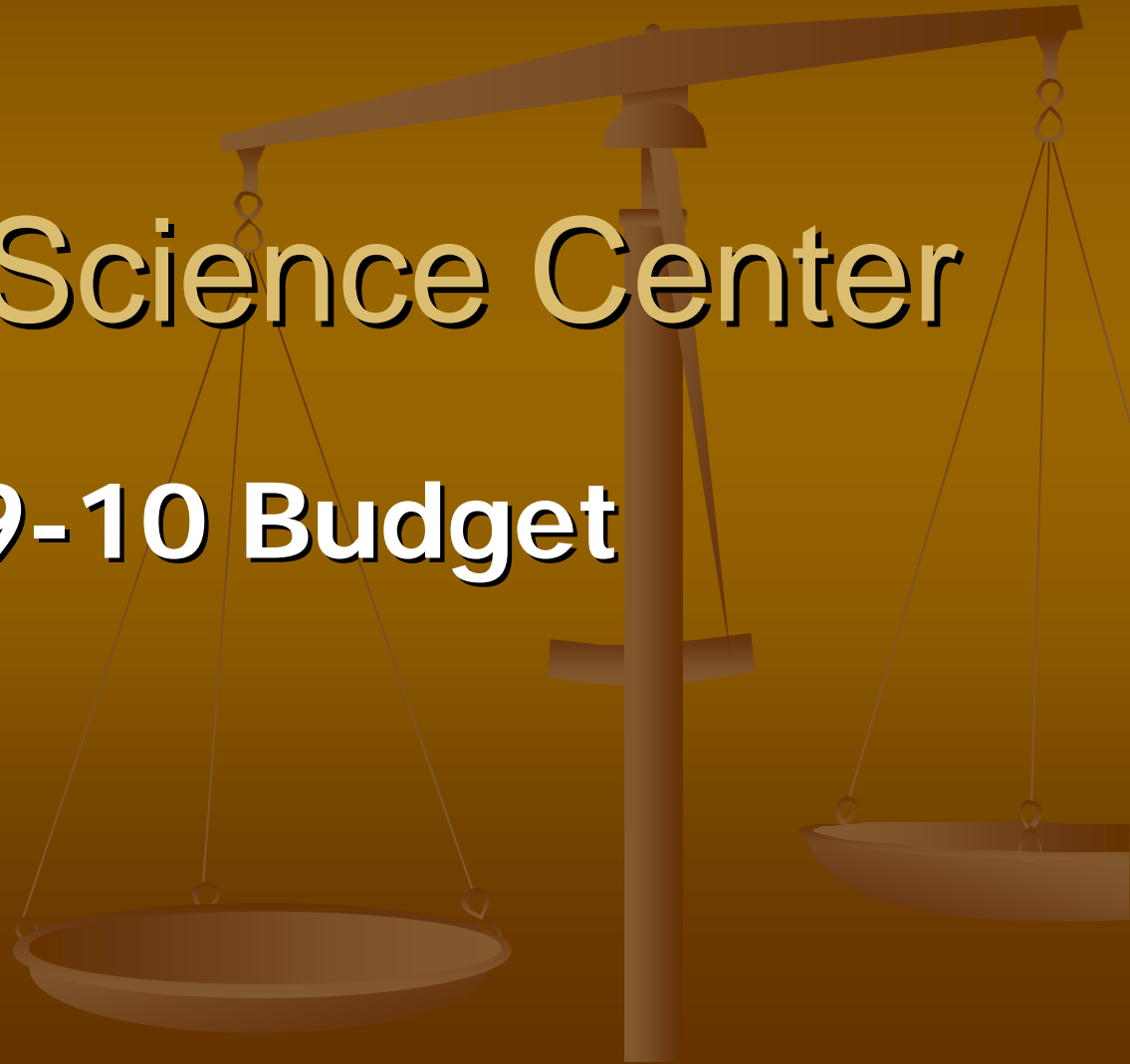


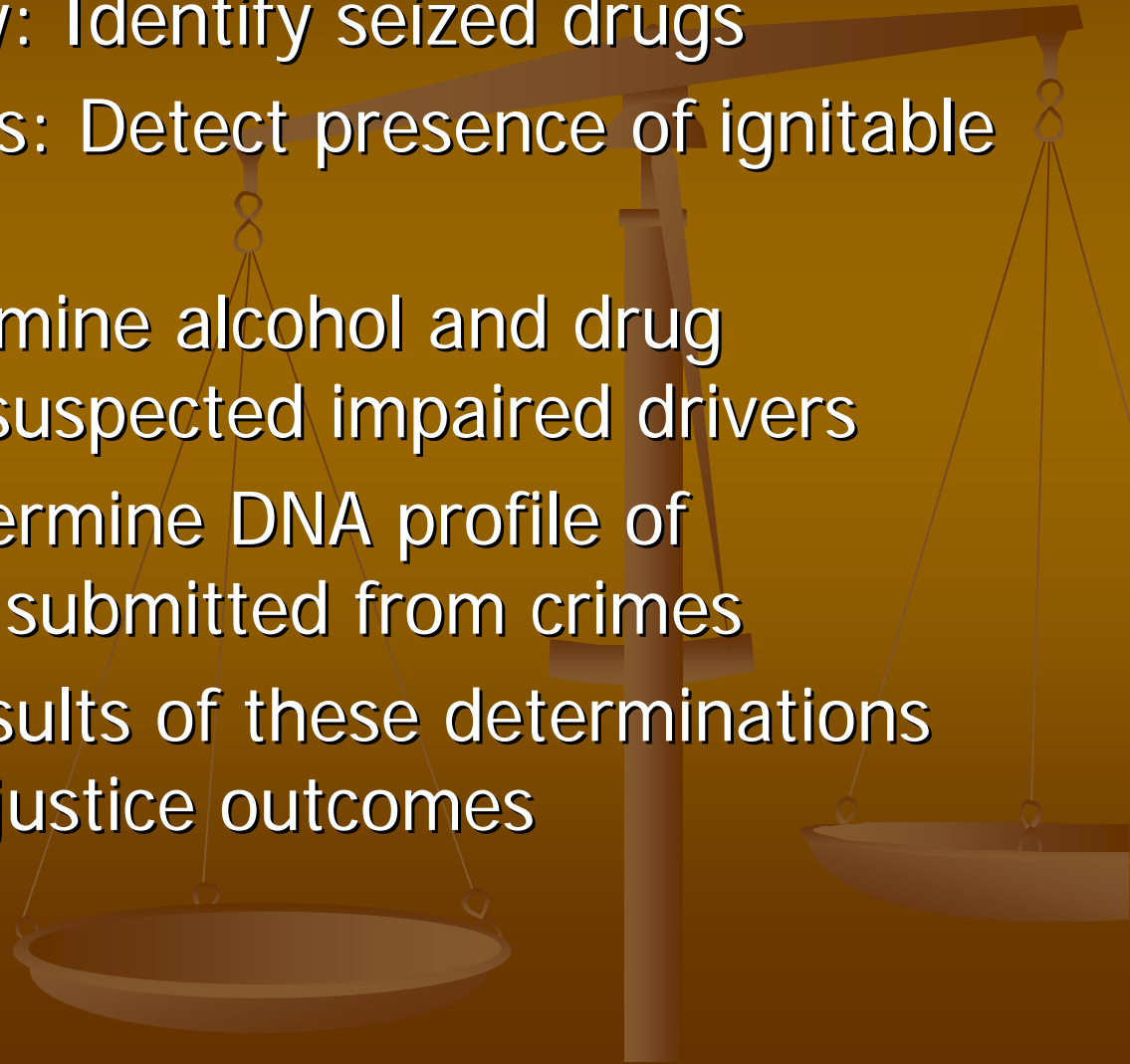
# Forensic Science Center

**FY 09-10 Budget**



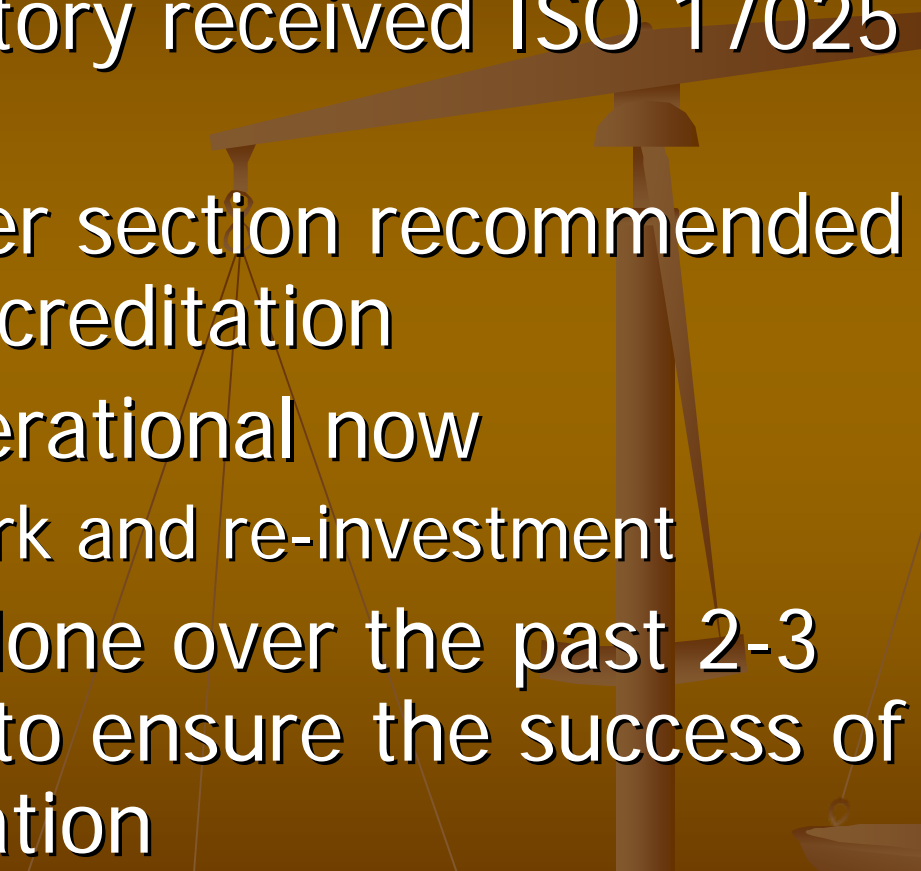
# Forensic Science Center

- 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 submitted from crimes
- Many times the results of these determinations influence criminal justice outcomes

