

Priority: Safety
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:

Lead Agency: District Attorney
Program Contact: Scott Marcy

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The ME's Office determines cause of death for residents who die in special circumstances, such as accidents, violence, drug involvement, and employment.

Program Description

The ME's Office determines cause of death for residents who die in special circumstances such as accidents, violence, drug involvement, and employment. Approximately 3,800 of the County's 7,000 yearly deaths fall into this category. The office is responsible for establishing cause and manner of death, notifying the next-of-kin, and protecting the property of the deceased until a personal representative takes charge. Local discretion is limited by the mandates and State Medical Examiner supervision authority arising from ORS 146. The DA's Office provides assistance when necessary.

Program Justification

Because the Medical Examiners Office is highly visible to the public whenever a death occurs within a community the program connects to the Communities factor of the public safety map and specifically falls under the Visible Public Safety System sub-factor.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY06-07)	Current Year Purchased (FY07-08)	Current Year Estimate (FY07-08)	Next Year Offer (FY08-09)
Output	Number of Cases	3,843	3,850	3,850	3,850
Outcome	Percentage of cases with positive identification	100.0%	99.5%	99.0%	99.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Number of Cases- This measure represents the number of reported cases and the number of death notifications from outside the County combined.

Percentage of cases with positive identification- The frequency in which the ME Office was able to make a positive identification on the reported cases.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Medical Examiner: ORS 146.085 Deputy medical examiners, 146.088 When medical examiner is officer or employee of public body, 146.090 Deaths requiring investigation, 146.095 Responsibility for investigation. (1) The district medical examiner and the district attorney for the county where death occurs, as provided by ORS 146.100 (2), shall be responsible for the investigation of all deaths requiring investigation.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2008	2008	2009	2009
Personnel	\$775,790	\$0	\$784,541	\$0
Contracts	\$70,500	\$0	\$70,500	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$14,978	\$0	\$14,074	\$0
Internal Services	\$41,196	\$0	\$28,177	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$902,464	\$0	\$897,292	\$0
Administration	\$52,656	\$0	\$14,130	\$0
Program Support	\$174,349	\$0	\$20,931	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$227,005	\$0	\$35,061	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$1,129,469	\$0	\$932,353	\$0
Program Total:	\$1,129,469		\$932,353	
Program FTE	9.50	0.00	9.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500	\$0
Program Revenue for Admin	\$17,871	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$21,371	\$0	\$3,500	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

The ME office should generate \$3,500 in general fund revenue through fees.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was:

Materials and Services and Professional Services costs were calculated by reviewing the previous 12 month history of costs and then in most cases adding the 3.0% inflationary factor.