

February 1, 2024

Attn: Secretary Kody Kinsley  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Care of Office of Government Affairs

Chairs Krawiec, Lambeth, and Potts, Vice Chair Corbin  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services Team, Education Team  
NCGA Fiscal Research Division

Subject: Report on East Carolina University Regional Autopsy Center

Pursuant to: [SL 2023-134](#) Section 9H.10A.(c)

"Annually, beginning February 1, 2024, ECU shall submit a progress report to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division on the status of relocating the regional autopsy center serving the eastern counties of North Carolina to the new ECU Medical Examiner's Office, listed as project code UNC/ECU23-3 in Section 40.1 of this act. The reporting requirements of this subsection terminate upon ECU's submission of a report confirming that this new facility has been completed and commenced operating as the regional autopsy center serving the eastern counties of North Carolina."

Report: East Carolina University Regional Autopsy Center

SL 2023-134 "2023 Appropriations Act" became law on October 3, 2023, authorizing \$35 million for the construction of a new medical examiner's office to serve the eastern NC region. The Medical Examiner capital project was set up in Interscope on November 6, 2023. The designer advertisement was posted on November 15, 2023, with submissions due by December 5, 2023. Four proposals were received, and the planning committee decided to interview all four firms. The interviews were originally scheduled for early January of 2024, but were moved to Friday, January 19, 2024, to accommodate the subject matter expert consultant's availability. Following interviews on January 19th, the designer selection committee forwarded their recommendation for approval by the ECU Board of Trustees (BOT), whose first meeting of 2024 is February 15-16<sup>th</sup>. Upon approval, ECU will contact the successful design team, review the scope, and request an advance planning design proposal for programming and site selection. The proposals will be negotiated and executed using the State Construction Office Standard Designer Agreement Forms. Several sites have been identified for analysis to determine the best location and use.