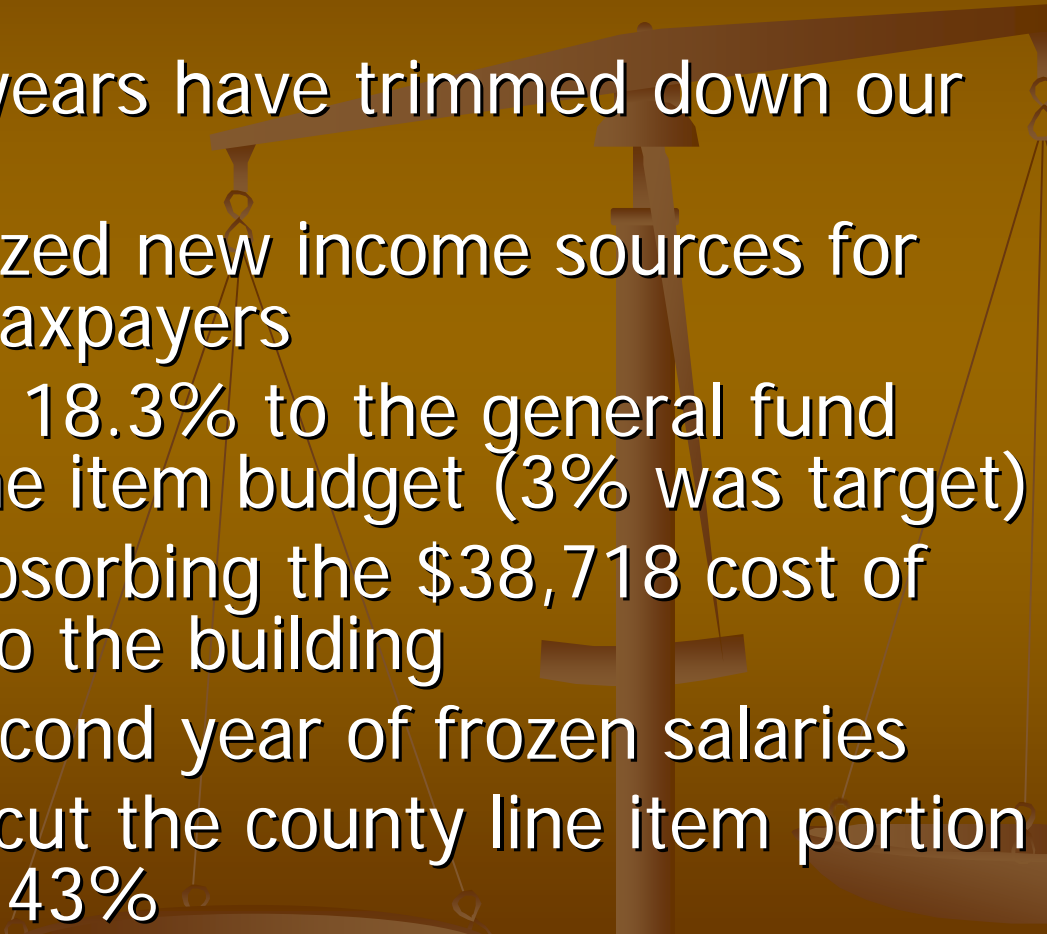


# What is new?

## Accomplishments

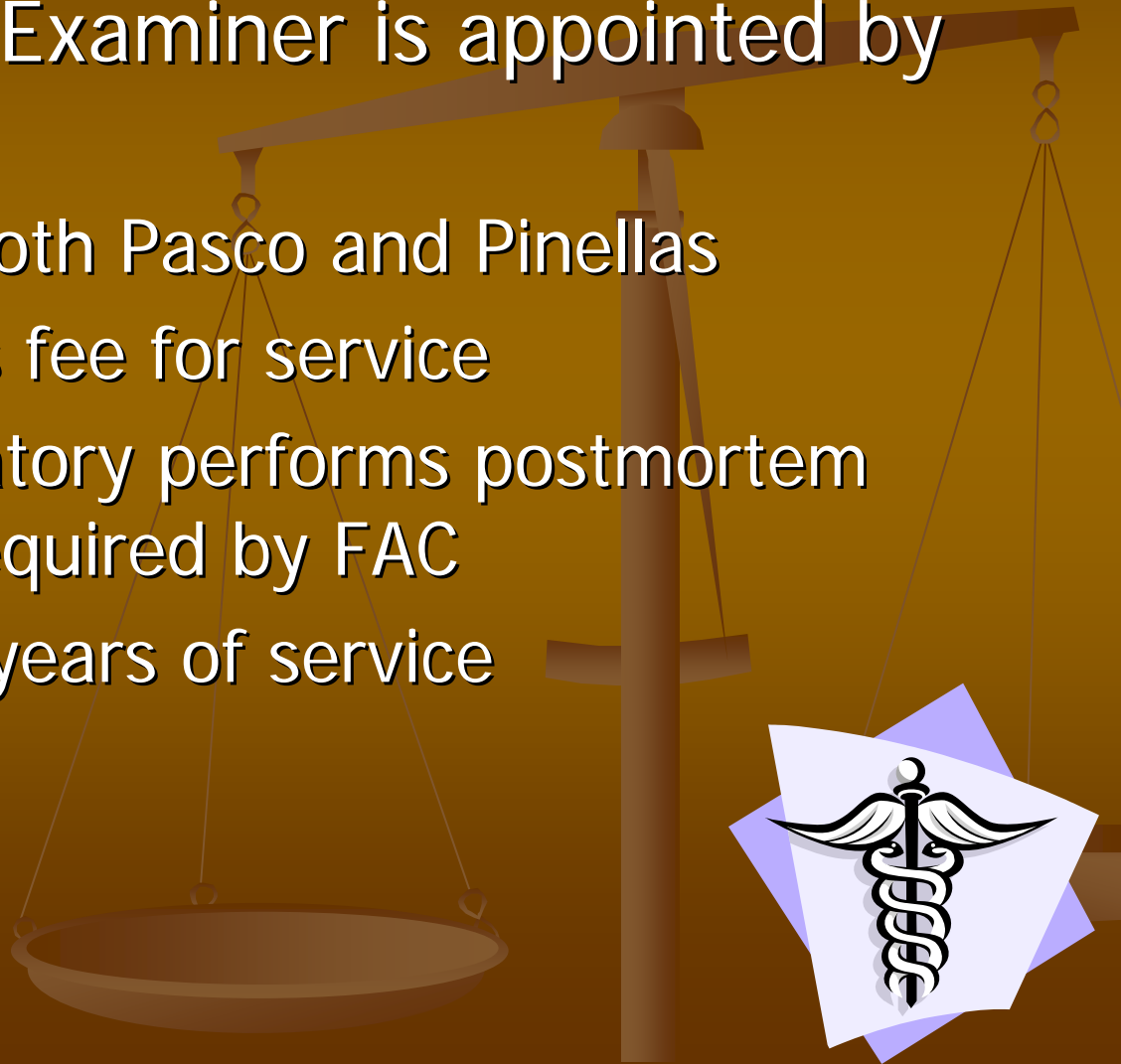
- Forensic Laboratory received ISO 17025 accreditation
  - Medical Examiner section recommended for full NAME accreditation
  - DNA section operational now
    - Due to hard work and re-investment
  - What we have done over the past 2-3 years has been to ensure the success of today's presentation
- 

# Highlights

- Pinellas workload increased while expenses decreased
  - Over past several years have trimmed down our operation
  - Identified and realized new income sources for the benefit of the taxpayers
