

2017-19 Legislative Approved
FTE = 9.00
Pos = 9

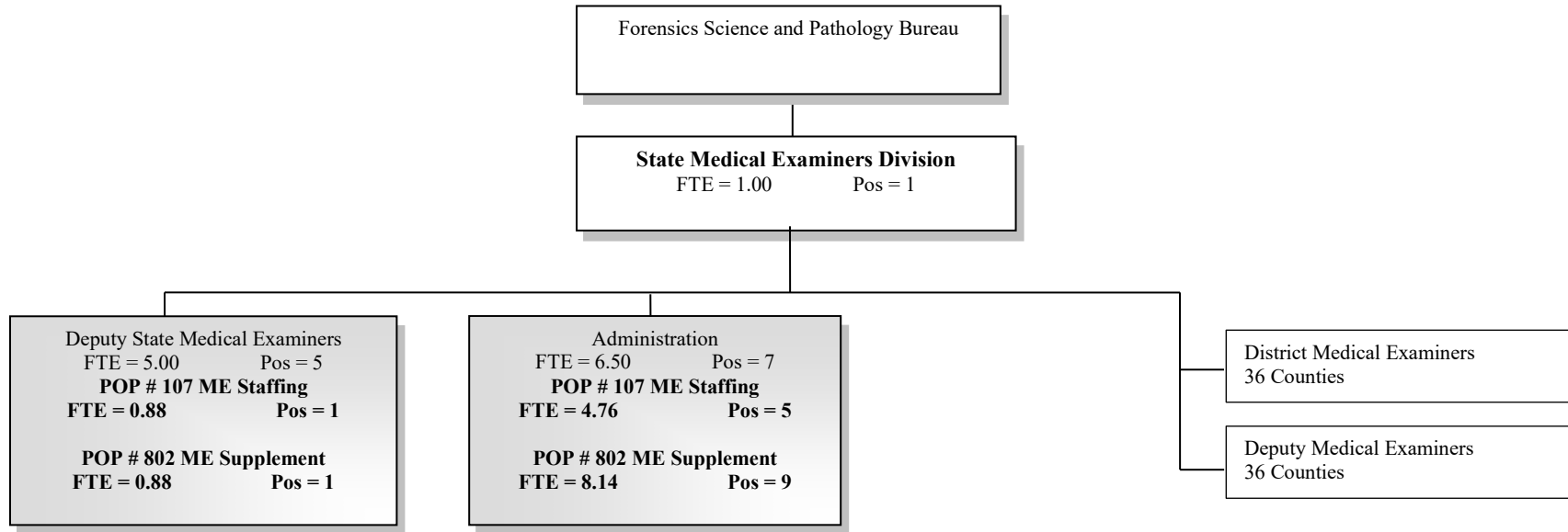
2019-21 CSL
FTE = 14.26
Pos = 15

2019-21 Agency Request
FTE = 14.26
Pos = 15

2019-21 Governor's Budget
FTE = 12.00
Pos = 12

2019-21 Legislative Approved
FTE = 12.50
Pos = 13

2021-23 Organization Chart – Medical Examiner



2019-21 Legislative Approved
FTE = 12.50 Pos = 13

2021-23 CSL
FTE = 12.50 Pos = 13

2021-23 Agency Request
FTE = 18.14 Pos = 19

2021-23 Governor's Budget
FTE = 12.50 Pos = 13

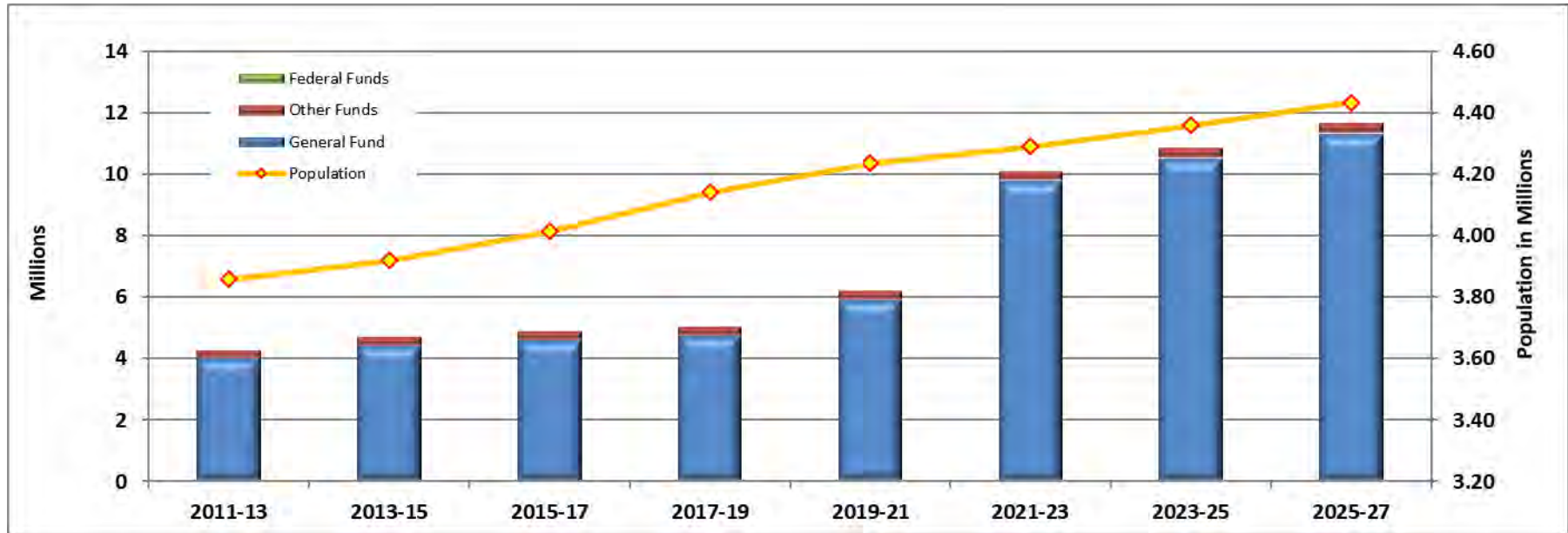
2021-23 Legislative Adopted
FTE = 27.16 Pos = 29

Oregon State Police: State Medical Examiner

Primary Outcome Area: Healthy and Safe Communities

Secondary Outcome Area:

Program Contact: Major Alex Gardner, 503-934-0237



Executive Summary

The State Medical Examiner’s Office oversees the statewide death investigation system in Oregon. As the sole source provider of forensic pathology services, the office is responsible for the investigation of all deaths due to homicide, suicide, accident, drug overdose, deaths in state custody, deaths on-the-job, or natural deaths occurring while not under medical care. The results of these 7,818 investigations support the actions of public health and law enforcement statewide.

Program Funding Request

The State Medical Examiner’s Office funding at Legislative Adopted Budget for the 2021-23 Biennium is \$9,778,687(GF) and \$296,844(OF). Total funds request for State Medical Examiner’s Office is \$10,075,531.

Program Description

The Medical Examiner Division manages all aspects of the statewide death investigation program in Oregon. Although the Division’s role in the investigation of homicide receives much more attention on popular television shows, the vast majority of the Division’s work of focused on matters related to public health. Only about 4% of the Medical Examiner cases involve potentially criminal matters.

Under the authorization of ORS chapter 146, state and county medical examiners investigate and certify all non-natural deaths including homicides, accidents, suicides, and drug or medication overdoses. Medical examiners are also tasked with investigating on-the-job deaths, apparently natural deaths which are not currently under medical care, and deaths occurring in state custody. The Chief Medical Examiner manages all aspects of the Medical Examiner Division. Six full-time forensic pathologists, four located in Clackamas, one located in Eugene, and one located in Central Point provide technical assistance and advice to the county medical examiner programs. The assistance includes performance of post mortem examinations, including the collection of samples for drug and alcohol analysis