Medical Examiner

The Medical Examiner Department (ME), acting under the authority of Chapter 406 of the Florida Statutes, provides accurate, timely, dignified, compassionate and professional death investigative services for the residents of Miami-Dade County. In addition, the Department provides education, consultation and research for local and national medical, legal, academic and law enforcement communities.

As part of the Public Safety strategic area, the Medical Examiner provides pathology, toxicology, records/transcription, morgue, photography, investigation and indigent cremation services; investigates and processes approximately 14,000 cases annually, which include cremation request reviews, autopsies and toxicology and pathology consultation cases; and facilitates organ, bone and tissue donor cases. The Department focuses on what is generally called "forensic pathology," which combines the methods of legal and police investigations with those of medicine and science to ascertain the facts surrounding deaths, particularly the cause and manner of deaths. The Medical Examiner also hosts annual seminars on death investigation, forensic imaging, anthropology and odontology.

The Department serves the public and partners with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), State Attorney, US Attorney, Public Defender, Florida Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), local and state police departments, hospitals, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and funeral centers.

FY 2019-20 Adopted Operating Budget

(dollars in thousands) (dollars in thousands) \$2.641 \$905 Cremation \$424 Death

stigation and Education \$11,407

Expenditures by Activity

General Fund \$13.567

Revenues by Source

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

ADMINISTRATION Formulates departmental policies and provides overall direction and coordination to all bureaus; oversees fiscal and budgetary operations FY 18-19 FY 19-20 10 11 DEATH INVESTIGATION AND EDUCATION Provides statutorily mandated medicolegal death investigative services for the residents of Miami-Dade County, as defined in the Florida Statutes, Chapter 406 FY 18-19 FY 19-20 75 INDIGENT CREMATION SERVICES Supervises indigent body disposal program; ensures maintenance of the Dr. Bruce A. Hyma Memorial Cemetery FY 18-19 FY 19-20 2 PY 19-20 2

The FY 2019-20 total number of full-time equivalent positions is 88 FTEs.

DIVISION: ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Division is responsible for formulating departmental policies and providing overall direction and coordination to all divisions.

- Provides internal administrative support such as personnel administration, budget control, accounts payable and receivable, purchasing, and computer services; maintains and tracks inventory
- · Provides secretarial services and schedules appointments, court appearances, depositions, and speaking engagements
- Maintains all departmental case files; tabulates information and prepares statistics and quarterly reports for use by professional staff and interested agencies; and forwards reports to requesting individuals, companies, and/or agencies

DIVISION COMMENTS

 The FY 2019-20 Adopted Budget includes the addition of one Clerk 4 position to the Business Office to enhance the billing and collection of proprietary fees (\$52,000)

DIVISION: DEATH INVESTIGATION AND EDUCATION

The Death Investigation Division is responsible for providing statutorily mandated medicolegal death investigative services for the residents of Miami-Dade County, combining the methods of legal and law enforcement investigations with those of medicine and science to ascertain the facts surrounding deaths, particularly the cause and manner of death, as defined in Florida Statutes, Chapter 406.

- Conducts all medical examinations and autopsies
- · Provides and coordinates investigative services to medical examiners and maintains individual case files
- Provides laboratory services by performing toxicological analysis on specimens submitted for examination, issues reports and interpretation of findings, and testifies in court
- Responds to police and hospital calls to transport human remains and other items of evidentiary value
- Coordinates efforts of police, family and funeral homes; receives and releases bodies; performs functions to include X-ray examination, finger printing, and evidence documentation
- Provides photography services such as copy work, slide duplication, computer graphics, photomicrography, photomacrography, and audiovisual services
- Provides histology services by processing and preparing tissue specimens for microscopic analysis by pathologists
- Conducts preceptorship programs in the photography field and coordinates photography training and educational workshops for local and national medical, legal, academic, and law enforcement communities
- Supervises indigent cremations
- Provides revenue-generating educational training programs in multiple forensic areas
- Provides toxicology testing services to Collier County, local police agencies and entities outside the United States such as the Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the British Virgin Islands

Magazinas	so		_		FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 18-19	FY 19-20
Measures SO	SO	RD	Туре	Good	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Target
Ratio of doctors on staff to doctors needed to meet the NAME workload standards*	PS1-2	ES-2	EF	↑	84%	85%	100%	80%	92%
Percentage of cases closed in 90 days	PS1-2	ES-2	EF	↑	93%	93%	90%	87%	90%
Toxicology case average turnaround time (in days)	PS1-2	ES-2	EF	\	47	44	45	41	45
Average time for release of body to funeral home (in hours)	GG1-2	HW-3	EF	\	25	23	24	25	24
Death investigations conducted**	PS1-2	ES-2	OP	\leftrightarrow	14,585	14,662	14,000	14,776	14,500
Crime scene investigations conducted	PS1-2	ES-2	OP	\leftrightarrow	134	174	190	183	170
Forensic photographs taken**	PS1-2	ES-2	OP	\leftrightarrow	130,461	139,977	138,000	144,987	139,700
Average monthly Medicolegal calls	PS1-2	ES-2	OP	\leftrightarrow	14	9	11	13	12
Percentage of Forensic Evidence Response Team (FERT) calls where arrival time at scene was above 60 minutes***	PS2-1	ES-2	EF	\	38%	34%	5%	33%	5%
Percentage of Forensic Evidence Response Team (FERT) calls where units were available for immediate response	PS2-1	ES-2	EF	↑	78%	74%	95%	71%	85%

