

## MEDICAL EXAMINER

The Medical Examiner (ME) safeguards the rights of each citizen who dies in Pinellas County by determining the cause and manner of death according to the responsibilities and obligations in Chapter 406, Florida Statutes. The Medical Examiner Department provides both forensic medicine service (investigation of sudden, unexpected or suspicious death) and forensic laboratory service (chemical and drug analyses) to Pinellas County on a contractual basis.

### 0001 GENERAL FUND

Department Revenues by Fund / Account		FY15 Revised Budget (a)	FY16 Request		FY16 Request vs. FY15 Bud %	
0001	General Fund Tax Support	3,839,780	3,950,970		111,190	2.9%
	Federal Grants (b)	332,790	-		(332,790)	-100.0%
	State Grants	265,000	265,000		0	0.0%
	Cremation and Burial Fees	368,000	368,000		0	0.0%
	Other Public Safety Charge and Fees	372,450	390,680		18,230	4.9%
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>5,178,020</b>	<b>4,974,650</b>		<b>(203,370)</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
Department Expenditures by Program		FTE by Program				
0001	Medical Examiner - District Six	5,178,020	4,974,650	2.0	(203,370)	-3.9%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>5,178,020</b>	<b>4,974,650</b>		<b>(203,370)</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
Personnel Summary						
Total FTE (Full-time equivalent positions) (c)		2.0		2.0	0	0.0%

#### Target Reconciliation

FY16 Budget Request Target	\$ 5,020,410
Target Variance	\$ (45,760) Under

<b>FY16 Decision Package Request</b>	<b>\$ 80,000</b>
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- (a) FY15 Revised Budget as of 01/31/2015
- (b) Federal Grants will be added as they are finalized in FY16.
- (c) FTE represents the two County employees who are required for the DNA lab. All other employees of the ME are employed directly by the ME.

**Department: Medical Examiner**

Program	Description	FY16 Total Program Allocation (\$)	FTE's *	FY16 Total Program Revenue (\$)
<b>MEDICAL EXAMINER</b>	Medical Examiner determines the cause and manner of death according to the responsibilities and obligations in F.S. 406.	<b>\$3,072,519</b>	<b>27.5 (ME)</b>	<b>\$898,338</b>
<b>Forensic Laboratory Chemistry/Fire Debris Sections</b> Pursuant to F.S. 943	Forensic Laboratory determines chemical composition of items submitted by law enforcement agencies.	<b>\$879,229</b>	<b>25.5 (ME) 2.0 (Cty)</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Forensic Laboratory DUI Section</b> Pursuant to F.S. 943	Forensic Laboratory determines the concentration of alcohol and controlled substances in DUI cases submitted by law enforcement and overlaps with Medical Examiner toxicology.	<b>\$102,250</b>		<b>\$89,000</b>
<b>Forensic Laboratory DNA Section</b> Pursuant to F.S. 943	Forensic Laboratory determines the DNA profile of samples submitted by law enforcement agencies.	<b>\$968,742</b>		<b>\$0</b>
<b>FY16 Risk Allocation</b>	Risk Management Cost Allocation	<b>\$31,910</b>		<b>\$0</b>
<b>TOTAL (All Funds) (a)</b>		<b>\$5,054,650</b>	<b>51.0 (ME)</b>	<b>\$987,338</b>
<b>Non-Pinellas County Funding</b>		<b>\$987,338</b>	<b>2.0 (Cty)</b>	<b>\$987,338</b>
<b>Combined Total Budget</b>		<b>\$6,041,988</b>		<b>\$1,974,676</b>

(a) Includes an \$80,000 decision package request.

## MEDICAL EXAMINER

### Decision Packages

Decision Package Name	Fund(s)	Net Cost	FTE	Description	Expected Impacts/Outcomes/Results
Blood Testing Equipment	0001	\$ 80,000	-	Blood ethanol testing equipment	Per annual contract with the ME; page 10 Paragraph 9A States; The County agrees to provide, maintain, and support at no cost to Dr. Thogmartin., a facility and all Function Related Equipment reasonably required to perform the duties under the Scope of Services.



# Forensic Science Center

FY 15-16 Budget

# Forensic Science Center

- Medical Examiner: Cause/Manner of Death
- Forensic Chemistry: Identify seized drugs
- Fire Debris Analysis: Detect presence of ignitable liquids
- DUI testing: Determine alcohol and drug concentrations of suspected impaired drivers
- DNA analysis: Determine DNA profile of biological samples
- Many times the results of these determinations influence criminal justice outcomes

# Medical Examiner

- District Medical Examiner is appointed by the Governor
  - Contract with both Pasco and Pinellas
  - Pasco County is fee for service
  - Forensic Laboratory performs postmortem toxicology as required by FAC
  - Approaching 15 years of service



# MEDICAL EXAMINER

- Accredited by the National Assoc. of Medical Examiners (renewed accreditation this year)
- All our Medical Examiners are board certified in Forensic Pathology
- Authority to perform the investigations under FSS Ch. 406
- Minimum standards of practice enforced by FAC 11G



# NAME Accreditation

- Florida has 22 Medical Examiner Offices
- Full accreditation: District 5 (Leesburg), Pinellas/Pasco, Volusia, Orlando, Palm Beach County, Lee County, and St. Augustine
- Provisional accreditation: Miami-Dade and Broward
- The remaining 13 are not accredited
- District 6 is the only fully accredited office in Florida with an in house toxicology laboratory