performed by the Oregon State Police Forensic Services Division Toxicology unit. The Medical Examiner Division does not employ death investigators. Each Oregon County is responsible for maintaining its own death investigation program, which often relies on part-time investigators with limited forensic training. Due to differing levels of resources dedicated to death investigation between urban and rural counties, equitable distribution of these professional resources is not achieved.

An M.E. forensic pathologist is available at all times to consult or share information or advice with county medical examiners, public health officials, police agencies, and district attorneys. Forensic pathologists also provide expert testimony in court and support the broader health and justice systems by providing death investigation training to physicians, medical students, law students, police officers, emergency medical technicians, and others associated with Oregon’s death investigation system. Physicians from the Medical Examiner Division work closely with public health officials to monitor emerging infectious disease, bioterrorism, and other threats to public health. The forensic pathologists are supported by two medical transcriptionists, one office specialist, one forensic administrator, and one autopsy assistant.

Although transient regional and temporal influences can cause fluctuations in workload, the primary workload-driver for the Medical Examiner’s office is Oregon’s dramatic population growth. The Medical Examiner’s system is sized and staffed more appropriately for the state population in 1980 (about 2.6 million), but Oregon’s population has increased approximately 60% over the intervening forty years. An increase of 1.6 million Oregonians translates directly to workload, as approximately 1% of the state’s population dies annually. As the workload increases, the M.E’s office is forced to triage more aggressively, causing a persistent and increasing departure from nationally recognized best practices. As a result, the decision to perform an autopsy is increasingly driven by law enforcement needs in the context of homicide investigation, an influence which lowers the resources available for death investigations bearing on public health. Families’ requests for autopsies in medical examiner cases are also increasingly declined, often forcing families to pay exorbitant costs for private autopsies. An increasing inability to thoroughly investigate deaths will negatively impact families and public health practices in Oregon. The inability to operate within best practice recommendations will also make it difficult to recruit qualified forensic pathologists in the future.

