
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

www.ocme.dc.gov
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Table FX0-1

| Description | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | % Change |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | Actual | Actual | Approved | Approved | from FY 2024 |
| OPERATING BUDGET | \$14,818,623 | \$14,879,085 | \$15,354,954 | \$15,700,845 | 2.3 |
| FTEs | 103.0 | 97.8 | 101.7 | 103.0 | 1.3 |
| CAPITAL BUDGET | \$2,506,931 | \$1,564,356 | \$1,400,000 | \$2,968,117 | 112.0 |
| FTEs | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | N/A |

The mission of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is to ensure that justice is served and that the health and safety of the public is improved by conducting quality death investigations and certifications, and by providing forensic services for government agencies, health care entities, and grieving families.

Summary of Services

OCME provides forensic services to local and federal government agencies, health care providers, institutions of higher learning, and citizens in the District and the metropolitan area. Forensic services include: forensic investigation and certification of certain deaths (i.e., deaths occurring as a result of violence (injury) as well as, those that occur unexpectedly, without medical attention, in custody, or pose a threat to public health); review of deaths of specific populations; grief counseling; performance of a full range of toxicological examinations; cremation approvals; and public dispositions of unclaimed remains.

The agency's FY 2025 approved budget is presented in the following tables:

FY 2025 Approved Gross Funds Operating Budget and FTEs, by Revenue Type

Table FX0-2 contains the approved FY 2025 budget by revenue type compared to the FY 2024 approved budget. It also provides FY 2022 and FY 2023 actual data.

Table FX0-2

(dollars in thousands)

| | Dollars in Thousands | | | | | | Full-Time Equivalents | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 | % Change* | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 | % Change |
| Appropriated Fund | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>GENERAL FUND</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Funds | 12,944 | 14,322 | 14,637 | 15,383 | 746 | 5.1 | 90.7 | 96.8 | 100.7 | 101.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Special Purpose Revenue Funds | 0 | 91 | 318 | 318 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | N/A |
| TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND | 12,944 | 14,413 | 14,955 | 15,701 | 746 | 5.0 | 90.7 | 96.8 | 100.7 | 103.0 | 2.3 | 2.3 |
| <u>FEDERAL RESOURCES</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Federal Grant Funds | 333 | 466 | 400 | 0 | -400 | -100.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | -1.0 | -100.0 |
| TOTAL FOR FEDERAL RESOURCES | 333 | 466 | 400 | 0 | -400 | -100.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | -1.0 | -100.0 |
| <u>INTRA-DISTRICT FUNDS</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Intra-District Funds | 1,541 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A | 12.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | N/A |
| TOTAL FOR INTRA-DISTRICT FUNDS | 1,541 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A | 12.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | N/A |
| GROSS FUNDS | 14,819 | 14,879 | 15,355 | 15,701 | 346 | 2.3 | 103.0 | 97.8 | 101.7 | 103.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 |

*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

Note: If applicable, for a breakdown of each Grant (Federal and Private) and Special Purpose Revenue type, please refer to **Schedule 80 Agency Summary by Revenue Source** in the **FY 2025 Operating Appendices** located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website.

In FY 2023, the Intra-District process that required duplicated budget in the agencies providing services (seller agencies) was eliminated and replaced by interagency projects. For more detailed information regarding the approved funding for interagency projects funded within this agency, please see **Appendix H, FY 2025 Interagency Budgets**, in the **Executive Summary, Volume 1**.

FY 2025 Approved Operating Budget, by Account Group

Table FX0-3 contains the approved FY 2025 budget at the Account Group level compared to the FY 2024 approved budget. It also provides FY 2022 and FY 2023 actual expenditures.

Table FX0-3

(dollars in thousands)

| Account Group | Actual | Actual | Approved | Approved | Change | Percentage |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | from FY 2024 | Change* |
| 701100C - Continuing Full Time | 8,444 | 9,231 | 9,645 | 10,121 | 475 | 4.9 |
| 701200C - Continuing Full Time - Others | 882 | 232 | 241 | 480 | 239 | 99.0 |
| 701300C - Additional Gross Pay | 727 | 565 | 413 | 442 | 29 | 6.9 |
| 701400C - Fringe Benefits - Current Personnel | 2,052 | 2,109 | 2,302 | 2,443 | 141 | 6.1 |
| 701500C - Overtime Pay | 210 | 251 | 185 | 185 | 0 | 0.0 |
| SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES (PS) | 12,315 | 12,388 | 12,787 | 13,671 | 884 | 6.9 |
| 711100C - Supplies and Materials | 908 | 672 | 837 | 614 | -224 | -26.7 |
| 712100C - Energy, Communications and Building Rentals | 8 | 15 | 29 | 2 | -27 | -93.1 |
| 713100C - Other Services and Charges | 696 | 757 | 588 | 406 | -182 | -31.0 |
| 713200C - Contractual Services - Other | 856 | 920 | 1,086 | 961 | -125 | -11.5 |
| 714100C - Government Subsidies and Grants | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| 715100C - Other Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| 717100C - Purchases Equipment and Machinery | 29 | 128 | 28 | 48 | 20 | 71.5 |
| SUBTOTAL NONPERSONNEL SERVICES (NPS) | 2,504 | 2,491 | 2,568 | 2,030 | -538 | -21.0 |
| GROSS FUNDS | 14,819 | 14,879 | 15,355 | 15,701 | 346 | 2.3 |

