement account. The county will not be billed for the test. Instead, TODA will cover the cost of any tests on the account upfront. This will save the County roughly 50k a year.