

State of Alaska FY2019 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services State Medical Examiner Component Budget Summary

Component: State Medical Examiner

Contribution to Department's Mission

Conduct medico-legal investigations of unanticipated, sudden, and violent deaths in Alaska.

Core Services

- Enforce laws and regulations by providing accurate and legally defensible determinations of the cause of death.
- Diagnose and investigate causes of death which may be a public safety or health hazard in the community.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2017

- Cases investigated: 1,836
- Cases where jurisdiction was assumed: 1,051
 - Cases autopsied: 612 including bones and head post
 - Cases with inspections: 225
 - Cases with consultations: 214
 - Cases with decedents transported to the Anchorage Medical Examiner's Office: 837
- Enhanced screening and identification of causes of death related to opioids and other substances of misuse. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nationally, Alaska is one of a few states that reports the actual drug causing the overdose on death certificates. The State Medical Examiner mandates toxicology tests on all suspected drug overdose deaths, ensuring a high standard of quality to inform drug overdose surveillance and response.
- Continued coordination with the Division of Behavioral Health for toxicology testing on suicide cases to better inform future prevention efforts.
- Joint Bases Elmendorf-Richardson continued to perform histology testing at no cost to the State of Alaska. Joint Bases Elmendorf-Richardson medical staff can rotate through the Medical Examiner's Office as appropriate.
- Staff worked with the Department of Health and Social Services Information Technologies group to upgrade the State Medical Examiner's database, improving capacity to track and provide data on opioid-related deaths and other deaths due to substance misuse, violent deaths, fatal injuries, child mortality, and other causes of death.
- The State Medical Examiner's Office had been unable to successfully recruit for Investigators qualified for work in this specialized field. In FY2017, the Division of Personnel and Labor Relations/Classification found the scope of work and minimum entrance requirements unique enough to establish a new four level class series, Medicolegal Investigator, enabling the office to seek and hire experienced investigators.

Key Component Challenges

- Homicides increased 34%, from 56 in FY16 to 75 in FY17; each case requires a full autopsy and additional time to collect and process evidence and to testify in cases as needed.
- Timely and accurate certification of death provides families with closure and an opportunity to grieve; service is negatively impacted when death scenes are not investigated independently of law enforcement or not by personnel trained specifically in death investigations.
- Transportation of cases to Anchorage from remote locations is increasingly expensive and delays in transport result in longer times to certify and release cases.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2019

No changes in results delivered.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 12.65	Death Investigations & Medical Examinations
AS 18.05	Administration of Public Health and Related Laws
AS 36.30.310	Emergency Procurements
AS 44.29.020	Duties of the Department of Health & Social Services
07 AAC 05.400-.550	Filing of death certificates
07 AAC 35	Embalming & other post-mortem services
12 AAC 40	State Medical Board

Contact Information
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State Medical Examiner Personal Services Information				
Authorized Positions			Personal Services Costs	
	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor		
Full-time	19	19	Annual Salaries	1,485,636
Part-time	0	0	Premium Pay	46,469
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	876,175
			<i>Less 3.84% Vacancy Factor</i>	(92,380)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	19	19	Total Personal Services	2,315,900

Position Classification Summary					
Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Assistant II	1	0	0	0	1
Autopsy Technician	4	0	0	0	4
Autopsy Technician Supervisor	1	0	0	0	1
Medical Examiner/Assistant	1	0	0	0	1
Medical Examiner/Deputy	1	0	0	0	1
Medicolegal Investigator I	3	0	0	0	3
Medicolegal Investigator II	3	0	0	0	3
Medicolegal Investigator III	2	0	0	0	2
Medicolegal Investigator IV	1	0	0	0	1
Office Assistant II	1	0	0	0	1
State Medical Examiner/Chief	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	19	0	0	0	19

Component Detail All Funds
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)
RDU: Public Health (502)