Program Justification and Link to 10-Year Outcome

The Medical Examiner Division has a direct link to Safety Strategies 1, 3 and 4 as outlined in the Safety Policy Vision of the 10-Year Plan for Oregon.

Safety Strategy 1: Increase investment in communities to prevent crime, abuse and neglect and strengthen the swiftness and certainty of punishment in county jails and local supervision of offenders

The Medical Examiner Division provides death investigation services to every community in Oregon. Our timely investigation of deaths falling under our jurisdiction leads to rapid and accurate detection of drug deaths and homicides. The information the office provides expedites effective investigation and appropriate resolution of some of the most serious crimes, including criminally negligent homicide, manslaughter, and murder. Information regarding drug overdose deaths and, more recently, COVID-related deaths, is critical in tracking public health risks and developing effective solutions to mitigate them. Few COVID-19 deaths have been certified by medical examiners and none have undergone autopsy, likely contributing to inconsistencies in how fatalities are documented.

Safety Strategy 3: Ensure the safety of people in their community

The Medical Examiner Division works to identify emerging public health threats quickly, so the State can prepare and respond to mitigate community harm. The office has also worked with OHA and other partners to develop Oregon’s mass fatality management strategies. These plans will ensure a prompt, professional and compassionate response to disasters statewide. We’re also continuing to expand partnerships with Oregon counties, and others in, around, and outside of Oregon, so we can work collaboratively during a mass fatality event.

Safety Strategy 4: Improve citizen access to justice and the ability to exercise their rights

The Medical Examiner Division brings the medical perspective to death scenes. Their independent opinion on the cause and manner of death is based upon the totality of the evidence available to the investigating pathologist. This ensures fairness in court proceedings and protects both defendants and victims. Our reports are available to next of kin and anyone who is criminally or civilly liable for a death. The timeliness of our reports supports swift resolution of criminal and civil cases.

Program Performance

The Medical Examiner Division indirectly serves a population of over 4 million people by providing forensic examinations, toxicology testing and determining identification. Between 2018 and 2019 the Medical Examiner’s Office had 9,708 cases with cause and manner of death determinations involving all of the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homicides • Deaths in state custody 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suicides • Drug & Medication overdose deaths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accidental deaths of all types • Natural deaths not under medical care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the job deaths • Suspicious or unusual deaths
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The National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), the leading national professional organization for forensic pathologists, recommends an average autopsy rate of 50% of total medical examiner caseload. As the percentage of cases autopsied declines, the chance of missing an emerging health threat increases, because a full autopsy is often necessary to confidently determine cause and manner of death. Unfortunately, persistent

staffing shortages and the press of increasing case volume prevent Oregon’s ME system from approaching best practices autopsy rates. Between 2017 and 2018 the highest rate of autopsy was 18.29%, less than half the recommended percentage, even though our physicians are carrying workloads that are dramatically larger than national norms.

Oregon Health Statistics documents that we are directly involved in determining the cause and manner of death, and signing a death certificate reflecting that information, in 13.4% of approximately 40,000 deaths each year. As our population increases, so will cases requiring our services. Census projection indicates a growth in population of 10% over the next 10 years. With a 2015-17 biennial LAB budget of \$4,635,177 GF we provided this service for approximately \$495 per investigation. The cost per capita was \$1.15 per biennium or \$0.57 per year. This may be the lowest per capita expenditure on death investigation in the United States.

The information regarding cause and manner of death is used by district attorneys and law enforcement to guide investigations and prosecutions. It is also studied by public health officials to track diseases and serious infections. Most importantly, it is used by families to make life decisions and to understand the death of a loved one. The cause and manner of death determination is tracked through a web-based information system, MDI-Log. The office arrives at a specific cause and manner of death in 98% of all cases investigated. Approximately two percent of cases remain undetermined. A full autopsy is critical in cases where the cause of death is not apparent. In 2018, autopsies were performed in about one-third of cases that were classified as “undetermined.”

The Medical Examiner’s Division investigates and performs autopsies on over 100 homicides every year. Without this service, the arrest and prosecution of dangerous criminals would be hindered. Without the medical examiner’s office, forensic pathology experts would not investigate over 1,500 accidental deaths. Deaths related to consumer products, including medications, and human errors would go undetected. Drug related deaths would not be detected. Law enforcement would be hindered in their efforts to detect and arrest drug dealers and drug offenders. Suicidal deaths would not be investigated. They may be misdiagnosed as accidents or homicides by law enforcement. Finally, without the medical examiner’s office, medically unattended deaths would not be investigated. Public health officials would not have critical information regarding emerging infections. Law enforcement may not detect subtle homicides because they would be mistaken for natural deaths.

