FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES

RESOLUTION NO. 2025099

RE: CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF MARY GRACE CENTENO, MD AS MEDICAL EXAMINER

Legislators GARITO, HOUSTON, POLASEK, MC HOUL, VERSACI, CASWELL, D'AQUANNI, and GORMAN offer the following and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XXX, Section 30.01 of the Dutchess County Charter, the County Executive shall appoint a Medical Examiner subject to confirmation by the County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, Medical Examiner Dennis J. Chute, MD is retiring after 18 years of faithful County service, and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2025, the County Executive appointed Mary Grace Centeno, M.D. as Acting Medical Examiner effective July 1, 2025, subject to confirmation by the Legislature, and to serve until such time as the County recruits and appoints a permanent candidate, and

WHEREAS, the County Executive herein submits her appointment for confirmation by this Legislature, and

WHEREAS, this appointment and confirmation are supported by the Dutchess County Commissioner of Human Resources and the Commissioner of Health, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Centeno is well qualified for the position and will competently serve the County as Medical Examiner until such time as a permanent candidate is appointed and confirmed, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Dutchess does hereby confirm the appointment of Mary Grace Centeno, M.D. as Medical Examiner effective immediately.

CA-070-25
CEB/rjw
G-0153
06/16/2025
Fiscal Impact: See Attached

APPROVED
Susan Serino
SUSAN J. SERINO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date July 17, 2025

STATE OF NEW YORK
ss:
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 14th day of July 2025, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 14th day of July 2025.

DUTCHESS COUNTY SEAL

Leigh Wager

LEIGH WAGER, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

☑ NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

APPROPRIATION RESOLUTIONS
(To be completed by requesting department)

Total Current Year Cost $ _____

Total Current Year Revenue $ _____
and Source

Source of County Funds *(check one)*: ☑ Existing Appropriations, ☐ Contingency,
☐ Transfer of Existing Appropriations, ☐ Additional Appropriations, ☐ Other *(explain)*.

Identify Line Items(s):
A.1185.1010

Related Expenses: Amount $ _____
Nature/Reason:
Retirement of current Medical Examiner. Deputy being appointed as Acting Medical Examiner.

Anticipated Savings to County: _____

Net County Cost (this year): _____
Over Five Years: _____

Additional Comments/Explanation:

Prepared by: _____ Prepared On: 06.18.25

Dut pdf

Mary Grace Centeno, M.D.

Dutchess County Medical Examiner
168 Washington Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Work: (845) 486-3414 | Email: mcenteno@dutchessny.gov

EMPLOYMENT

Deputy Medical Examiner, Dutchess County Medical Examiner, Poughkeepsie, NY (2025-present)
Deputy Medical Examiner, Suffolk County Office of the Medical Examiner, Hauppauge, NY (2022-2025)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Forensic Pathology, Fellowship, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, Miami, FL (2022)
Anatomic Pathology, Residency, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY (2021)
Doctor of Medicine, *Magna Cum Laude,* American University of Antigua College of Medicine, Antigua and Barbuda (2017)
Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics, New York University, New York, NY (2009)

CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certification in Forensic Pathology, American Board of Pathology, certified in 2022
Board Certification in Anatomic Pathology, American Board of Pathology, certified in 2021

LICENSURE

New York State Medical License – License # 311369

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Forensic Sciences
American Society for Clinical Pathology
College of American Pathologists

EXPERIENCE

Forensic Pathology Internship, Office of Chief Medical Examiner, Brooklyn, NY (2018)
Supervisor: Melissa Pasquale-Styles, M.D., Deputy Chief Medical Examiner

Anatomic Pathology Observership, Kings County Hospital Center, Brooklyn, NY (2017-2018)
Supervisors: Steve Xie, M.D., PhD, Chief of Service; Maksim Agaronov, M.D., Director of Service

PUBLICATIONS

Alawad, M., **Centeno, M.G.,** & Zeng, J. (2019). Is it a Tumor or a Polyp? A Rare Cause of Adult Ileocecal Intussusception. *Gastroenterology*, 157(2), 315–317.

Park, R., **Centeno, M.G.,** & Shinder, R. (2018). Ocular Surface Leiomyoma in a Child after Strabismus Repair. *Ophthalmology*, 125(12), 1968.

PRESENTATIONS

Kahila M., Wang D., **Centeno M.G.**, Boroujeni A.M., & Zeng J. Case Report of Adult Spindle Cell Rhabdomyosarcoma (Poster No. 145). CAP18: Annual Meeting of the College of American Pathologists, Chicago, IL. Monday, October 22, 2018.