Non-Formula Component

	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Conference Committee	FY2018 Authorized	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor	FY2018 Management Plan vs FY2019 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	2,293.5	2,309.5	2,309.5	2,309.5	2,315.9	6.4	0.3%
72000 Travel	15.9	35.1	35.1	35.1	35.1	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	737.2	831.3	831.3	831.3	831.3	0.0	0.0%
74000 Commodities	89.0	41.7	41.7	41.7	41.7	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Totals	3,135.6	3,217.6	3,217.6	3,217.6	3,224.0	6.4	0.2%
Fund Sources:							
1002Fed Rcpts (Fed)	0.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	0.0	0.0%
1004Gen Fund (UGF)	3,122.7	3,112.6	3,112.6	3,112.6	3,119.0	6.4	0.2%
1005GF/Prgm (DGF)	0.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0%
1007I/A Rcpts (Other)	12.9	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	0.0	0.0%
Unrestricted General (UGF)	3,122.7	3,112.6	3,112.6	3,112.6	3,119.0	6.4	0.2%
Designated General (DGF)	0.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0%
Other Funds	12.9	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	0.0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	0.0	0.0%
Positions:							
Permanent Full Time	19	19	19	19	19	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios with Descriptions
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)
RDU: Public Health (502)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
***** Changes From FY2018 Conference Committee To FY2018 Authorized *****												
FY2018 Conference Committee												
ConfCom		3,217.6	2,309.5	35.1	831.3	41.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	19	0	0
1002 Fed Rcpts		10.0										
1004 Gen Fund		3,112.6										
1005 GF/Prgm		20.0										
1007 I/A Rcpts		75.0										
Subtotal		3,217.6	2,309.5	35.1	831.3	41.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	19	0	0
***** Changes From FY2018 Management Plan To FY2019 Governor *****												
FY2019 Salary and Health Insurance Increases												
SalAdj		6.4	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		6.4										
Salary and Health Insurance Increases: \$6.4												
Calculate FY2019 increase to GGU Health Insurance from \$1389 to \$1432 per member per month.												
Totals		3,224.0	2,315.9	35.1	831.3	41.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	19	0	0

Personal Services Expenditure Detail
Department of Health and Social Services

Scenario: FY2019 Governor (14641)
Component: State Medical Examiner (293)
RDU: Public Health (502)

PCN	Job Class Title	Time Status	Retire Code	Barg Unit	Location	Salary Sched	Range / Step	Comp Months	Split / Count	Annual Salaries	COLA	Premium Pay	Annual Benefits	Total Costs	UGF Amount
06-1599	Medicolegal Investigator III	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	18F / G	12.0		70,033	0	8,221	45,580	123,834	123,834
06-1655	Autopsy Technician Supervisor	FT	A	SS	Anchorage	200	16J / K	12.0		65,109	0	0	42,348	107,457	107,457
06-1692	State Medical Examiner/Chief	FT	A	XE	Anchorage	N00	30	12.0		232,938	0	0	96,434	329,372	329,372
06-1703	Medical Examiner/Assistant	FT	A	XE	Anchorage	N00	28	12.0		196,702	0	0	85,567	282,269	282,269
06-1705	Office Assistant II	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	10F	12.0		39,288	0	2,266	32,324	73,878	73,878
06-1706	Administrative Assistant II	FT	A	SS	Anchorage	600	14D / E	12.0		51,103	0	573	37,496	89,172	89,172
06-1734	Autopsy Technician	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	14B / C	12.0		45,627	0	3,908	35,206	84,741	84,741
06-1738	Medicolegal Investigator II	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	16C / D	12.0		54,211	0	4,547	38,538	97,296	97,296
06-1739	Medicolegal Investigator II	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	16A / B	12.0		50,939	0	3,872	37,112	91,923	91,923
06-1740	Medicolegal Investigator I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	14A / B	12.0		43,394	0	0	32,988	76,382	76,382
06-1741	Medicolegal Investigator III	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	18D / E	12.0		64,216	0	4,131	42,001	110,348	110,348
06-1742	Medicolegal Investigator I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	14B / C	12.0		44,871	0	861	33,833	79,565	79,565
06-1784	Medicolegal Investigator IV	FT	A	SS	Anchorage	200	20J / K	12.0		85,343	0	0	49,656	134,999	134,999
06-1832	Medical Examiner/Deputy	FT	A	XE	Anchorage	N00	29	12.0		198,854	0	0	86,212	285,066	285,066
06-1993	Autopsy Technician	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	14B / C	12.0		45,627	0	3,908	35,206	84,741	84,741
06-2019	Medicolegal Investigator II	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	16A / B	12.0		51,171	0	3,797	37,169	92,137	92,137
06-2021	Autopsy Technician	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	14D / E	12.0		49,128	0	2,508	35,965	87,601	87,601
12-1712	Autopsy Technician	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	14C / D	12.0		46,608	0	4,005	35,596	86,209	86,209
12-1770	Medicolegal Investigator I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	14E / F	12.0		50,474	0	3,872	36,944	91,290	91,290

