

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

This section includes budget information for five Constitutional Officers: the Clerk of the Circuit Court, the Property Appraiser, the Sheriff, the Supervisor of Elections and the Tax Collector. The Constitutional Officers are elected to administer a specific function of County Government and are directly accountable to the public for its proper operation. The duties, responsibilities and powers of these officials are defined by the State Constitution and laws.

Page #	Department Name	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
G-3	CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT	15,008,720	13,754,570	12,629,460
G-5	PROPERTY APPRAISER	11,401,164	10,691,950	10,027,240
G-7	SHERIFF	277,858,470	284,806,370	265,110,180
G-11	SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS	7,098,960	6,544,490	5,889,440
G-13	TAX COLLECTOR	20,069,326	21,247,270	20,127,730
Total		331,436,640	337,044,650	313,784,050



CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

The Clerk of the Circuit Court is the ministerial officer that summons prospective jurors for both circuit and county courts, maintains custody of all court records and evidence presented at trials, and is responsible for collecting fines and court costs imposed. The Clerk's Office handles collection of various traffic and parking fines for the municipalities and county government and serves as Accountant and Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners, Custodian of county funds and Ex-Officio County Auditor. The Clerk serves as Recorder of Deeds and maintains the official records for the county, issues marriage licenses and acts as an agent for the federal government in processing applications for passports.

Department Expenditures By Cost Center	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
1201000 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT	15,008,720	13,754,570	12,629,460
Total	15,008,720	13,754,570	12,629,460

Department Expenditures By Fund	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 GENERAL FUND	15,008,720	13,754,570	12,629,460
Total	15,008,720	13,754,570	12,629,460

Personnel Summary

Total Permanent Positions	144	132
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CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT (1201000)

GENERAL FUND (0101)

The Clerk of the Circuit Court is Clerk of the County Court, Recorder of Deeds, Clerk and Accountant for the Board of County Commissioners, Custodian of County Funds, and Ex-Officio County Auditor. The Clerk's functions to the Board of County Commissioners are funded by a transfer from the County's General Fund. The Clerk's recording functions and Court functions are fee-based operations. the Clerk's functions to the Board are reflected in the budget, but the Clerk's functions to the Court System are not reflected pursuant to Revision 7 of Article V of the Florida Constitution.

Expenditure Summary	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 5919512 TRANSFER TO CLK BRD-PERSONAL	9,557,730	9,749,120	9,304,300
0101 5919522 TRANSFER TO CLK BRD-OPERATING	4,850,010	3,713,460	3,142,740
0101 5919532 TRANSFER TO CLK BRD-CAPITAL	600,980	291,990	182,420
TRANSFERS	15,008,720	13,754,570	12,629,460
Total	15,008,720	13,754,570	12,629,460

PROPERTY APPRAISER

The Property Appraiser is responsible for placing a fair, equitable, and just value on all property in Pinellas County. While the Property Appraiser determines the value on over 432,000 parcels and 72,500 tangible personal property accounts, for the purpose of levying taxes, the Property Appraiser does not set tax rates. These tax rates are set by the Board of County Commissioners, by municipalities, by the School Board and other tax levying boards. The Property Appraiser also administers any tax exemptions granted by statute such as permanent resident's Homestead Exemption, Portability, Seniors, Widows, and Disabled exemptions, etc. The amount noted reflects an estimate of the Property Appraiser Statutory fees to be paid by the County. The Property Appraiser's total budget is approved by the State Department of Revenue.

Department Expenditures By Cost Center	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
1301000 PROPERTY APPRAISER	11,401,164	10,691,950	10,027,240
Total	11,401,164	10,691,950	10,027,240

Department Expenditures By Fund	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 GENERAL FUND	11,401,164	10,691,950	10,027,240
Total	11,401,164	10,691,950	10,027,240

Personnel Summary

Total Permanent Positions	148	139
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PROPERTY APPRAISER (1301000)

GENERAL FUND (0101)

This cost center accounts for the funds associated with the Property Appraiser fees allocated to the Countywide millage and the Unincorporated area millage (MSTU). In addition, in accordance with Florida Statute 192.091, the fees associated with the Municipalities and School Board are paid for by the County and are included in the appropriations shown below. (Note: The Property Appraiser's total budget request to the Florida Department of Revenue for FY09 is \$11,937,094. The budget reflected in this cost center represents the County's General Fund portion.)