*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

FY 2025 Approved Operating Budget and FTEs, by Division/Program and Activity

Table FX0-4 contains the approved FY 2025 budget by division/program and activity compared to the FY 2024 approved budget. It also provides FY 2022 and FY 2023 actual data. For a more comprehensive explanation of divisions/programs and activities, please see the Division/Program Description section, which follows the table.

Table FX0-4

(dollars in thousands)

| Division/Program and Activity | Dollars in Thousands | | | | | Full-Time Equivalents | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 |
| (AFO000) AGENCY | | | | | | | | | | |
| FINANCIAL OPERATIONS | | | | | | | | | | |
| (AFO003) Agency Budgeting and | | | | | | | | | | |
| Financial Management Services | 127 | 165 | 175 | 295 | 120 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 |
| (AFO010) Payroll Default | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| (AFO011) P-Card Clearing | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUBTOTAL (AFO000) AGENCY | 127 | 168 | 175 | 295 | 120 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 |

Table FX0-4

(dollars in thousands)

| Division/Program and Activity | Dollars in Thousands | | | | | Full-Time Equivalents | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 |
| (AMP000) AGENCY | | | | | | | | | | |
| MANAGEMENT PROGRAM | | | | | | | | | | |
| (AMP005) Contracting and Procurement | 191 | 132 | 142 | 147 | 5 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| (AMP009) Fleet Management | 53 | 89 | 58 | 91 | 33 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| (AMP011) Human Resource Services | 156 | 158 | 142 | 147 | 5 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| (AMP012) Information Technology Services | 442 | 531 | 538 | 692 | 154 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 1.0 |
| (AMP014) Legal Services | 194 | 188 | 191 | 196 | 4 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| (AMP022) Records Management | 516 | 530 | 568 | 606 | 39 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 0.0 |
| (AMP030) Executive Administration | 2,241 | 1,402 | 1,471 | 1,510 | 39 | 12.7 | 6.6 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 0.0 |
| SUBTOTAL (AMP000) AGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM | 3,794 | 3,030 | 3,111 | 3,390 | 278 | 23.2 | 16.9 | 18.0 | 19.0 | 1.0 |
| (PRG000) NO PROGRAM | | | | | | | | | | |
| (PRG001) No Program | 0 | -3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUBTOTAL (PRG000) NO PROGRAM | 0 | -3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| (PS0028) DEATH INVESTIGATIONS/CERTIFICATION | | | | | | | | | | |
| (P02801) Anthropology/Identification | 854 | 788 | 804 | 853 | 49 | 5.7 | 5.6 | 7.0 | 6.0 | -1.0 |
| (P02802) Forensic Investigations | 2,185 | 2,182 | 2,201 | 2,315 | 115 | 15.3 | 15.0 | 15.0 | 15.0 | 0.0 |
| (P02803) Forensic Pathology | 957 | 1,266 | 1,242 | 1,558 | 316 | 5.7 | 5.6 | 5.7 | 6.0 | 0.3 |
| (P02804) Forensic Support Services | 36 | 29 | 44 | 165 | 121 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| (P02805) Histology | 133 | 142 | 134 | 227 | 93 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 |
| (P02806) Mortuary Services | 3,095 | 3,281 | 3,651 | 3,617 | -34 | 23.6 | 27.2 | 27.0 | 29.0 | 2.0 |
| SUBTOTAL (PS0028) DEATH INVESTIGATIONS/CERTIFICATION | 7,260 | 7,689 | 8,077 | 8,736 | 659 | 51.2 | 54.5 | 55.7 | 58.0 | 2.3 |
| (PS0029) FATALITY REVIEWS | | | | | | | | | | |
| (P02901) Child Fatality Reviews | 1,001 | 1,200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9.4 | 10.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| (P02903) Fatality Reviews - Other | 26 | 0 | 1,214 | 1,256 | 42 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 11.0 | 11.0 | 0.0 |
| SUBTOTAL (PS0029) FATALITY REVIEWS | 1,027 | 1,200 | 1,214 | 1,256 | 42 | 9.4 | 11.3 | 11.0 | 11.0 | 0.0 |
| (PS0030) FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY | | | | | | | | | | |
| (P03001) Forensic Toxicology Lab Services | 2,499 | 2,555 | 2,530 | 2,024 | -506 | 16.4 | 13.2 | 14.0 | 13.0 | -1.0 |
| SUBTOTAL (PS0030) FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY | 2,499 | 2,555 | 2,530 | 2,024 | -506 | 16.4 | 13.2 | 14.0 | 13.0 | -1.0 |