^{*}The methodology for calculating this measure requires enough staffing to keep medical examiners below 250 autopsies performed annually; this measure indicates the ratio of doctors on staff to doctors needed to handle autopsy case load in compliance with the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) guidelines; due to the magnitude of anticipated autopsy workload in FY 2019-20 the Target was lowered to 92%

DIVISION: INDIGENT CREMATION SERVICES

The Indigent Cremation Services Division provides indigent body disposal and maintains the Dr. Bruce A. Hyma Memorial Cemetery.

- Provides indigent body disposal
- Ensures maintenance of the Dr. Bruce A. Hyma Memorial Cemetery
- Coordinates bureau activity with funeral homes and crematoriums

CAPITAL BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS AND OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

- In September 2019, the Department obtained a grant from the U.S Department of Justice for the purchase a Liquid Chromatograph Tandem Mass Spectrometer which was previously unfunded (\$350,000 in FY 2019-20)
- The FY 2019-20 Adopted Budget includes the establishment of the Countywide Infrastructure Investment Program (CIIP) that will focus on the renovation and rehabilitation of power systems, life safety, security, elevators and other related infrastructure improvements at all County owned facilities; the Department has budgeted improvements that address critical systems and space needs to incorporate new technology and improve forensic work methods (\$300,000 in FY 2019-20)

^{**} FY 2019-20 Target was adjusted to align with prior years actuals and trend

^{***} Vacancies in the FERT unit impacted the FY 2018-19 Actual and the FY 2019-20 Target, as compared to the FY 2018-19 Budget

- In FY 2019-20, the Department will complete renovations to the image processing rooms budgeted in the General Government Improvement Fund (GGIF) (total project cost \$66,000, \$36,000 in FY 2019-20)
- In FY 2019-20, the Department will continue to use Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond Program funds for upgrades to the Toxicology Laboratory (\$50,000 in FY 2019-20)

SELECTED ITEM HIGHLIGHTS AND DETAILS

	(dollars in thousands)										
Line Item Highlights	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget						
	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 18-19	FY 19-20						
Advertising	0	0	2	0	2						
Fuel	15	17	19	17	21						
Overtime	107	81	77	111	77						
Rent	0	0	0	0	0						
Security Services	0	35	116	118	120						
Temporary Employees	40	29	48	70	48						
Travel and Registration	34	36	55	39	65						
Utilities	84	83	140	107	168						

ADOPTED FEE ADJUSTMENTS FOR SERVICES

Fee Ad	justments	Current Fee FY 18-19	Adopted Fee FY 19-20	Dollar Impact FY 19-20
•	Expert Witness Fees include: deposition, court testimony and conference time, preparation and review time, travel and wait time	Various	Various	\$5,000
•	Forensic Training Workshops includes: Police-Medicolegal Death Investigation, Forensic Photography, Death Certification and Reporting, Forensic Odontology, Toxicology and Special Topics in	Various	Various	\$15,000
•	Forensics Photographic and Imaging Services	Various	Various	\$1.000
•	Indigent Cremation Services	Various	Various	\$5,000
•	Laboratory Services	Various	Various	\$19,000

OPERATING FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(dollars in thousands)	Actual	Actual FY 17-18	•	Adopted
<u> </u>	FY 10-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20
Revenue Summary	40 5 45	10.016	40.005	40.567
General Fund Countywide	10,545	10,846	13,035	13,567
Carryover	4	4	0	0
Cremation Approval Fees	589	670	555	575
Forensic Imaging	12	13	12	13
Other Revenues	207	204	150	170
Special Service Fees	52	85	55	60
Toxicology Testing	46	169	68	87
Total Revenues	11,455	11,991	13,875	14,472
Operating Expenditures Summary				
Salary	6,887	6,880	7,635	7,902
Fringe Benefits	2,940	3,079	3,596	3,736
Court Costs	0	0	0	0
Contractual Services	257	277	543	562
Other Operating	1,100	1,220	1,493	1,576
Charges for County Services	208	221	465	489
Grants to Outside Organizations	0	0	0	0
Capital	59	310	143	207
Total Operating Expenditures	11,451	11,987	13,875	14,472
Non-Operating Expenditures				_
Summary				
Transfers	0	0	0	0
Distribution of Funds In Trust	0	0	0	0
Debt Service	0	0	0	0
Depreciation, Amortizations and	0	0	0	0
Depletion				
Reserve	0	0	0	0
Total Non-Operating Expenditures	. 0	0	0	0

	Tota	al Fun	ding	Total Positions			
(dollars in thousands)	Budget	Ad	opted	Bud	get	Adopted	
Expenditure By Program	FY 18-19	FY 1	19-20	FY 18-19		FY 19-20	
Strategic Area: Public Safety	У						
Administration	2,4	173	2,6	41	10	11	
Death Investigation and Education	10,9	995	11,4	107	75	75	
Indigent Cremation Service	es 4	107	4	24	2	2	
Total Operating Expenditu	res 13,8	375	14,4	72	87	88	

