

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

CME49500

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 17	Actual FY 18	Appropriation FY 19	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21
General Fund	50	50	50	51	51	51	51

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 17	Actual FY 18	Appropriation FY 19	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21
Personal Services	4,718,225	4,858,078	4,789,527	5,527,527	5,838,564	5,527,527	5,838,564
Other Expenses	1,341,906	1,344,746	1,435,536	1,442,198	1,442,198	1,442,198	1,442,198
Equipment	16,320	26,399	23,310	23,310	23,310	23,310	23,310
Other Current Expenses							
Medicolegal Investigations	20,466	21,213	22,150	22,150	22,150	22,150	22,150
Agency Total - General Fund	6,096,917	6,250,436	6,270,523	7,015,185	7,326,222	7,015,185	7,326,222

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21

Policy Revisions

Increase Sunday Medical Examiner Coverage

Personal Services	37,440	41,600	37,440	41,600	-	-
Total - General Fund	37,440	41,600	37,440	41,600	-	-

Background

Between 2012 and 2017, autopsies have increased by 70%, cremations have increased by 26%, and drug deaths have increased by 290% in Connecticut.

Governor

Provide funding of \$37,440 in FY 20 and \$41,600 in FY 21 to increase physician medical examiner coverage on Sundays. Due to the increased autopsy caseload, a third medical examiner will be hired to work 8 hours on Sundays.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21

Current Services

Provide Funding for Wage Increases

Personal Services	372,606	674,316	372,606	674,316	-	-
Total - General Fund	372,606	674,316	372,606	674,316	-	-

Background

The Governor's FY 20 and FY 21 Budget provides funding of \$70.3 million in FY 20 and \$165.9 million in FY 21, across seven appropriated funds, for state employee wages and collective bargaining increases.

Governor

Provide funding of \$372,606 in FY 20 and \$674,316 in FY 21 to reflect this agency's increased wage costs.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Annualize Costs for a 9th Medical Examiner

Personal Services	200,316	205,483	200,316	205,483	-	-
Other Expenses	6,662	6,662	6,662	6,662	-	-
Total - General Fund	206,978	212,145	206,978	212,145	-	-
Positions - General Fund	1	1	1	1	-	-

Background

CME was officially downgraded to provisional status by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) on 1/31/2017. This was made retroactive to the prior accreditation cycle of 9/27/16 - 9/27/2018 as prior year workload and work conditions are evaluated. In November 2018, CME reapplied for full accreditation after it successfully recruited a 9th physician to correct its medical examiner understaffing. NAME restored CME accreditation to full on 11/1/18 and made this retroactive to 9/27/18.

Governor

Provide funding of \$206,978 in FY 20 and \$212,145 to support salary and professional supply expenses for a ninth medical examiner hired in FY 19 to regain NAME accreditation.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Annualize Salary Increase for the Chief Medical Examiner and the Deputy

Personal Services	127,638	127,638	127,638	127,638	-	-
Total - General Fund	127,638	127,638	127,638	127,638	-	-

Background

The Commission on Medicolegal Investigations (COMLI) is an independent administrative body consisting of nine members, which, pursuant to CGS Sec. 19a-401, appoints the Chief Medical Examiner, sets the Chief Medical Examiner's term and salary, and promulgates regulations under which the Office must operate (regulations undergo subsequent legislative review and approval). COMLI authorized a salary increase of approximately 20% for both the Chief Medical Examiner and the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, effective FY 19. The salaries for these positions were last increased in FY 15.

Governor

Provide funding of \$127,638 in both FY 20 and FY 21 to annualize the FY 19 salary increases of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21
FY 19 Appropriation - GF	6,270,523	6,270,523	6,270,523	6,270,523	-	-
Policy Revisions	37,440	41,600	37,440	41,600	-	-
Current Services	707,222	1,014,099	707,222	1,014,099	-	-
Total Recommended - GF	7,015,185	7,326,222	7,015,185	7,326,222	-	-

Positions	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21
FY 19 Appropriation - GF	50	50	50	50	-	-
Current Services	1	1	1	1	-	-
Total Recommended - GF	51	51	51	51	-	-