  - For FY 08 returned 18.3% to the general fund from our county line item budget (3% was target)
  - For FY10 we are absorbing the \$38,718 cost of janitorial services to the building
  - FY10 will be the second year of frozen salaries
  - For FY10 we have cut the county line item portion of our budget by ~43%
- 

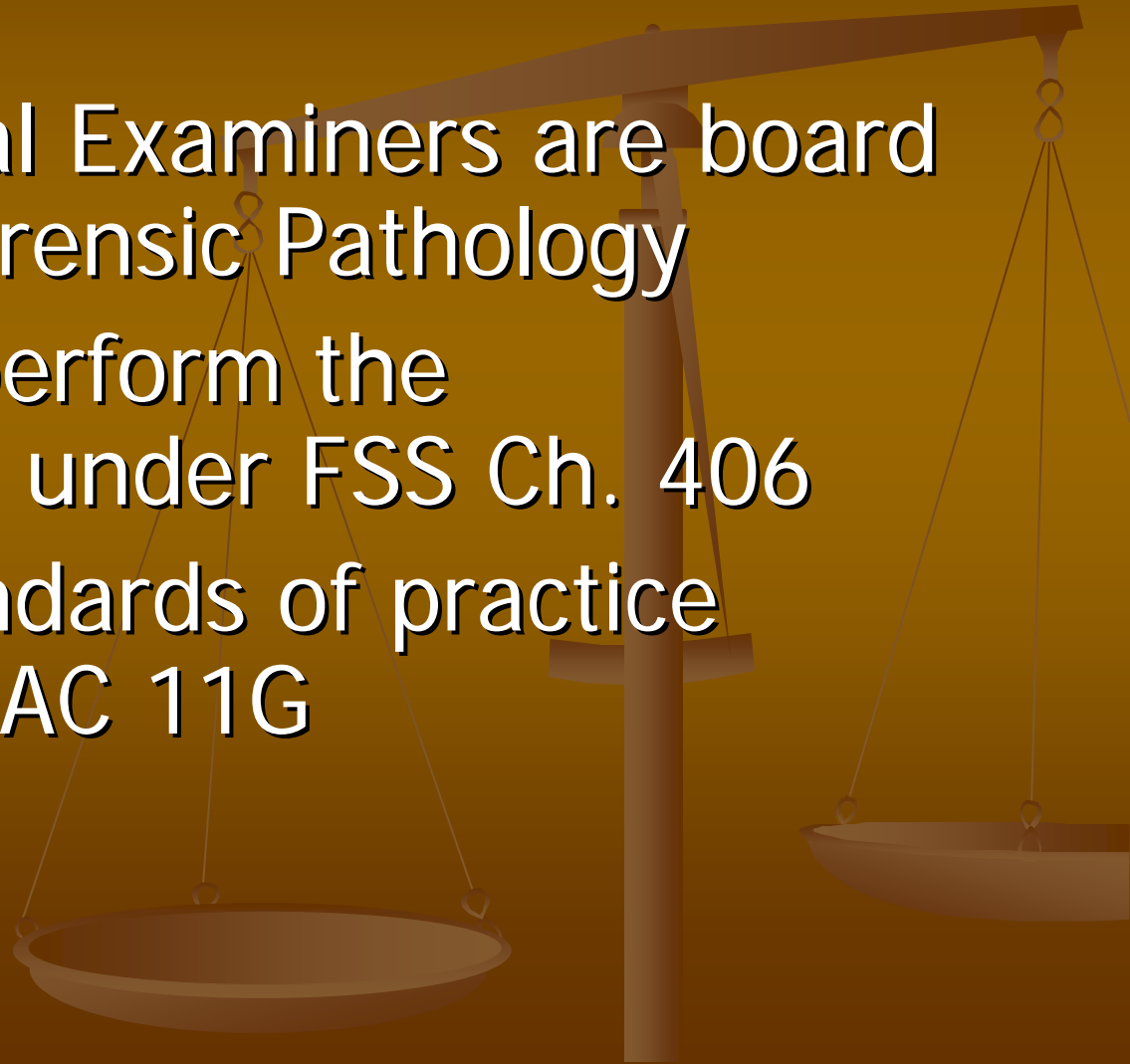
# Medical Examiner

- 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 9 years of service



# MEDICAL EXAMINER

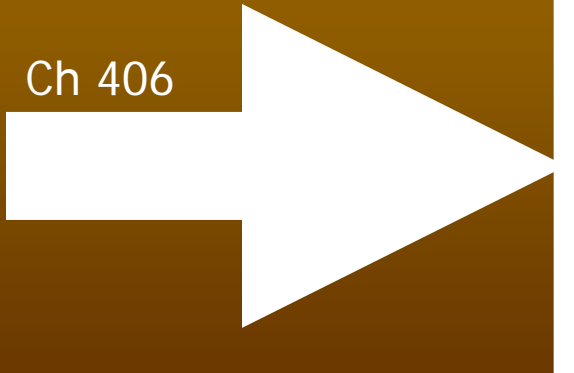
- All our Medical Examiners are board certified in Forensic Pathology
- Authority to perform the investigations under FSS Ch. 406
- Minimum standards of practice enforced by FAC 11G