CAPITAL BUDGET SUMMARY

(dollars in thousands)	PRIOR	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FUTURE	TOTAL
Revenue									
BBC GOB Financing	3,127	50	23	0	0	0	0	0	3,200
CIIP Proceeds	0	300	492	400	0	0	0	0	1,192
Federal Department of Justice Grant	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	350
FUMD Work Order Fund	443	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	443
General Government Improvement	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66
Fund (GGIF)									
Total:	3,636	700	515	400	0	0	0	0	5,251
Expenditures									
Strategic Area: PS									
Equipment Acquisition	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	350
Facility Improvements	3,600	386	515	400	0	0	0	0	4,901
Total:	3,600	736	515	400	0	0	0	0	5,251

FUNDED CAPITAL PROJECTS

(dollars in thousands)

IMAGE PROCESSING ROOMS PROJECT #: 2000000055

DESCRIPTION: Renovate imaging processing rooms to provide studio space for photographing evidence LOCATION: 1851 NW 10 Ave District Located: 3

City of Miami District(s) Served: Countywide

TOTAL **REVENUE SCHEDULE: PRIOR** 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 **FUTURE** 0 0 General Government Improvement 66 0 0 0 0 66 Fund (GGIF) **TOTAL REVENUES:** 66 0 0 O 0 0 0 0 66 TOTAL **EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE:** 2021-22 2022-23 **PRIOR** 2019-20 2020-21 2023-24 2024-25 **FUTURE** Construction 30 36 O 0 n 0 66 **TOTAL EXPENDITURES:** 36 0 0 0 0 30 0 0 66

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS - MEDICAL EXAMINER FACILITY-WIDE

IMPROVEMENTS

DESCRIPTION: Provide the necessary improvements to the Medical Examiner facility including but not limited to furniture,

fixtures, equipment, security, electrical, plumbing, air conditioning, roofs, space renovations and various

PROJECT #:

2000001299

other building infrastructure needs as necessary

LOCATION: 1851 NW 10 Ave District Located: 3

City of Miami District(s) Served: Countywide

REVENUE SCHEDULE: PRIOR 2019-20 TOTAL 2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 **FUTURE CIIP Proceeds** 300 492 400 1,192 0 0 0 0 0 0 400 0 1.192 TOTAL REVENUES: 300 492 0 0 0 **EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE: PRIOR** 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 **FUTURE** TOTAL Construction 0 270 443 360 0 0 O 0 1,073 Planning and Design 0 21 34 28 0 0 0 0 83 **Project Administration** 0 9 15 12 0 0 0 0 36 TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 0 300 492 400 0 0 0 0 1,192

PROJECT #: 2000001303

LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPH TANDEM MASS SPECTROMETER

DESCRIPTION: Purchase a liquid chromatograph tandem mass spectrometer to expand the scope of toxin screening

procedures

LOCATION: 1851 NW 10 Ave District Located: TBD

City of Miami District(s) Served: Countywide

REVENUE SCHEDULE: Federal Department of Justice Grant	PRIOR 0	2019-20 350	2020-21 0	2021-22 0	2022-23 0	2023-24 0	2024-25 0	FUTURE 0	TOTAL 350
TOTAL REVENUES:	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	350
EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE:	PRIOR	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	FUTURE	TOTAL
Furniture Fixtures and Equipment	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	350
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	350

MEDICAL EXAMINER (BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES BOND PROGRAM) PROJECT #: 119420

DESCRIPTION: Refurbish or replace building and equipment throughout the medical examiner facility 119420

LOCATION: 1851 NW 10 Ave District Located: 3

City of Miami District(s) Served: Countywide

REVENUE SCHEDULE:	PRIOR	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	FUTURE	TOTAL
BBC GOB Financing	3,127	50	23	0	0	0	0	0	3,200
FUMD Work Order Fund	443	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	443
TOTAL REVENUES:	3,570	50	23	0	0	0	0	0	3,643
EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE:	PRIOR	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	FUTURE	TOTAL
Construction	3,199	50	23	0	0	0	0	0	3,272
Permitting	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63
Planning and Design	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80
Project Administration	228	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	228
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	3,570	50	23	0	0	0	0	0	3,643

UNFUNDED CAPITAL PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME
MEDICAL EXAMINER MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT
TOTAL BODY DIGITAL X-RAY IMAGING DEVICE

1851 NW 10 Ave
1851 NW 10 Ave
1851 NW 10 Ave
11,017
UNFUNDED TOTAL
1,279

Department Operational Unmet Needs								
	(dollars in the							
Description	Startup Costs/ Non-Recurring Costs	Recurring Costs	Positions					
Hire one Purchasing Specialist for the Medical Examiner Business Office to manage the procurement process of commodities and specialized services, especially in anticipation of the establishment of the Countywide Infrastructure Investment Plan (CIIP) and the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system	\$0	\$75	1					
Total	\$0	\$75	1					