Clinicopathological Correlation Case: Meningioma, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY, February 26, 2018. Preceptor: Jenny Libien, MD, PhD, Chair of Pathology

SUE SERINO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

LIVIA SANTIAGO-ROSADO, MD, FACEP
COMMISSIONER

DENNIS J. CHUTE, MD
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

COUNTY OF DUTCHESS
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

December 19, 2024

Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD, FACEP
Commissioner
85 Civic Center Plaza
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601

Dear Dr. Santiago-Rosado:

This letter serves as a notice of my retirement from full-time employment on June 30, 2025. I have enjoyed my 18 years with The Dutchess County Medical Examiner's Office (DCME) and appreciate the opportunities I have had to practice forensic pathology in Dutchess County, to supervise the operations of the office and to help the next-of-kins/families of decedents referred to our office. Over these past years I have had the honor to work with many dedicated DCME staff, contractor medicolegal death investigator as well as members of various law enforcement/investigative agencies and I will cherish the friendships and memories made while participating in this challenging work. I would also like to personally thank you and your Dutchess County Department of Health, Assistant Commissioner Anthony Ruggiero and the members of the various DOH divisions (e.g. budget/finance, purchasing, infectious disease/nursing etc.) who have graciously supported the daily operation of the DCME. I would also be remiss if I did not acknowledge the help received from multiple departments in the Dutchess County Government foremost the Dutchess County Executive's Office, as well as the County Attorney's Office, District Attorney's Office, Office of Mental Health, Office of Human Resources, Office of Central and Information Services, the Department of Public Works and Office of Community and Family Services.

Because I recognize it may take some time to identify and hire the next Chief Medical Examiner, I am happy to make myself available and help in this process if you think it would be beneficial.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Chute, MD
Chief Medical Examiner

168 Washington Street, Poughkeepsie, New York, 12601 (845) 486-3414 Fax: (845) 486-3759 TTY: (845) 486-3417
Healthinfo@dutchessny.gov
www.dutchessny.gov

SUE SERINO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

22 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Phone: 845-486-2000

DUTCHESS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

June 24, 2025

Mr. Bradford Kendall
Dutchess County Clerk
22 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Dear County Clerk Kendall,

I am pleased to appoint Dr. Mary Grace Centeno as the Acting Medical Examiner effective July 1, 2025.

Her tenured service as Deputy Medical Examiner with Dutchess County, as well as her experience as Deputy Medical Examiner for Suffolk County, qualify her for the position and I am excited to see her lead in this new role. She is board certified in both forensic pathology and anatomic pathology and is a published author in her field.

I look forward to her confirmation and appointment by the Dutchess County Legislature on July 14, 2025.

Sincerely,

Sue Serino

Sue Serino
County Executive

c. Human Resources

Family and Human Services Committee Roll Call

District	*Name*	*Yes*	*No*
District 7 - Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley	Truitt*	✓	
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Houston*		
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek*		
District 16 - Fishkill and Beacon	Valdés Smith*	Absent	
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins*		
District 2 - LaGrange, Pleasant Valley & Town of Poughkeepsie	Travelpiece	Absent	
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	D'Aquanni		
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli		
District 11 - Clinton, Pleasant Valley, and Rhinebeck	Kearney		
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	McHoul (VC)		
District 19 - North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan & Red Hook	Drago	Absent	
District 22 - Beekman and Union Vale	Garito (C)		

Present: 9
Absent: 3
Vacant: 0

Resolution: ✓
Motion: ___

Total : 9 Yes 0 No
Abstentions: 0

2025099 CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF MARY GRACE CENTENO, MD AS MEDICAL EXAMINER

JULY 10, 2025

Roll Call Sheets

District	Last Name	YES	NO
District 7 - Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley	Truitt	✓	
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Houston		
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek		
District 16 - Fishkill and Beacon	Valdés Smith	Absent	
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins		
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Gorman		
District 2 - LaGrange, Pleasant Valley & Town of Poughkeepsie	Travelpiece		
District 4 - Hyde Park and Town of Poughkeepsie	Lawler	Absent	
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	D'Aquanni		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Kaul		
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli		
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Johnson		
District 11 - Clinton, Pleasant Valley, and Rhinebeck	Kearney		
District 12 - East Fishkill	Metzger		
District 13 - East Fishkill and Wappinger	Paoloni		
District 14 - Wappinger and Town of Poughkeepsie	Versaci		
District 15 - Wappinger	Faust		
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	McHoul		
District 18 - City of Beacon and Fishkill	Page		
District 19 - North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan & Red Hook	Drago		
District 20 - Red Hook, Tivoli, and Rhinebeck	Munn		
District 21 - East Fishkill	Caswell		
District 22 - Beekman and Union Vale	Garito		
District 23 - Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Rolison		
District 24 - Dover and Pawling	House		

Present:	23	Resolution:	✓	Total :	23	0
Absent:	2	Motion:			Yes	No
Vacant:	0			Abstentions:	0	

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JULY 14, 2025