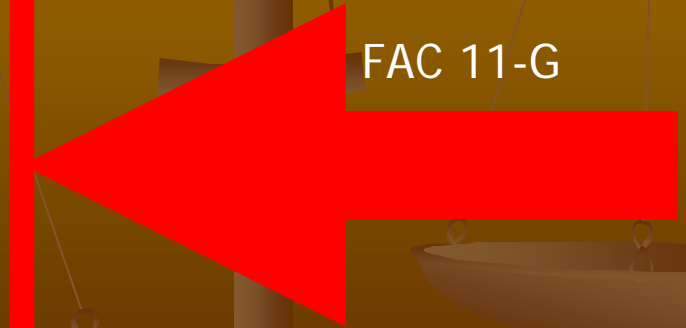
# Limits of Operation

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

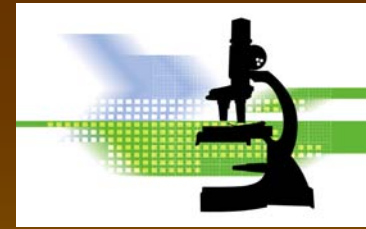
Ch 406



FAC 11-G



# Medical Examiner



- Pinellas workload FY07/FY08 up 12.35% with a 19.62% increase in scene investigations
- Pasco County workload up over 13%
- Large increase in drug overdoses
- Pinellas Funding of Medical Examiner Reduced
  - ~\$2.88 million
- For Medical Examiner services, Pinellas FY 10 general fund revenue will increase by:  
~\$600,000 over FY08



# Florida Medical Examiner Districts

## ***DISTRICT ONE***

Escambia  
Okaloosa  
Santa Rosa  
Walton

## ***DISTRICT TWO***

Franklin  
Gadsden  
Leon  
Liberty  
Jefferson  
Taylor  
Wakulla

## ***DISTRICT THREE***

Columbia  
Dixie  
Hamilton  
Lafayette  
Madison  
Suwannee

## ***DISTRICT FOUR***

Duval  
Nassau  
Clay

## ***DISTRICT FIVE***

Citrus  
Hernando  
Lake  
Marion  
Sumter

## ***DISTRICT SIX***

Pinellas  
Pasco

## ***DISTRICT SEVEN***

Volusia

## ***DISTRICT EIGHT***

Alachua  
Baker  
Bradford  
Gilchrist  
Levy  
Union

## ***DISTRICT NINE***

Orange  
Osceola

## ***DISTRICT TEN***

Hardee  
Highlands  
Polk

## ***DISTRICT ELEVEN***

Dade

## ***DISTRICT TWELVE***

DeSoto  
Manatee  
Sarasota

## ***DISTRICT THIRTEEN***

Hillsborough

## ***DISTRICT FOURTEEN***

Bay  
Calhoun  
Gulf  
Jackson  
Washington  
Holmes

## ***DISTRICT FIFTEEN***

Palm Beach

## ***DISTRICT SIXTEEN***

Monroe

## ***DISTRICT SEVENTEEN***

Broward

## ***DISTRICT EIGHTEEN***

Brevard

## ***DISTRICT NINETEEN***

Indian River  
Martin  
Okeechobee  
St. Lucie

## ***DISTRICT TWENTY***

Collier

## ***DISTRICT TWENTY-ONE***

Glades  
Hendry  
Lee

## ***DISTRICT TWENTY-TWO***

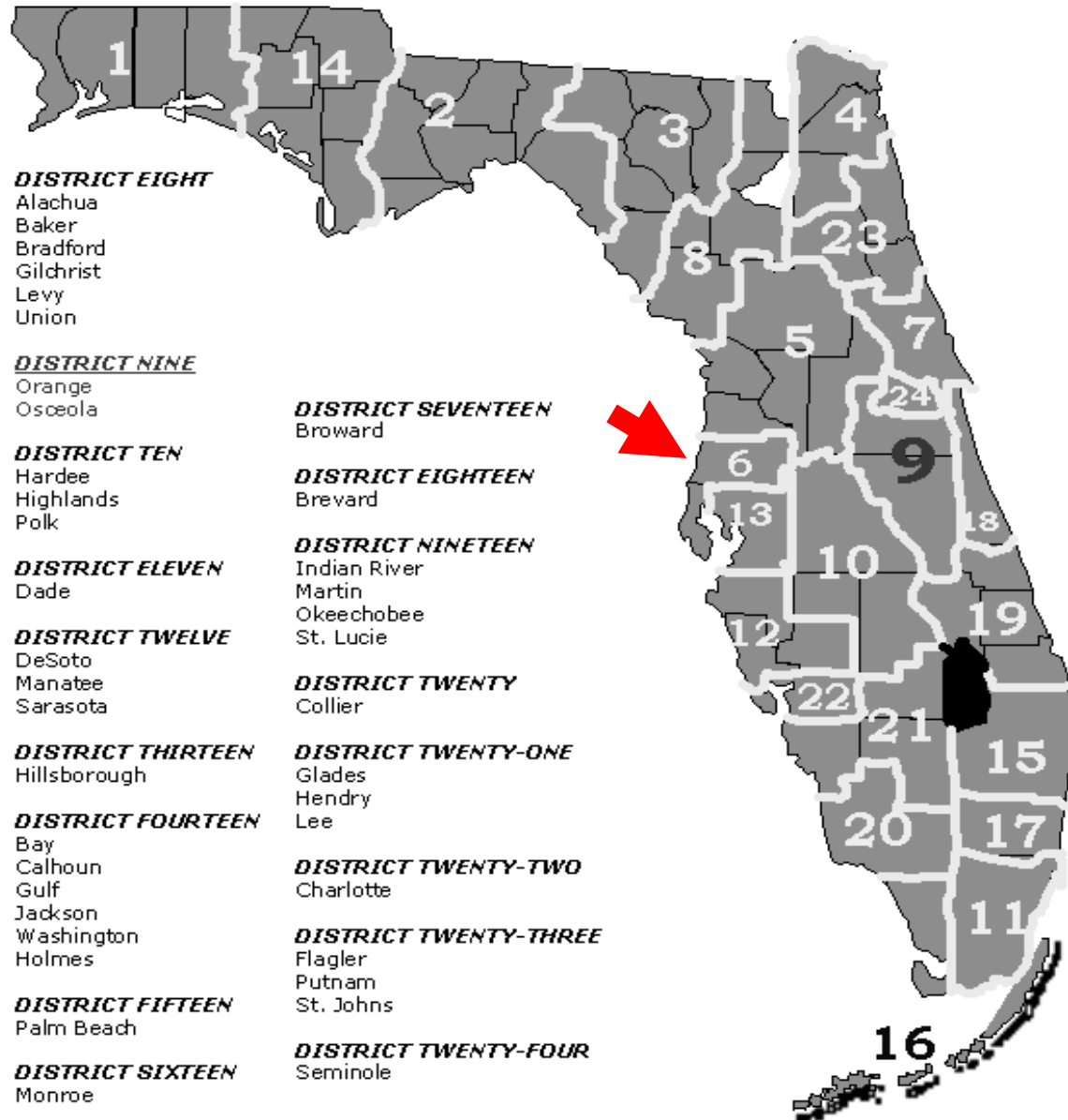
Charlotte

## ***DISTRICT TWENTY-THREE***

Flagler  
Putnam  
St. Johns

## ***DISTRICT TWENTY-FOUR***

Seminole



# Unique Aspects of Florida's Sixth Medical Examiner District

- #1 in Florida for total cases referred
- #1 in Florida for cremation approvals
- #2 in total deaths
- #2 in total violent deaths

