



Office of the Warrick County Coroner

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For Immediate Release

RE: Warrick County Health Board Resolution 06/12/2024

On Wednesday June 12, 2024, the Warrick County Health Board passed a resolution placing Dr. Rick Yeager, Warrick County Health Officer, on suspension without providing any reason for the suspension to the public or Dr. Yeager. Presently, the Warrick County Health Board has scheduled an upcoming public hearing to determine whether or not Dr. Yeager should be removed from his position as Health Officer or re-instated to his position. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 4 pm. The Warrick County Health Department posted a public notice advising that in the interim, the Warrick County Health Department is unable to process birth and death certificate requests. The role of the Health Officer encompasses many tasks beyond these two functions. With respect to the operation of the Warrick County Coroner's Office, the Health Officer plays a vital role in granting permission for removal, transfer of care, and preparation for burial of the deceased. These vital services to the public cannot proceed without a Health Officer in place. Indiana law was drafted and enacted to prevent this. According to IC 16-20-2-16 the Health Board appoints a Health Officer who continues to serve as Health Officer until a successor is appointed and qualified. Without a successor, it is the plan of the Warrick County Coroner's Office to continue to operate in accordance with the law in the State of Indiana that Dr. Rick Yeager continues to be the duly appointed Warrick County Health Officer. With this understanding, we will continue to provide services to the community and ensure the proper, respectful and expediate care of those who die within our county.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sarah Seaton".

Sarah A. Seaton, Coroner
Warrick County, Indiana

06/14/2024

Date