Expenditure Summary	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 5919300 TRANSFER TO PROP APPRAISER	10,954,851	10,266,930	9,642,930
0101 5919301 TRANSFER TO PROP APPR.-MSTU	446,313	425,020	384,310
TRANSFERS	11,401,164	10,691,950	10,027,240
Total	11,401,164	10,691,950	10,027,240

SHERIFF

The Sheriff's authority as chief law enforcement officer in Pinellas County is vested in Title V, Chapter 30 of Florida Statutes. It is the Sheriff's responsibility to provide a basic level of law enforcement, court security and screening, and detention services for the benefit of all Pinellas County residents. The Sheriff's duties include providing primary law enforcement services to residents in the unincorporated areas of the County and the 12 municipalities which contract with the Sheriff for these services. Additionally, the Sheriff is the sole provider of specific services such as jail and detention, pre-trial services, court security, flight operations, environmental land patrols, child protection investigations, civil process and the monitoring of sexual offenders and predators. The Sheriff's Office provides more than 55 different services to the public. Some examples of these services include, but are not limited to forensics, latent print examination, narcotics, fugitive extradition, marine patrol, specialized traffic units, canine teams and special weapons and tactics (SWAT) teams. Through a mutual aid agreement, the Sheriff's Office frequently provides such services to municipalities within the county.

The Sheriff's Office is committed to enhancing the quality of life for residents of Pinellas County through innovation, technology and community partnerships, adoption of a balanced scorecard of performance measures known as "Strategies for Excellence" or STRATEX, introduction of new performance-based software and performance-based budgeting, and continually evaluating the effectiveness of various programs and services delivered to the citizens of Pinellas County. Ultimately, we are striving to ensure the citizens of Pinellas County are provided with a safe environment in order to maintain the quality of life to which they have grown accustomed.

In 2007, the Sheriff's Office and the University of South Florida Masters of Public Administration (USF-MPA) program, administered the agency's inaugural "Citizen Satisfaction Survey" to a representative sample of the agency's service population to evaluate citizens' perceptions of the Sheriff's Office. Seventy-nine percent (79%) of the survey respondents indicated they felt the Sheriff's Office provided responsive and professional services to the community. Eighty-three percent (83%) of respondents rated the overall performance of the Sheriff's Office as "good" or "very good." This is consistent with the Sheriff's vision of "Leading the Way for a Safer Pinellas."

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) strives to obtain grant and contract funding when available. This past fiscal year, the PCSO obtained several new funding sources. One such source, a partnership with the Department of Defense, will enhance facial recognition technology which plays a key role in the proper identification of inmates, criminals, and sexual predators/offenders. This technology provides more accurate booking/release identification at the jail, and provides deputies in the field the ability to more accurately identify subjects and citizens lacking identification.

In 2007, the Sheriff's Office was able to ease the severe jail overcrowding by introducing a few new initiatives. Chief Judge Demers signed an administrative court order allowing the Sheriff to release non-violent inmates meeting specific criteria, reducing the number of pre-trial inmates held in jail. Additionally, the courts opened a new section to address certain violations of probation (VOPs), reducing the number of days inmates charged with a VOP are held in jail waiting to be heard in court. Finally, the new medical wing of the Pinellas County Jail opened in August, further relieving the overcrowding.

Department Expenditures By Cost Center	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
1601000 SHERIFF	277,858,470	284,806,370	265,110,180
Total	277,858,470	284,806,370	265,110,180

Department Expenditures By Fund	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 GENERAL FUND	277,848,470	284,644,850	264,999,060
0216 SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD TRUST FUND	10,000	161,520	111,120
Total	277,858,470	284,806,370	265,110,180

Personnel Summary

Total Permanent Positions	2897	2777
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SHERIFF

Summary	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
TRANSFERS	277,858,470	284,718,500	265,009,060
RESERVES	0	87,870	101,120
Total	277,858,470	284,806,370	265,110,180

Account#	Account Name	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
5919110	TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-PERSONAL	228,663,330	237,010,540	226,355,370
5919120	TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-OPERATING	39,854,720	40,705,950	34,381,720
5919130	TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-CAPITAL	4,790,420	3,737,360	1,271,970
5919140	TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-DEBT SERVICE	4,550,000	3,264,650	3,000,000
TRANSFERS		277,858,470	284,718,500	265,009,060
7995000	RESERVE-CONTINGENCIES	0	16,150	11,110
7996000	RESERVE-FUND BALANCE	0	32,300	22,220
7997000	RESERVE-FUTURE YEARS	0	39,420	67,790
RESERVES		0	87,870	101,120
Total		277,858,470	284,806,370	265,110,180

SHERIFF (1601000)**GENERAL FUND (0101)**

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement, corrections and judicial services to the residents of Pinellas County. The Sheriff's operation is funded with city contracts, grants, and transfers from the Board's General Fund.