Source: 2007 Medical Examiner Commission workload report

# Unique Aspects of Sixth District Drug Related Deaths

- FDLE publishes detailed data on 9 drugs
- We are #1 in 6 (alprazolam, diazepam, oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, propoxyphene)
  - And we are far beyond to the other Districts
- #5 in deaths involving cocaine, morphine
- Drug deaths are time consuming and expensive

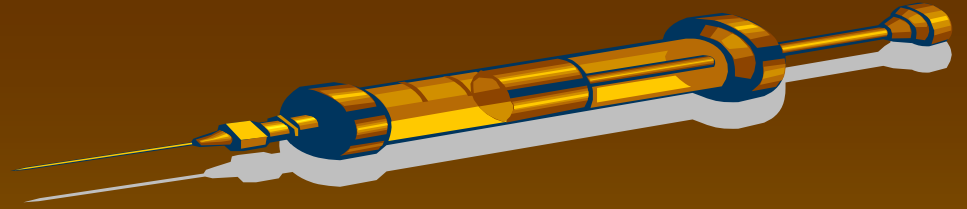
\*ref: FDLE/MEC 2008 Interim Report of Drugs Detected in Deceased Persons

# Potentially Lethal Abused Drugs/Chemicals

Detections/case

	2005	2006	2007
D 6 Ranking	#1	#1	#1
%>runner up	0.05%	12%	29%
%>other District ave	61%	69%	87%

\*ref: FDLE/MEC 2005-2007 Annual Reports of Drugs Detected in Deceased Persons



**We are also the leading District in the absolute number of such drug detections**

- **2007 showed 1384 total positive tests which was 203% higher than the average of the other Districts**
- **We only test ~6.81% of all the decedents tested in Florida yet detect 12.1% of the potentially lethal drugs/chemicals that FDLE tracks**

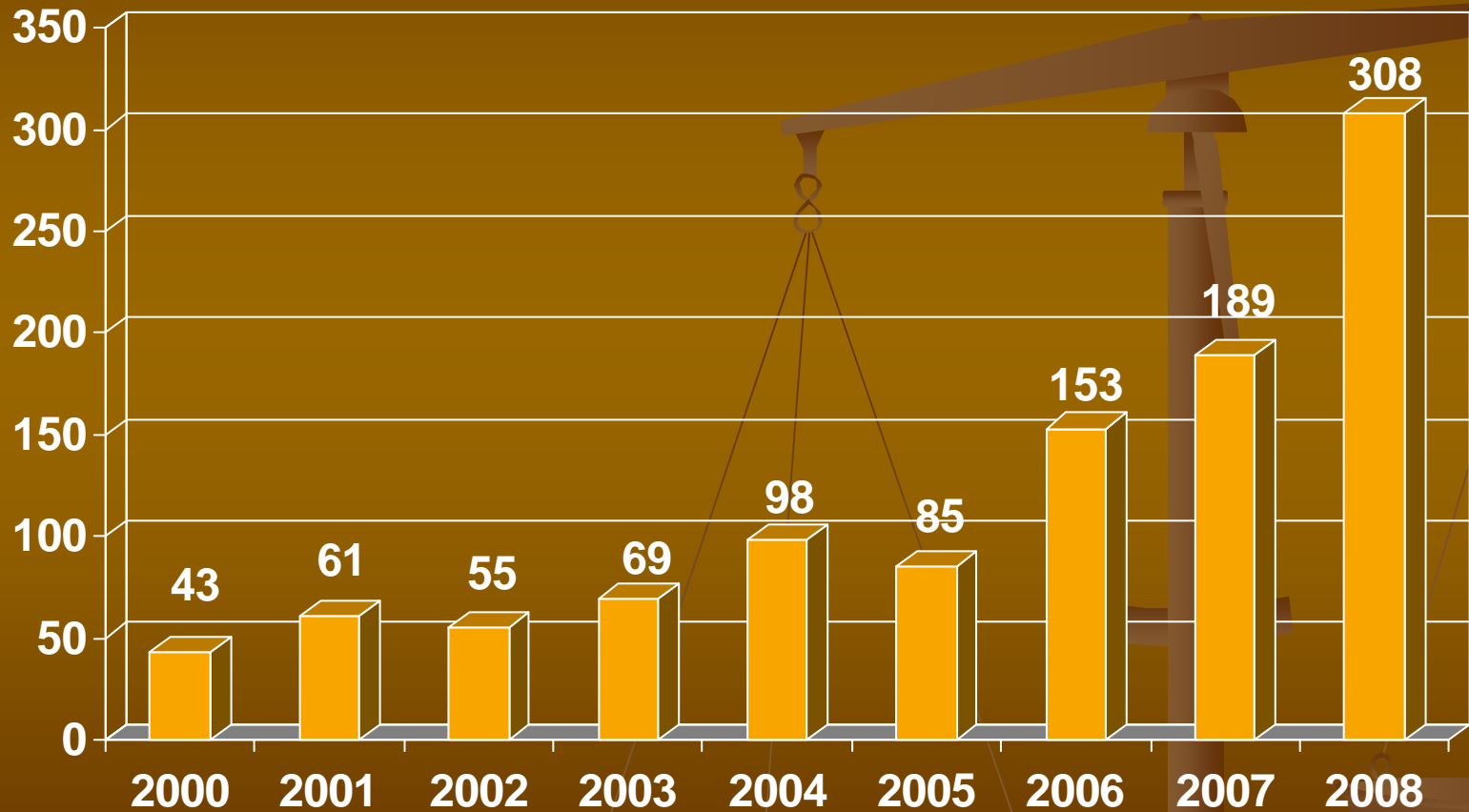
**\*ref: FDLE/MEC 2005-2007 Annual Reports of Drugs Detected in Deceased Persons**

# Unique Aspects of Sixth District Drug Related Deaths

- #1 in Multiple Drug Overdoses
  - Over 3x more than Hillsborough County
  - Over 2x more than Orange/Osceola Counties (D9)
  - Almost 2x Broward County
  - Almost 4x Dade County
  - D6 has almost 16% of Florida's Multidrug Overdoses yet only perform 7.2% of Florida's autopsies
  - Multidrug Overdoses are the most expensive and administratively time consuming cases