Table FX0-4

(dollars in thousands)

| Division/Program and Activity | Dollars in Thousands | | | | | Full-Time Equivalents | | | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 | Actual FY 2022 | Actual FY 2023 | Approved FY 2024 | Approved FY 2025 | Change from FY 2024 |
| (PS0031) HOMELAND SECURITY INITIATIVES | | | | | | | | | | |
| (P03101) Data Fusion Center Services | 112 | 240 | 247 | 0 | -247 | 1.9 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 0.0 | -2.0 |
| SUBTOTAL (PS0031) HOMELAND SECURITY INITIATIVES | 112 | 240 | 247 | 0 | -247 | 1.9 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 0.0 | -2.0 |
| TOTAL APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET | 14,819 | 14,879 | 15,355 | 15,701 | 346 | 103.0 | 97.8 | 101.7 | 103.0 | 1.3 |

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

Note: For more detailed information regarding the approved funding for the activities within this agency’s programs, please see **Schedule 30-PBB Program Summary by Activity**. For detailed information on this agency’s Cost Center structure as reflected in the District’s Chart of Accounts, please see **Schedule 30-CC FY 2025 Approved Operating Budget and FTEs, by Division/Office**. The schedules can be found in the **FY 2025 Operating Appendices** located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer’s website. Additional information on this agency’s interagency agreements can be found in **Appendix H** in the **Executive Summary, Volume 1**.

Division Description

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner operates through the following 5 divisions:

Death Investigations and Certifications – is responsible for forensic pathology, forensic investigation, and forensic support services. Forensic pathology involves conducting decedent examination, determining the cause and manner of death, and providing that information to next of kin, law enforcement, designated government entities, and interested parties. Forensic investigation includes evidence-gathering, medical interpretation, and provision of information to aid in the determination of the cause and manner of death. The purpose of forensic support services is to provide services in the form of consultations and testing services to support the forensic pathology staff in the determination of the cause and manner of death.

This division contains the following 6 activities:

- **Anthropology and Identification** – ensures that decedent identification is made in an accurate and efficient manner and manages the caseload of unidentified decedents for public disposition;
- **Forensic Investigations** – provides information, evidence gathering, and medical interpretation services to OCME, law enforcement agencies, legal counsel, and the community to identify decedents and aid in determining the cause and manner of death;
- **Forensic Pathology**– provides, in a timely manner, decedent external and/or internal examination, documentation (i.e., medical transcription), and analysis services to law enforcement, government agencies, interested parties, and families to determine and understand the cause and manner of death;
- **Forensic Support Services** – provides forensic support services in the form of consultations and testing services to support the forensic pathology staff in the determination of the cause and manner of death;
- **Histology** – provides real-time forensic histology support services consisting of preparation, processing, and embedding of tissue as well as staining and development of histology slides for microscopic analysis for the purpose of establishing cause and manner of death; and
- **Mortuary Services** – provides body transport and autopsy support to forensic pathology staff and the funeral industry.

Fatality Reviews – review the circumstances of the deaths of individuals within certain populations, including their interaction with District government services. The purpose of the reviews is to provide analysis and recommendations to the public and District entities serving defined populations so that they can address systemic problems and provide better services.

Forensic Toxicology – maintains standards of practice for the detection, identification, and quantitation of alcohol, drugs, and other toxins in biological specimens. The laboratory provides scientific support services to OCME so that the agency may provide accurate death investigation information in a timely manner to the next of kin, law enforcement agencies, legal counsel, and the community, when required. It also provides services to various external government entities regarding specified types of testing.

Agency Management – provides for administrative support and the required tools to achieve operational and programmatic results. This division is standard for all agencies using performance-based budgeting.

Agency Financial Operations – provides comprehensive and efficient financial management services to, and on behalf of, District agencies so that the financial integrity of the District of Columbia is maintained. This division is standard for all agencies using performance-based budgeting.