Expenditure Summary	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 5919110 TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-PERSONAL	228,663,330	237,010,540	226,355,370
0101 5919120 TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-OPERATING	39,844,720	40,632,300	34,371,720
0101 5919130 TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-CAPITAL	4,790,420	3,737,360	1,271,970
0101 5919140 TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-DEBT SERVICE	4,550,000	3,264,650	3,000,000
TRANSFERS	277,848,470	284,644,850	264,999,060
Total	277,848,470	284,644,850	264,999,060

SHERIFF (1601000)**SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD TRUST FUND (0216)**

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement, corrections and judicial services to the residents of Pinellas County. The Sheriff's operation is funded with city contracts, grants, and transfers from the Board's General Fund.

Expenditure Summary	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0216 5919120 TRANSFER TO SHERIFF-OPERATING	10,000	73,650	10,000
TRANSFERS	10,000	73,650	10,000
0216 7995000 RESERVE-CONTINGENCIES	0	16,150	11,110
0216 7996000 RESERVE-FUND BALANCE	0	32,300	22,220
0216 7997000 RESERVE-FUTURE YEARS	0	39,420	67,790
RESERVES	0	87,870	101,120
Total	10,000	161,520	111,120

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

The Supervisor of Elections is responsible for preparing and conducting all Federal, State, County, and Municipal elections in the County. The office registers, maintains changes and deletes the records for all County voters and qualifies all candidates for County offices. The Supervisor of Elections recruits, trains and assigns all poll workers, locates and contracts with polling locations, surveys polling places and makes improvements to comply with ADA accessibility requirements, and purchases and maintains all voting equipment and supplies. The office conducts voter registration and education for all senior high school classes and citizens countywide. The office conducts voter education for elementary and middle school programs. Sample ballots are published in newspapers. The office maintains the website that provides information regarding voter registration, polling places, election dates, and candidates.

Department Expenditures By Cost Center	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
1504000 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS	7,098,960	6,544,490	5,889,440
Total	7,098,960	6,544,490	5,889,440

Department Expenditures By Fund	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 GENERAL FUND	7,098,960	6,544,490	5,889,440
Total	7,098,960	6,544,490	5,889,440

Personnel Summary

Total Permanent Positions	40	40
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SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS (1504000)

GENERAL FUND (0101)

This cost center accounts for funds associated with the Supervisor of Elections Office. The Supervisor of Elections Office provides the residents of Pinellas County election services and comprehensive voter education programs.

Expenditure Summary	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 5919410 TRANSFER TO SOE-PERSONAL	4,044,240	3,867,070	3,594,310
0101 5919420 TRANSFER TO SOE-OPERATING	2,604,670	2,367,730	2,291,000
0101 5919430 TRANSFER TO SOE-CAPITAL	450,050	309,690	4,130
TRANSFERS	7,098,960	6,544,490	5,889,440
Total	7,098,960	6,544,490	5,889,440

TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector bills, collects and distributes all taxes for the County, Municipalities, Tourist Development Council, School Board, and taxing districts - including the sales tax on vehicles, vessels, and mobile homes. This office also collects delinquent taxes and sells certificates for unpaid taxes. As the agent for state government, the Tax Collector issues licenses and titles for cars, trucks, boats and mobile homes, collects fees for fishing and hunting licenses, issues Drivers Licenses, and makes application for voter ID cards.

The amount noted reflects an estimate of the Tax Collector statutory fees to be paid by the County. The Tax Collector's total budget is submitted to and approved by the State Department of Revenue.

Department Expenditures By Cost Center	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
1401000 TAX COLLECTOR	20,069,326	21,247,270	20,127,730
Total	20,069,326	21,247,270	20,127,730

Department Expenditures By Fund	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 GENERAL FUND	20,069,326	21,247,270	20,127,730
Total	20,069,326	21,247,270	20,127,730

Personnel Summary

Total Permanent Positions	295	285
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TAX COLLECTOR (1401000)

GENERAL FUND (0101)

This cost center accounts for the funds associated with the Tax Collector fees related to the collection of the Countywide and Unincorporated area (MSTU) millage. In addition, in accordance with Florida Statute 192.091, the fees associated with the School Board are paid for by the County and are included in the appropriations shown below. (Note: The Tax Collector's total budget request is made to the Florida Department of Revenue and was not final at the time this budget document was prepared.)

Expenditure Summary	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY09 Request
0101 5919200 TRANSFER TO TAX COLLECTOR	19,206,259	20,399,090	19,340,840
0101 5919201 TRANSFER TO TAX COLL-MSTU	863,067	848,180	786,890
TRANSFERS	20,069,326	21,247,270	20,127,730
Total	20,069,326	21,247,270	20,127,730