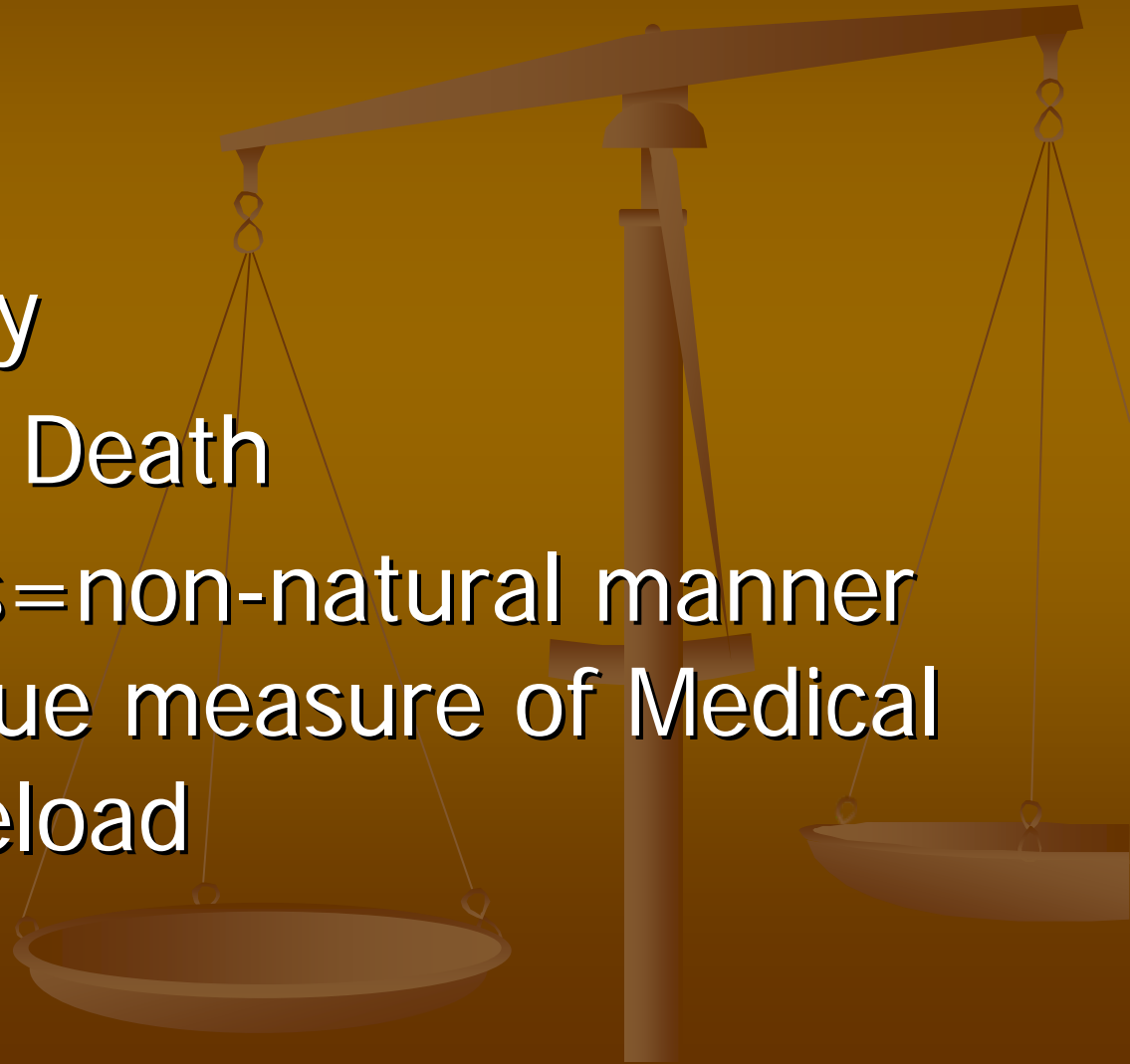
\*ref: FDLE/MEC 2007 Report of Drugs Detected in Deceased Persons

# Oxycodone Detections Trend



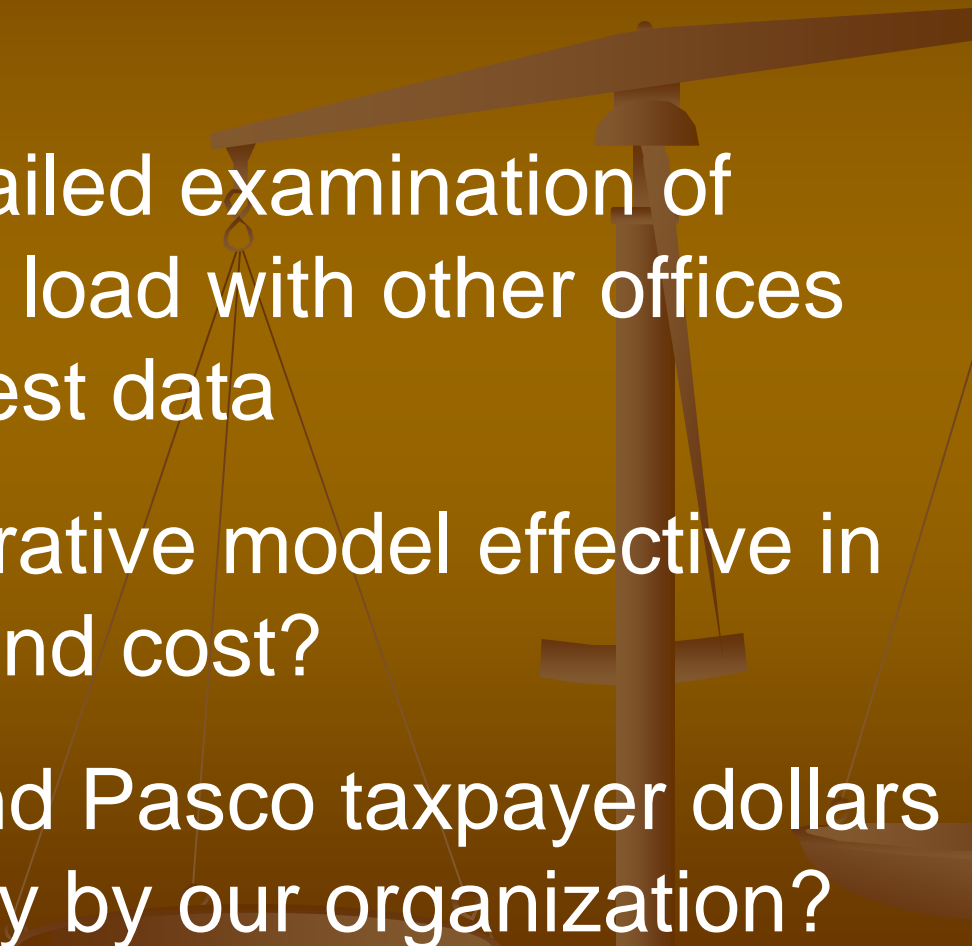
# D6 MEDICAL EXAMINER \$/CASE

- FY09
- \$2025/Case
- \$2838/Autopsy
- \$2732/Violent Death
- Violent deaths=non-natural manner and are the true measure of Medical Examiner caseload






# Efficiency Examined

- Always thought that we were an efficient operation
  - Performed detailed examination of budget and case load with other offices based on the latest data
  - Is our administrative model effective in level of service and cost?
  - Are Pinellas and Pasco taxpayer dollars being used wisely by our organization?
- 