Total Positions				Total Salary Costs:	1,485,636
Full Time Positions: 19				Total COLA:	0
Part Time Positions: 0				Total Premium Pay::	46,469
Non Permanent Positions: 0				Total Benefits:	876,175
Positions in Component: 19				Total Pre-Vacancy:	2,408,280
				Minus Vacancy Adjustment of 3.84%:	(92,380)
Total Component Months: 228.0				Total Post-Vacancy:	2,315,900
				Plus Lump Sum Premium Pay:	0
				Personal Services Line 100:	2,315,900

PCN Funding Sources:	Pre-Vacancy	Post-Vacancy	Percent
1004 General Fund Receipts	2,408,280	2,315,900	100.00%
Total PCN Funding:	2,408,280	2,315,900	100.00%

Note: If a position is split, an asterisk (*) will appear in the Split/Count column. If the split position is also counted in the component, two asterisks (**) will appear in this column. [No valid job title] appearing in the Job Class Title indicates that the PCN has an invalid class code or invalid range for the class code effective date of this scenario.

Line Item Detail (1676)
Department of Health and Social Services
Travel

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
2000	Travel		15.9	35.1	35.1
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
2000 Travel Detail Totals			15.9	35.1	35.1
2000	In-State Employee Travel	Employee In-State Travel.	4.7	-1.7	0.0
2002	Out of State Employee Travel	Employee Out-of-State Travel.	10.9	6.8	6.8
2006	Other Travel Costs	SMEO Outreach Rural Alaska (Law Enforcement, Hospital/Clinic); SMEO Mass Fatality Preparedness Outreach; Court Testimony in various judicial districts throughout the state; Executive Leadership Team meeting in June; Statutory Meeting, AS12.65(3); Administrative Manager's meeting (June)	0.3	30.0	28.3

Line Item Detail (1676)
Department of Health and Social Services
Services

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
3000	Services		737.2	831.3	831.3
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
3000 Services Detail Totals			737.2	831.3	831.3
3000	Education Services	Continuing Education.	-24.3	5.1	5.1
3001	Financial Services		3.6	0.0	0.0
3002	Legal and Judicial Services	Regulations	23.6	28.6	28.6
3003	Information Technology	Software Licensing	5.8	8.5	8.5
3004	Telecommunications	Answering service; local and long distance services; cellular phone services; other telecommunication services.	8.7	16.3	16.3
3005	Health Services	Toxicology testing	179.1	229.7	229.7
3006	Delivery Services	Shipment of human remains, funeral home death calls, courier services	277.1	333.8	333.8
3008	Utilities	Biohazard waste disposal services.	36.0	20.3	20.3
3009	Structure/Infrastructure/Land	Facility maintenance	33.5	6.2	6.2
3010	Equipment/Machinery	Repair and maintenance of office and autopsy equipment.	3.6	9.5	9.5
3011	Other Services	Verti Q Database Services (SMEO Case Management System)	-57.1	40.2	40.2
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	Admin - Department-wide	21.5	0.0	0.0
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	H&SS - Information Technology Services (2754)	96.2	4.0	4.0
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	H&SS - State Medical Examiner (293)	10.5	0.0	0.0
3018	Inter-Agency Information Technology	Admin - Department-wide	17.6	34.1	34.1

Line Item Detail (1676)
Department of Health and Social Services
Services

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
3000 Services Detail Totals			737.2	831.3	831.3
	Telecommunications	expenditure.			
3018	Inter-Agency Information Technology Telecommunications	Law - Department-wide Intra-departmental support expenditure.	0.0	0.2	0.2
3022	Inter-Agency Human Resources	Admin - Department-wide	12.1	0.0	0.0
3024	Inter-Agency Legal	Law - Department-wide	0.2	0.0	0.0
3025	Inter-Agency Auditing	H&SS - Administrative Support Svcs (320) Intra-departmental support expenditure.	0.0	0.6	0.6
3026	Inter-Agency Insurance	Admin - Department-wide	16.3	0.0	0.0
3027	Inter-Agency Financial	Admin - Department-wide	1.7	0.0	0.0
3036	Inter-Agency Safety	H&SS - Public Health Laboratories (2252) Intra-departmental support expenditure.	0.0	22.6	22.6
3037	State Equipment Fleet	Trans - Department-wide RSA with Department of Transportation and PF for State Equipment Fleet Vehicles	25.2	41.6	41.6
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Commissioner's Office (317)	1.5	0.0	0.0
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Facilities Management (2020)	1.8	0.0	0.0
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Information Technology Services (2754) RSA with DOA for telecommunication services/EPR.	43.4	30.0	30.0
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Public Affairs (2874)	2.1	0.0	0.0
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Quality Assurance and Audit (2880)	0.6	0.0	0.0
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - State Medical Examiner (293)	-3.2	0.0	0.0
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	Labor - Department-wide	0.1	0.0	0.0