Division Structure Change

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has no division structure changes in the FY 2025 approved budget.

FY 2024 Approved Budget to FY 2025 Approved Budget, by Revenue Type

Table FX0-5 itemizes the changes by revenue type between the FY 2024 approved budget and the FY 2025 approved budget. For a more comprehensive explanation of changes, please see the FY 2025 Approved Budget Changes section, which follows the table.

Table FX0-5

(dollars in thousands)

| DESCRIPTION | DIVISION/PROGRAM | BUDGET | FTE |
|--|--|---------------|--------------|
| LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2024 Approved Budget and FTE | | 14,637 | 100.7 |
| No Change | | 0 | 0.0 |
| LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2025 Recurring Budget | | 14,637 | 100.7 |
| Increase: To align personnel services and Fringe Benefits with projected costs | Multiple Programs | 784 | 0.3 |
| Decrease: To realize programmatic cost savings in nonpersonnel services | Multiple Programs | -157 | 0.0 |
| Enhance: To support forensic photo equipment (one-time) | Multiple Programs | 145 | 0.0 |
| Reduce: Annual reporting cost savings | Agency Management Program | -26 | 0.0 |
| LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2025 Mayor’s Proposed Budget | | 15,383 | 101.0 |
| No Change | | 0 | 0.0 |
| LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2025 District’s Approved Budget | | 15,383 | 101.0 |
| SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2024 Approved Budget and FTE | | 318 | 0.0 |
| Increase: To support additional FTE(s) | Death Investigations/Certifications | 183 | 2.0 |
| Decrease: To offset projected adjustments in personnel services costs | Multiple Programs | -183 | 0.0 |
| SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2025 Mayor’s Proposed Budget | | 318 | 2.0 |
| No Change | | 0 | 0.0 |
| SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2025 District’s Approved Budget | | 318 | 2.0 |
| FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS: FY 2024 Approved Budget and FTE | | 400 | 1.0 |
| Decrease: To recognize savings from a reduction to an FTE | Forensic Toxicology | -84 | -1.0 |
| Decrease: To align the budget with projected grant awards | Forensic Toxicology | -316 | 0.0 |

Table FX0-5

(dollars in thousands)

| DESCRIPTION | DIVISION/PROGRAM | BUDGET | FTE |
|--|------------------|----------|------------|
| FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS: FY 2025 Mayor's Proposed Budget | | 0 | 0.0 |
| No Change | | 0 | 0.0 |
| FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS: FY 2025 District's Approved Budget | | 0 | 0.0 |

GROSS FOR FX0 - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER 15,701 103.0

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

Note: For more detailed information regarding the approved funding for interagency projects funded within this agency, please see **Appendix H, FY 2025 Interagency Budgets, of the Executive Summary, Volume 1** located on the OCFO's website.

FY 2025 Approved Operating Budget Changes

Table FX0-6 contains the approved FY 2025 budget by fund compared to the FY 2024 approved budget.

Table FX0-6

| Appropriated Fund | FY 2024 Approved | FY 2025 Approved | % Change from FY 2024 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Local Funds | \$14,636,954 | \$15,382,844 | 5.1 |
| Special Purpose Revenue Funds | \$318,000 | \$318,001 | 0.0 |
| Federal Grant Funds | \$400,000 | \$0 | -100.0 |
| GROSS FUNDS | \$15,354,954 | \$15,700,845 | 2.3 |

Mayor's Proposed Budget

Increase: The Local funds proposed budget reflects an increase of \$784,408 and 0.3 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) across multiple divisions to align salary and Fringe Benefits with projected costs.

In Special Purpose Revenue (SPR) funds, a proposed increase of \$183,036 and 2.0 FTEs will support the activities within the Death Investigations/Certifications division.

Decrease: The Local funds budget proposal includes a decrease of \$157,269 across multiple divisions, primarily due to savings in Contractual Services costs.

In SPR funds, a proposed decrease of \$183,036 across multiple divisions, primarily in Supplies, will offset projected increases to the personnel services budget.

The proposed Federal Grants funds budget reflects the following decreases in the Forensic Toxicology division, a decrease of \$83,525 and 1.0 FTE to align the personnel services budget and a decrease of \$316,475 to align the budget with projected awards.

Enhance: In Local funds the proposed budget includes a one-time increase of \$145,000 in the Forensic Toxicology division, which will be used to support equipment for the Forensic Photography unit.

Reduce: A proposed Local funds decrease of \$26,250 in the Agency Management division is to reflect savings associated with annual reporting costs.

District's Approved Budget

No Change: The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's budget proposal reflects no change from the Mayor's proposed budget to the District's approved budget.