# FY2009 M.E. \$/UNIT OF WORK



M.E. Office	\$/CASE	\$/AUTOPSY	\$/violent death
DISTRICT 6	2025	2838	2732
DISTRICT A	2249	3002	3739
DISTRICT B	2455	3354	4663
DISTRICT C	3005	4237	5188
DISTRICT D	2467	3483	3663
DISTRICT E	3827	4611	6360

# Potential Budget Reduction of Each District

\$ based on cost per violent death investigated

<b>DISTRICT 6</b>	<b>2732</b>
DISTRICT A	-27%
DISTRICT B	-41%
DISTRICT C	-47%
DISTRICT D	-25%
DISTRICT E	-57%

# Efficiency Measure: Vital Statistics

## Pending Death Certificate Statistics

### AVERAGE DAYS DEATH CERTIFICATE PENDING

<b>DISTRICT 6</b>	<b>66 days</b>
<b>DISTRICT A</b>	<b>199 days</b>
<b>DISTRICT B</b>	<b>91 days</b>
<b>DISTRICT C</b>	<b>83 days</b>
<b>DISTRICT D</b>	<b>355 days</b>
<b>DISTRICT E</b>	<b>563 days</b>

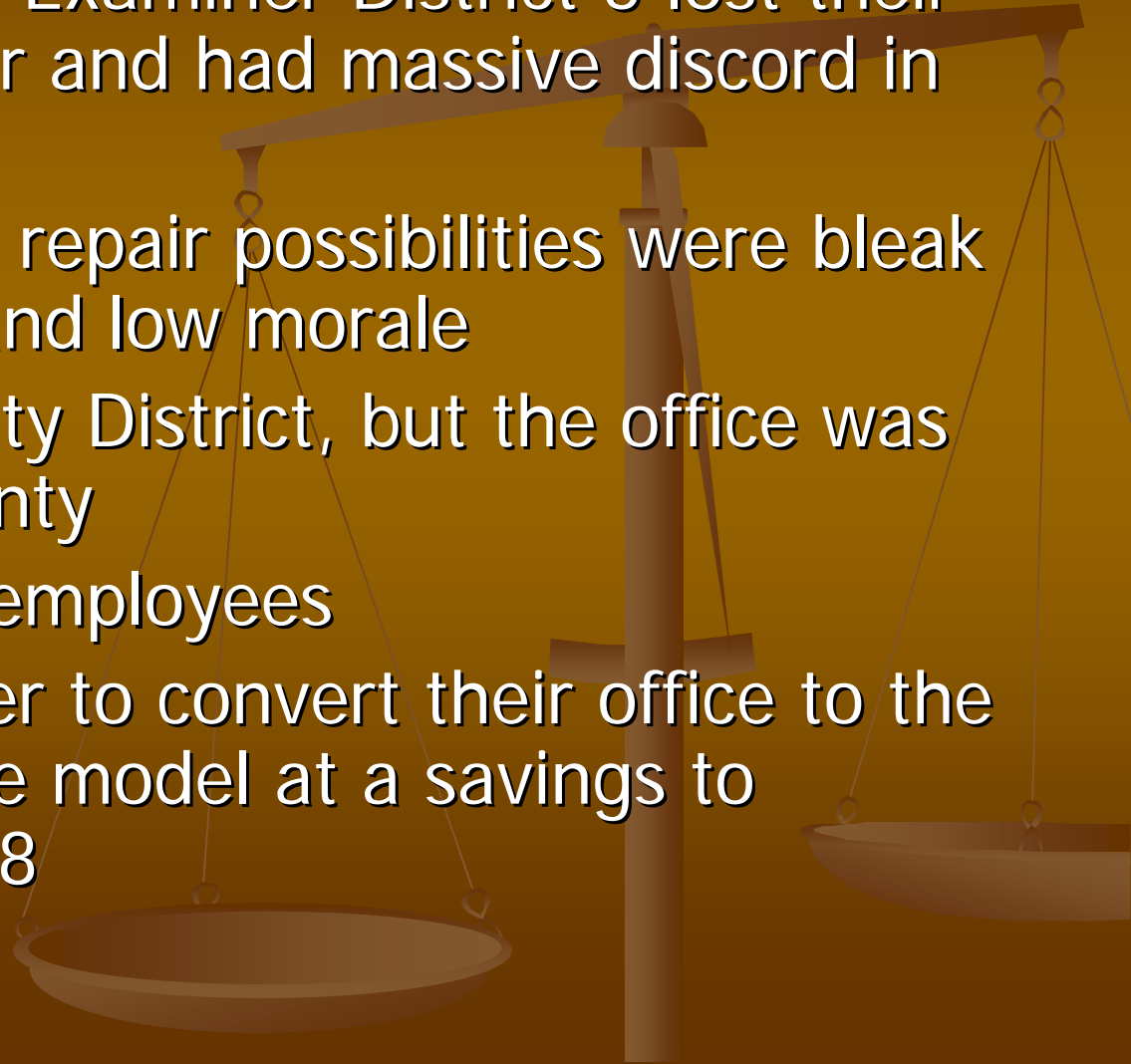
Source: March 2, 2009 temporary/pending death certificates by District



# Efficiency Tested

## Real World Application

- In FY07, Medical Examiner District 5 lost their Medical Examiner and had massive discord in the office
- Recruitment and repair possibilities were bleak due to low pay and low morale
- D5 is a five county District, but the office was run by Lake County
- All Lake County employees
- We made an offer to convert their office to the D6 administrative model at a savings to taxpayers in FY08