Line Item Detail (1676)
Department of Health and Social Services
Commodities

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
4000	Commodities		89.0	41.7	41.7
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
4000 Commodities Detail Totals			89.0	41.7	41.7
4000	Business	Business Supplies (case folders/sleeves, assorted batteries for various equipment, envelopes to fulfill family requests, etc.); Books and Literature; Forensic Check-Sample Materials	34.7	11.0	11.0
4002	Household/Institutional	Scrubs, jumpsuits, boots, foul-weather gear	1.2	0.5	0.5
4003	Scientific and Medical	Equipment and Supplies	53.1	30.2	30.2
4011	Electrical		0.1	0.0	0.0
4021	Commodity Management Allocation		-0.1	0.0	0.0

Revenue Detail (1681)
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)

Revenue Type (OMB Fund Code) Revenue Source	Component	Comment	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
5002 Fed Rcpts (1002 Fed Rcpts)			0.0	10.0	10.0
5004 Federal Education - Miscellaneous Grants		Potential Federal Receipts	0.0	10.0	10.0
5005 GF/Prgm (1005 GF/Prgm)			0.0	20.0	20.0
5115 Program Receipts Health & Human Svcs - Charges for Services		Fees collected from Life Alaska Donor Services for the use of the state medical examiner facility and fees collected from FAA for aviation disaster fatalities.	0.0	20.0	20.0
5007 I/A Rcpts (1007 I/A Rcpts)			12.9	75.0	75.0
5301 Inter-Agency Receipts		AK State Medical Examiner Coverdell Project	0.0	0.0	75.0
5301 Inter-Agency Receipts	PubSaf - Department-wide		12.9	75.0	0.0
6004 Gen Fund (1004 Gen Fund)			4.5	0.0	0.0
6046 General Fund - Prior Year Reimbursement Recovery			1.1	0.0	0.0
6047 General Fund - Miscellaneous			3.4	0.0	0.0

Inter-Agency Services (1682)
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)

			FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
Component Totals			247.6	133.1	133.1
		With Department of Administration	69.2	34.1	34.1
		With Department of Health and Social Services	152.9	57.2	57.2
		With Department of Law	0.2	0.2	0.2
		With Department of Transportation/Public Facilities	25.2	41.6	41.6
		With Department of Labor and Workforce Development	0.1	0.0	0.0
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	Admin - Department-wide	21.5	0.0	0.0
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	H&SS - Information Technology Services (2754)	96.2	4.0	4.0
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	H&SS - State Medical Examiner (293)	10.5	0.0	0.0
3018	Inter-Agency Information Technology Telecommunications	Admin - Department-wide	17.6	34.1	34.1
3018	Inter-Agency Information Technology Telecommunications	Law - Department-wide	0.0	0.2	0.2
3022	Inter-Agency Human Resources	Admin - Department-wide	12.1	0.0	0.0
3024	Inter-Agency Legal	Law - Department-wide	0.2	0.0	0.0
3025	Inter-Agency Auditing	H&SS - Administrative Support Svcs (320)	0.0	0.6	0.6
3026	Inter-Agency Insurance	Admin - Department-wide	16.3	0.0	0.0
3027	Inter-Agency Financial	Admin - Department-wide	1.7	0.0	0.0
3036	Inter-Agency Safety	H&SS - Public Health Laboratories (2252)	0.0	22.6	22.6
3037	State Equipment Fleet	Trans - Department-wide	25.2	41.6	41.6

Inter-Agency Services (1682)
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: State Medical Examiner (293)

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Commissioner's Office (317)		1.5	0.0	0.0
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Facilities Management (2020)		1.8	0.0	0.0
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Information Technology Services (2754)	RSA with DOA for telecommunication services/EPR.	43.4	30.0	30.0
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Public Affairs (2874)		2.1	0.0	0.0
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Quality Assurance and Audit (2880)		0.6	0.0	0.0
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - State Medical Examiner (293)		-3.2	0.0	0.0
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	Labor - Department-wide		0.1	0.0	0.0