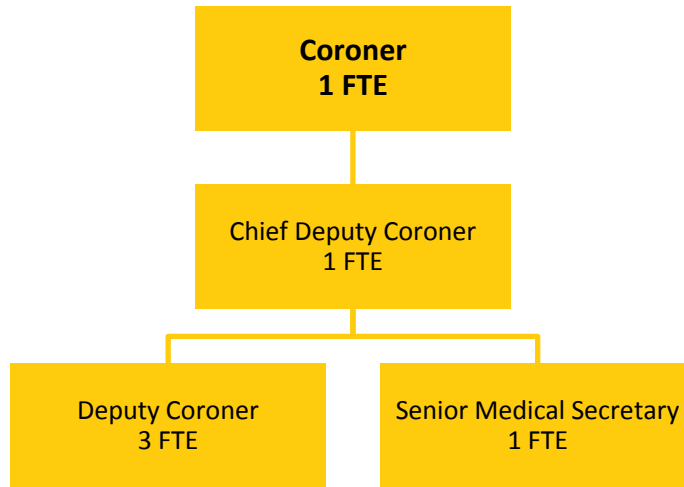


CORONER
Fund 080-042



Coroner positions: 6 FTE

The position and duties of the Coroner are statutorily defined in the Illinois Counties Code (55 ILCS 5/3-3).

MISSION STATEMENT

To investigate the cause and manner of death of anyone who falls under the jurisdiction of the Coroner as prescribed by law. The Coroner’s Office sustains teamwork in medico-legal death investigations, delivered with compassion and respect, for the health and well-being of the people of Champaign County.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Coroner staff participated in a two day hands on clandestine grave excavation of skeletal remains in the fall of 2018 sponsored by the coroner’s office. Representatives from the University Of Illinois Department Of Anthropology and the Illinois State Archeological Survey Prairie Research Institute assisted with the training. A disaster response for mass fatalities training is now being developed for late 2019 or early 2020.

The coroner’s office accepted a social work intern from the University of Illinois in 2019. The intern assisted the coroner’s office by providing information to families who contacted the office with questions and assisted families with identifying community resources for indigent cases. The intern was instrumental in assisting with the development of informational brochures to assist families with questions they may have after the loss of a loved one.

The coroner’s office is in the process of adding a new volunteer staff member. A Golden Retriever named Harlow will be joining the coroner’s office in mid to late summer after completing her therapy dog training. Harlow is owned by Coroner Northrup and will spend several days a week at the coroner’s office providing comfort therapy to members of the public after the loss of a loved one and to fellow coroner staff who investigate these deaths on a daily basis.

Revenue from statutory fees and morgue use fees has remained consistent in 2019 as prior years however, revenue from statutory fees could see a significant drop in 2020 due to statutory changes. A bill was proposed in early 2019 to drastically cut the fees for copies of coroner reports by a member of the research community in Chicago who does not believe researchers should have to pay the current fees for copies of

reports generated by a coroner’s investigation. The individual who proposed the original bill through a Chicago legislator has expressed that he wishes to have a bill pass that would reduce coroner fees by January 2020. This would result in eliminating most of the fee revenue estimated to be approximately \$50,000 generated annually by the coroner’s office.

FINANCIAL

Fund 080 Dept 042			2018	2019	2019	2020
			Actual	Original	Projected	Budget
334	42	IL DP PUB HLTH-GEN RV GRT	\$4,477	\$4,800	\$4,412	\$4,800
335	71	STATE REV-SALARY STIPENDS	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$6,500
		FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL SHARED REVENUE	\$10,977	\$11,300	\$10,912	\$11,300
341	41	CORONER STATUTORY FEES	\$53,761	\$49,000	\$57,332	\$54,000
341	42	REIMB OF CORONER COSTS	\$60,009	\$50,000	\$42,836	\$50,000
		FEES AND FINES	\$113,770	\$99,000	\$100,168	\$104,000
REVENUE TOTALS			\$124,747	\$110,300	\$111,080	\$115,300
511	1	ELECTED OFFICIAL SALARY	\$91,612	\$91,612	\$91,612	\$91,612
511	3	REG. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES	\$217,585	\$215,684	\$215,684	\$223,859
511	5	TEMP. SALARIES & WAGES	\$30,904	\$33,963	\$33,963	\$33,963
511	9	OVERTIME	\$10,777	\$6,450	\$12,000	\$10,000
511	40	STATE-PAID SALARY STIPEND	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$6,500
513	20	EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMNT/RECOG	\$70	\$0	\$0	\$0
513	21	EMPLOYEE PHYSICALS/LAB PERSONNEL	\$1,301	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
			\$358,749	\$355,409	\$360,959	\$367,134
522	1	STATIONERY & PRINTING	\$79	\$200	\$200	\$200
522	2	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$852	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
522	3	BOOKS,PERIODICALS & MAN.	\$759	\$600	\$604	\$600
522	6	POSTAGE, UPS, FED EXPRESS	\$821	\$500	\$500	\$500
522	15	GASOLINE & OIL	\$5,055	\$5,535	\$5,535	\$5,535
522	19	UNIFORMS	\$683	\$120	\$120	\$120
522	44	EQUIPMENT LESS THAN \$5000	\$2,320	\$4,700	\$2,412	\$4,800
522	45	VEH EQUIP LESS THAN \$5000	\$580	\$0	\$2,000	\$0
522	90	ARSENAL & POLICE SUPPLIES	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
522	93	OPERATIONAL SUPPLIES	\$12,013	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
		COMMODITIES	\$23,162	\$26,355	\$26,071	\$26,455
533	6	MEDICAL/DENTAL/MENTL HLTH	\$121,756	\$129,202	\$127,202	\$129,202
533	22	LABORATORY FEES	\$45,423	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
533	29	COMPUTER/INF TCH SERVICES	\$1,764	\$1,780	\$1,780	\$1,780
533	33	TELEPHONE SERVICE	\$3,399	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500
533	36	WASTE DISPOSAL & RECYCLNG	\$3,516	\$4,732	\$4,732	\$4,732
533	40	AUTOMOBILE MAINTENANCE	\$536	\$975	\$2,527	\$975
533	42	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	\$1,531	\$1,531	\$1,763	\$1,573
533	51	EQUIPMENT RENTALS	\$113	\$0	\$0	\$0
533	52	OTHER SERVICE BY CONTRACT	\$2,928	\$2,928	\$2,973	\$2,988

533	67	202 BARTELL BDG RPR-MAINT	\$4,936	\$0	\$0	\$0
533	70	LEGAL NOTICES,ADVERTISING	\$10	\$0	\$0	\$0
533	93	DUES AND LICENSES	\$720	\$775	\$675	\$775
533	94	INVESTIGATION EXPENSE	\$750	\$0	\$635	\$900
533	95	CONFERENCES & TRAINING	\$1,324	\$4,000	\$2,500	\$4,000
534	37	FINANCE CHARGES,BANK FEES	\$47	\$200	\$0	\$0
534	63	INDIGENT BURIAL	\$2,105	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
		SERVICES	\$190,858	\$197,623	\$196,287	\$198,425
		EXPENDITURE TOTALS	\$572,769	\$579,387	\$583,317	\$592,014

ALIGNMENT to STRATEGIC PLAN

County Board Goal 1 – Champaign County is committed to being a high performing, open and transparent local government organization

- The coroner’s office will strive to provide complete and full transparency of all coroner operations subject only to state and federal statutory restrictions.

County Board Goal 2 – Champaign County maintains high quality public facilities and highways and provides a safe rural transportation system and infrastructure

- The coroner’s office will continue to be recognized as a premier morgue facility in Illinois for conducting post mortem examinations required by state statute.

County Board Goal 3 –Champaign County promotes a safe, just and healthy community

- The coroner’s office will continue to be involved in disaster planning/response with county and state agencies.

DESCRIPTION

The coroner investigates and determines the cause and manner of death for every person in his county whose death is suspected of being: a sudden or violent death; a death where the circumstances are suspicious, obscure, mysterious or otherwise unexplained; a death where addiction to alcohol or any drug may have been a contributing factor; and deaths unattended by a licensed physician. The coroner may conduct inquests into deaths falling under his jurisdiction. The role of the coroner in a mass fatality incident is expanded to include recovery and identification of remains.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide comprehensive investigations into deaths falling under the coroner’s authority
2. To conduct inquests on unnatural and questionable deaths when necessary
3. To act in the public interest whenever death occurs
4. To review and investigate all deaths prior to issuing cremation permits
5. To issue temporary and permanent death certificates in a timely manner
6. To assist the public with information relating to organ and tissue donation; SIDS; Do Not Resuscitate Orders (DNR’s); and Health Care Power of Attorney (HCPOA)
7. To continuously update training, education, and preparedness for mass fatality incidents

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Indicator	FY2018 Actual	FY2019 Projected	FY2020 Budgeted
Unnatural/questionable deaths investigated	183	191	193
Natural deaths investigated and/or reviewed	1,668	1,700	1,710
Deaths requiring autopsy	145	156	150
Deaths requiring toxicology testing	213	246	245
Cremation permits issued	985	990	990
Hours spent on emergency preparedness	20	24	24

FY2020 Request for Budget Increase

Champaign County

Budget Coroner FY2020

Fund/Department 080 _042

Describe your request, including the reason for the request, any programmatic effects of not funding the request, and whether funding can be deferred to a future fiscal year.

Request an additional full-time Deputy Coroner Investigator position. We currently have 4 full-time staff covering 24 hour shifts seven days per week. The total number of calls in a 24 hour period averages 7-9 per shift with multiple overlapping call outs on multiple shifts per week. We currently do not have enough staff to adequately cover all of the shifts in a week when all staff are working. We have inadequate staffing during vacations and sick leave. This is causing higher overtime costs and increased staff burnout and turnover.

Budget Line #	Budget Line Description	FY2020 Budget Request (\$)	Recurring Cost (\$) (if applicable)
080-042-511.03	Reg. FULL-TIME Employees	+ \$38,190	\$38,190
Total FY2020 Budget Increase Requested and Total Recurring Annual Cost		\$38,190	\$38,190

Document additional costs to other budgets if applicable (i.e. additional staff will result in increased expenditures in IMRF, Social Security, Health Insurance, Work Comp and Unemployment Insurance).

Budget Line #	Budget Line Description	FY2020 Budget Impact (\$)	Recurring Cost (\$) (if applicable)
Fringes	IMRF, SS, Work Comp, Health Ins.	\$16,223	\$16,223
Total FY2020 Budget Impact and Total Recurring Annual Cost		\$16,223	\$16,223

Document any additional revenue sources, and amounts, available to offset increased expenditures.

An additional staff position would decrease overtime costs. There is no additional revenue to offset the additional position.

Provide additional information you wish to relay to the County Board.

The additional position would reduce employee burnout and turnover of full-time staff and decrease the length of time to complete investigations and permanent death certificates by spreading the workload between more staff.