# Efficiency Tested

Converted the high cost county run operation to contractor

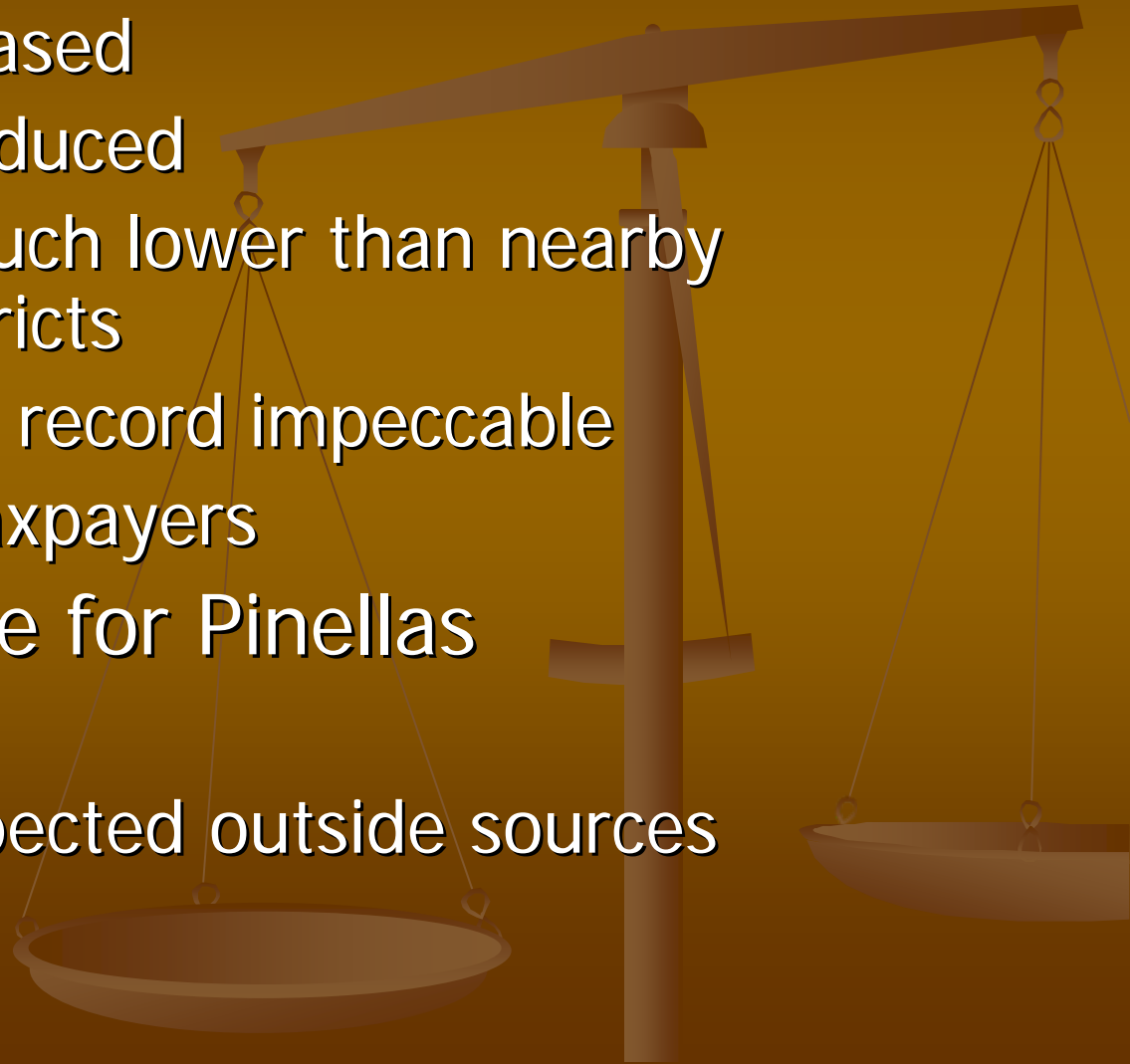
- Lake county dismissed the entire staff
- We then hired the qualified staff of D5
- Recruited and hired new experienced Associate M.E.'s
- Obtained new equipment, computers, and liaison County changed (all inclusive in the quoted budget)
- Saved the taxpayers of District 5 >\$46,500 as compared to FY06-07
- District 5 now running independently
- District 5 taxpayers indemnified
- Massive realized savings in administrative cost and risk

# Benefits to Pinellas County

- 1) Pinellas general fund received 20% of toxicology testing for D5 (>\$60,000) this was an unbudgeted benefit for the general fund for FY08
- 2) Professional services revenue not spent on D5 was put into D6 in FY08
  - \$241,200 was spent on accelerated validation of the DNA section
  - \$80,000 was spent on new vehicles for D6

# D6 Medical Examiner Function

- High efficiency despite high difficulty cases
  - Total cost decreased
  - Cost per case reduced
  - Cost per case much lower than nearby comparable Districts
  - Case completion record impeccable
  - Indemnify the taxpayers
- An income source for Pinellas
  - Fees for service
  - Fees from unexpected outside sources





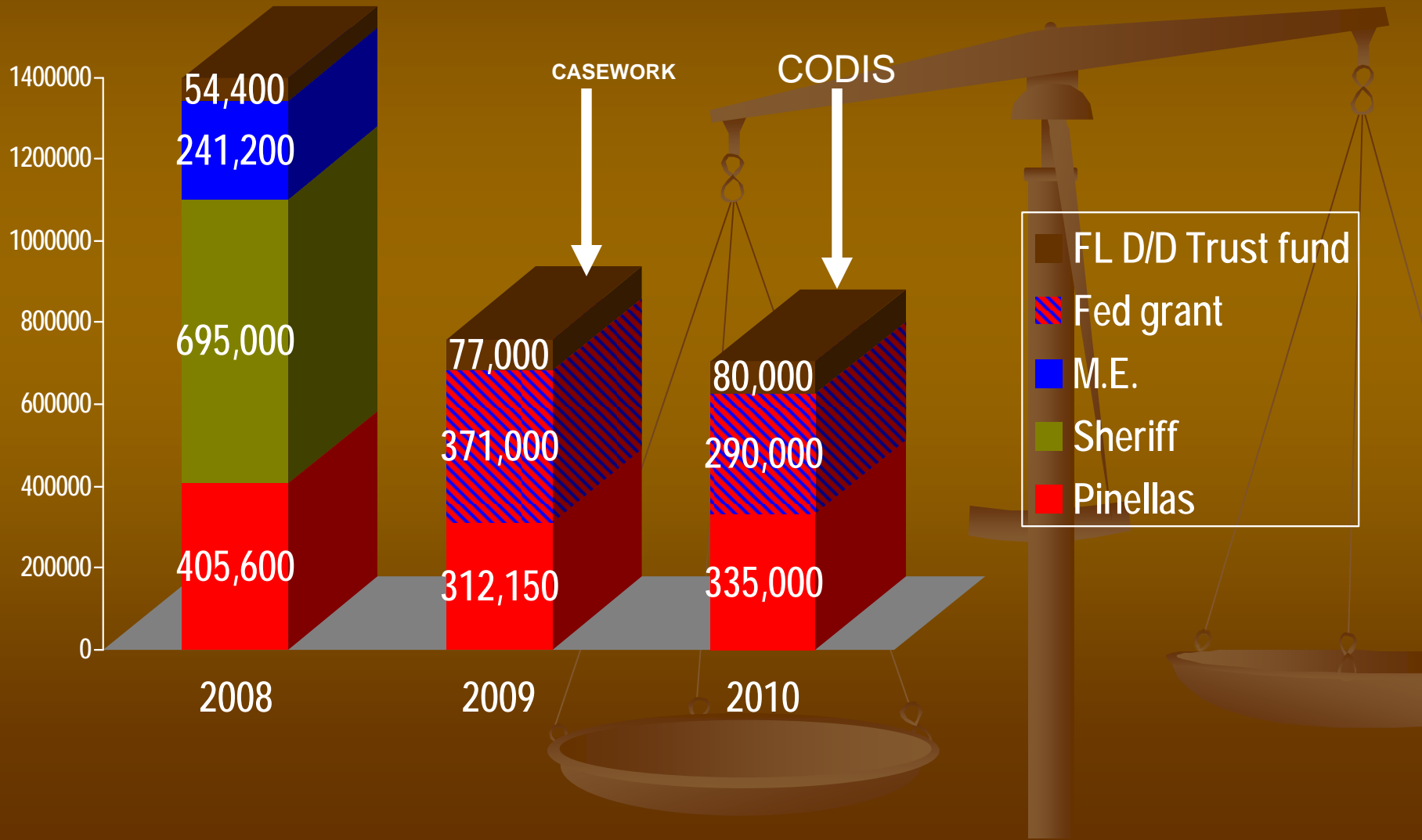
# DNA Section



# DNA Start up COSTS

- Typical costs: 5 million or more
- Typical time: 3-5 years or longer
- Total expenditures at end of FY10 will be \$2.9 million
- Net cost \$1.05 million to general fund at end of FY 10 (~36% of total)
- Future grants and outside revenue are likely
- The most cost effective laboratory tool for solving crimes

# DNA SECTION SHARED COSTS



# FY 10 goals with budget reality

- Maintain core operations
- Maintain facility accreditation
- DNA section to be fully operational including CODIS access
- Retain essential employees despite 2 years of frozen salaries
- Maintain current output rate despite increased workload
- Literally clean our own house
- Absorb all while decreasing the net impact to the taxpayers