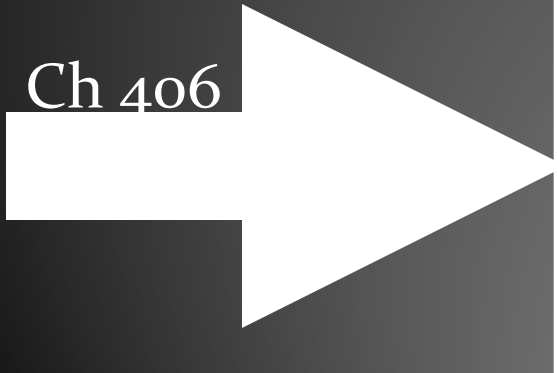
# NAME Accreditation Requirements Highlights

- Mass disaster plan
- Physician board certification
- Certification of Forensic Investigators
- Investigation standards
- Autopsy standards
- Toxicology standards
- Facility standards
- Report production and retention standards

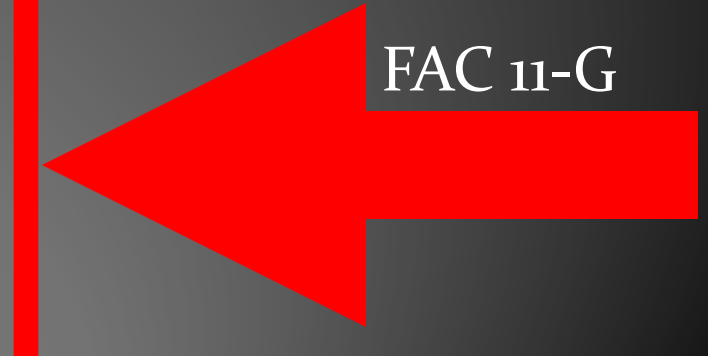
# Limits of Operation

- We operate between a written set of parameters set by the State of Florida

Ch 406



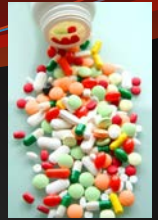
FAC 11-G



# Forensic Laboratory

- All laboratory staff are required to be certified
- ASCLD-LAB accreditation required by contract
- Grant funding awards (past and present) have been extensive
- Over \$330,000 in grants awarded in FY15
- TAT for DNA, Toxicology and Fire Debris is 30 days
  - (National average for DNA is 152 days)
- TAT for Drug Chemistry is 15 days

# Drugs



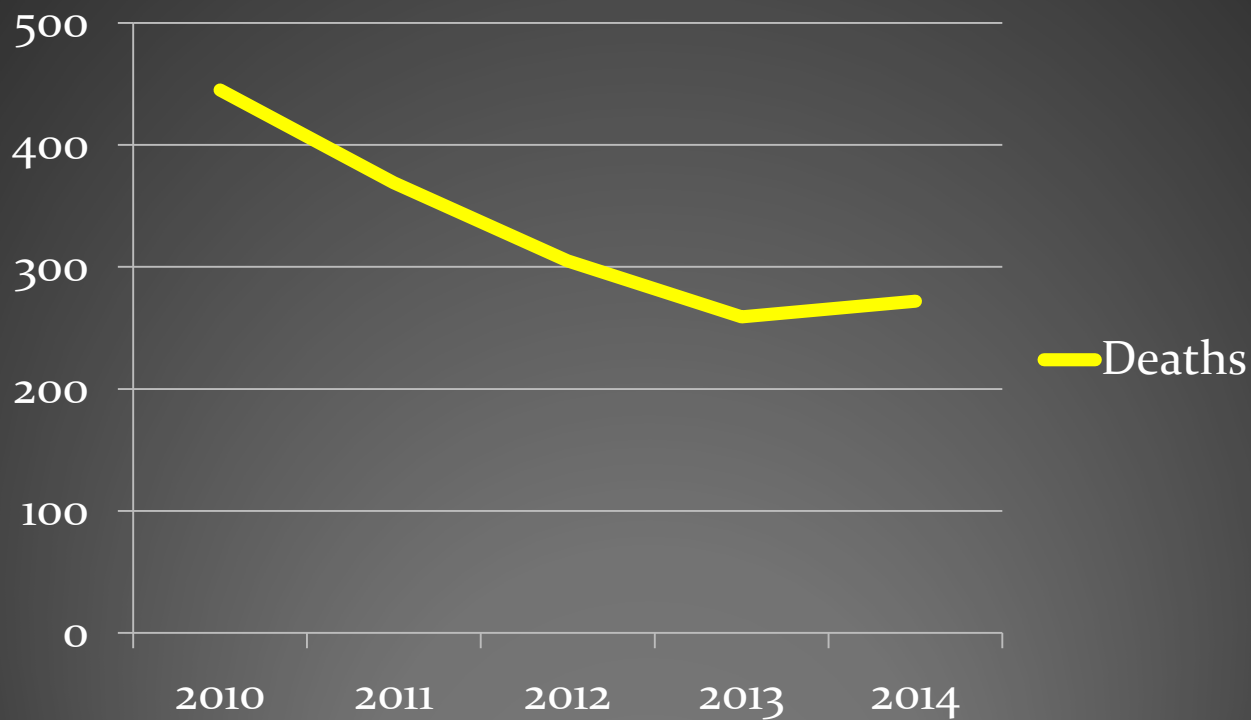
- Toxicology and Drug Chemistry sections have experienced significant increases in:
- Synthetic cannabinoids “Spice”
- Cathinones, (“Bath Salts”)
- Heroin
- Fentanyl





# Accidental Drug Deaths

Deaths





# Forensic Lab DNA Section

- 1310 CODIS hits to date
  - 86% resolved by law enforcement



# Costs for FY16

- Pinellas General Fund support
  - Increased by ~\$111,000
- Health care costs increased by \$23,000
- Payroll increased inclusive of COLA increase
- Machinery, Equipment and Software (\$80,000)
  - Essential alcohol testing equipment
- Our request is slightly below the target

