

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO. C-6901

COUNCIL SPONSOR: MS. CAZAUBON

PROVIDED BY: CIVIL DA/COUNCIL OFFICE

A RESOLUTION URGING CORONER-ELECT DR. CHRISTOPHER
TAPE TO RESIGN AND NOT ASSUME THE ELECTED OFFICE
OF ST. TAMMANY PARISH CORONER

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Coroner is an integral member of the team of officials essential to the investigation of certain crimes and the proper administration of criminal justice in St. Tammany Parish;

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Coroner provides essential services pertaining to victims of crime and their families, the office has access to personal and confidential information and requires the utmost trust and confidence of the citizens of St. Tammany Parish;

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Coroner must be vigilant to maintain a high degree of fidelity to the law, as well as credibility and integrity, with adherence to the highest of professional and ethical standards and obedience to the rule of law;

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Coroner must not only maintain such high standards, but should also avoid all appearances of impropriety which might undermine the public trust, confidence and support for the St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office, or which might suggest that such high standards are not being, or will not be, maintained by that office, or which might otherwise impair the effectiveness of the St. Tammany Parish Coroner's office;

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Council does not have jurisdiction to regulate or provide oversight of the St. Tammany Parish Coroner or his office, but is, nevertheless, deeply concerned about news reports of allegations against and involving the coroner-elect, Dr. Christopher Tape; and,

WHEREAS, in order to ensure continued public trust, confidence, and support for the St. Tammany Coroner's Office and to protect the citizens of this Parish served by that office, the St. Tammany Parish Council respectfully urges Dr. Tape to not assume the elected office of St. Tammany Parish Coroner and to otherwise resign and not accept that position on March 25, 2024.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY RESOLVES and urges Coroner-Elect Dr. Christopher Tape to not assume the elected office of St. Tammany Parish Coroner and to otherwise resign and not accept that position on March 25, 2024.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____, SECONDED BY: _____

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 7TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024 AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

ARTHUR LAUGHLIN, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK