Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

CME49500

Position Summary

Account	Actual FY 13	Governor Estimated FY 14	Original Appropriation FY 15	Governor Revised FY 15	Legislative FY 15	Difference Leg-Gov FY 15
Permanent Full-Time - GF	53	53	53	46	50	4

Budget Summary

	B	anger sam	y			
Account	Actual FY 13	Governor Estimated FY 14	Original Appropriation FY 15	Governor Revised FY 15	Legislative FY 15	Difference Leg-Gov FY 15
Personal Services	4,070,490	4,447,470	4,674,075	4,164,846	4,607,399	442,553
Other Expenses	836,593	884,544	900,443	1,140,008	1,129,054	(10,954)
Equipment	13,398	19,226	19,226	19,226	19,226	0
Other Current Expenses						
Medicolegal Investigations	0	27,387	27,417	27,417	27,417	0
Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	0	21,176	26,603	2,822	23,816	20,994
Agency Total - General Fund	4,920,481	5,399,803	5,647,764	5,354,319	5,806,912	452,593

Account	Govern	Governor Revised FY 15		Legislative FY 15		Difference from Governor	
Account	Pos.	\$	Pos.	\$	Pos.	\$	

Current Services

Adjust Funding for Revised Estimated GAAP Requirements

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Nonfunctional - Change to	0	(23,781)	0	(23,781)	0	0
Accruals						
Total - General Fund	0	(23,781)	0	(23,781)	0	0

Background

Each agency's budget includes a line item account called "Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals." This line item represents the estimate of the difference between an agency's cash-basis budget amount and the accrual-basis amounts that will be reflected under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). These funds will not be available for spending; in the aggregate they will prevent the state's GAAP deficit from growing.

Governor

Reduce funding by \$23,781 to reflect updated estimates of accruals to comply with GAAP. Across all appropriated funds, there is a net GAAP reduction of \$33.8 million.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Policy Revisions

Provide Funding for Two Forensic Pathologists

Personal Services	0	0	2	340,000	2	340,000
Total - General Fund	0	0	2	340,000	2	340,000

Background

CME investigates fatalities in the following categories: (1) death due to any form of injury whether resulting from accident, suicide or homicide, (2) sudden or unexpected deaths not due to readily recognizable diseases, (3) deaths occurring under suspicious circumstances, (4) deaths of any individual whose body is to be disposed of in a manner which will render it unavailable for later examination (e.g. cremations), (5) deaths at or related to the workplace and (6) deaths due to disease which might constitute a public health threat. Autopsies are performed on all homicide victims and gunshot victims. In addition, the vast majority of pedestrian, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, overdose, industrial accident, sudden and otherwise unexplained deaths of individuals under the age of 45, as well as a variety of other types of cases, are subject to CME autopsy examination.

Account	Govern	or Revised FY 15	Leg	islative FY 15	Difference from Governor	
Account	Pos.	\$	Pos.	\$	Pos.	\$

Forensic pathologists, or medical examiners, are specially trained physicians who examine the bodies of people who have died to determine the cause and manner of death.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$340,000 to support two full-time forensic pathologists.

Transfer Filled Toxicology Staff Positions to DESPP

Personal Services	(5)	(328,925)	(5)	(328,925)	0	0
Total - General Fund	(5)	(328,925)	(5)	(328,925)	0	0

Governor

Transfer funding of \$328,925 and five filled toxicology laboratory positions (three Chemist 2 positions, one Laboratory Assistant 2 and one Principal Chemist) to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) to support DESPP's state crime laboratory. Associated with this change is the elimination of three vacant toxicology laboratory positions and the transfer of associated Personal Services account funding to the Other Expenses account to contract for toxicology services. Additional detail is provided in the following two write-ups.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Transfer Vacant Toxicology PS Costs to Other Expenses

Personal Services	0	(239,565)	0	(239,565)	0	0
Other Expenses	0	239,565	0	239,565	0	0
Total - General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0

Background

On 10/18/13, CME reported that families had to wait five to six months for issuances of final death certificates due to toxicology laboratory shortages.

Governor

Transfer Personal Services (PS) funding of \$239,565 to reflect the elimination of three vacant toxicology laboratory positions and provide equal funding in the Other Expenses account to support contracted toxicology services.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Eliminate Vacant Toxicology Staff Positions

Personal Services	(3)	0	(3)	0	0	0
Total - General Fund	(3)	0	(3)	0	0	0

Governor

Eliminate three full-time staff positions (a Director of Toxicology, a Chemist 2 and a Laboratory Assistant 2) associated with the CME toxicology laboratory. The Personal Services account funding of \$239,565 is transferred to the Other Expenses account to contract for these services. Details on this transfer can be found in the write-up above titled, "Transfer Vacant Toxicology PS Costs to Other Expenses."

Legislative

Same as Governor

Provide Funding for Administrative Positions

Personal Services	1	59,261	3	193,660	2	134,399
Total - General Fund	1	59,261	3	193,660	2	134,399

Background

Five positions supporting CME payroll, human resources and financial functions were eliminated in FY 12 and CME was moved under the Department of Administrative Services' (DAS') SMART unit. PA 12-1 JSS, AA Implementing Provisions of the State Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning on July 1, 2012, moved CME within the University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC) for administrative purposes in FY 13.

Governor

Provide funding of \$59,261 for one full-time Fiscal Administrative Officer to act as a liaison with DAS' SMART Unit and provide Human Resources functions. Two positions (an Accountant and a Fiscal Administrative Officer) and funding of \$134,399 is provided under DAS associated with the transfer of CME payroll and financial functions back to the SMART Unit.

Account	Govern	or Revised FY 15	Leg	islative FY 15	Difference from Governor	
Account	Pos. \$		Pos.	\$	Pos.	\$

Legislative

Provide funding of \$193,660 and three full-time positions to provide human resources and financial services support to CME. In concert with this change, Section 259 of PA 14-217, the budget implementer, repealed CGS Sec. 19a-402, which moved CME within UCHC for administrative purposes only.

Distribute Lapses

Personal Services	0	0	0	(31,846)	0	(31,846)
Other Expenses	0	0	0	(10,954)	0	(10,954)
Total - General Fund	0	0	0	(42,800)	0	(42,800)

Background

The Governor's Revised FY 15 budget included a bottom line General Lapse of \$14,243,700, a General Other Expenses Lapse of \$4,000,000, and a Statewide Hiring Reduction Lapse of \$6,796,754. These lapse amounts would have been determined and distributed to agencies by OPM at the beginning of FY 15.

Legislative

Reduce funding by \$22,454 to reflect distribution of the General Lapse, \$7,246 for the General Other Expense Lapse, and \$13,100 for the Statewide Hiring Reduction Lapse.

Adjust Funding for GAAP

Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	0	0	0	20,994	0	20,994
Total - General Fund	0	0	0	20,994	0	20,994

Legislative

Adjust funding by \$20,994 in FY 15 to reflect changes to GAAP accruals as a result of a policy changes.

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Revised FY 15		Legi	slative FY 15	Difference from Governor	
	Pos.	\$	Pos.	\$	Pos.	\$
Original Appropriation - GF	53	5,647,764	53	5,647,764	0	0
Current Services	0	(23,781)	0	(23,781)	0	0
Policy Revisions	(7)	(269,664)	(3)	182,929	4	452,593
Total Recommended - GF	46	5,354,319	50	5,806,912	4	452,593

Other Significant Legislation

PA 14-47, An Act Making Adjustments to State Expenditures and Revenues for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

Sections 30 and 31 contain provisions that allow the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to allocate specific lapses to state agencies in the three branches of government (these are typically called holdbacks). The agency's FY 15 appropriation levels will be reduced by the amounts shown in the table to achieve the lapses included in PA 14-47. This includes a General Lapse of \$20,598 and a Statewide Hiring Reduction Lapse of \$22,435. See the FY 15 Holdbacks schedule in Section VI of this document for a further description of these statewide savings targets.

Account	Appropriation \$	Reduction Amount \$	Net Remaining \$	% Reduction
Personal Services	4,607,399	(38,963)	4,568,436	0.85%
Other Expenses	1,129,054	(4,070)	1,124,984	0.36%