Enabling Legislation/Program Authorization

The Medical Examiner program is mandated by ORS chapter 146 and supports Oregon as the sole provider of forensic pathology services.

Funding Streams

The Medical Examiner is 97.05% General Fund and 2.95% Other Funds. Other funds are paid by counties occupying and/or using the State Medical Examiner facility. This funding partially supports equipment maintenance and personnel.

2021-23 LAB Funding Compared to 2019-21

The State Medical Examiner’s Office requested additional funds for six (6) new positions and the reclassification of one (1) position. Policy Option Package 107 was not recommended at Governor’s Budget.

Legislative Adopted Budget received additional funds for six (6) new positions and the reclassification of one (1) position. Policy Option Package 107 – Medical Examiners Support increases General Fund by \$1,352,624 and establishes six permanent full-time positions (5.64 FTE) to support the increasing number of autopsies performed. Package 105 reclassifies two administrative positions to address workload issues and has no cost in the 2021-23 biennium. Package 802 increases General Fund by \$1,850,518 and establishes ten permanent full-time positions (9.02 FTE) to address the challenge of the increasing numbers of autopsies performed by the Office of the State Medical Examiner.

Office of State Medical Examiner Narrative

The Medical Examiner Division manages all aspects of the statewide death investigation program in Oregon. Under the authorization of ORS chapter 146, state and county medical examiners investigate and certify all non-natural deaths including homicides, accidents, suicides, and drug or medication overdoses. Medical examiners are also tasked with investigating, on-the-job deaths, and deaths occurring in state custody, and natural deaths which are not under medical care.

Contrary to popular depiction on law-and-order-type televisions shows, protecting public health is the primary function of the Medical Examiner's Office. Although the office regularly assists law enforcement with homicide investigation, homicide typically accounts for less than 5% of the Medical Examiner cases. The remaining 95% to 96% of the Medical Examiner's cases are unrelated to police work. It is this practice, and the data derived from it that keep us informed about the health of Oregon's population and any emerging threats to it. Nationwide, competent death investigation has been essential to understanding trends related to opioid deaths and researching the pathophysiology of COVID-19. Oregon has struggled to consistently provide medical examiner services in many cases of public health importance. Unfortunately, the workload for a medical examiner's system is primarily a function of the population it serves, as approximately one percent of the population dies each year. When the population soars, as it has in Oregon, the workload soars too. When staffing doesn't keep up with population growth, it forces increasingly aggressive triage, a process which has incrementally deteriorated the efficacy of Oregon's Medical Examiner system by causing significant departures from nationally recommended practice standards and providing insufficient resources to properly serve public health needs. Oregon's forensic pathologists manage caseloads that far exceed nationally recognized limitations. Currently, the majority of the deaths in Oregon that fit medical examiner criteria are not examined by trained forensic pathologists. Oregon's current autopsy rate is less than *one-third* of the recommendation of the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME).

The Chief Medical Examiner manages the Medical Examiner Division and provides technical assistance and advice to county medical examiner programs with the assistance of five full-time forensic pathologists. Three pathologists are located in Clackamas, one is located in Eugene-Springfield, and one is in Central Point. Pathologists perform post mortem examinations ("autopsies"), and collect samples for alcohol and drug analysis. At least one of the forensic pathologists in the division is available at all times to provide advice to county medical examiners, police, and district attorneys. They also directly answer questions posed by the public. Forensic pathologists also provide expert testimony in court and lecture and train on death investigation to assist physicians, medical students, law students, police officers, emergency medical technicians, and other persons associated with the death investigation system.

Members of the Medical Examiner Division work closely with public health officials to monitor emerging infectious disease, bioterrorism and other public health threats. The forensic pathologists are supported by two medical transcriptionists, one office specialist and one forensic administrator. A morgue attendant is employed to oversee technical aspects of the morgue and autopsy suite.

Medical Examiners	2021-23 Agency Request			2021-23 Governor's Budget			2021-23 Legislatively Adopted		
	Total Funds	Pos.	FTE	Total Funds	Pos.	FTE	Total Funds	Pos.	FTE
BASE BUDGET:	6,690,798	13	12.50	6,690,798	13	12.50	6,690,798	13	12.50
ESSENTIAL PACKAGES:									
010 Vacancy/Non-PICS Personal Services Adjustments	83,836			83,836			83,836		
021 Phase - In									
022 Phase - Out									
031 Standard Inflation / SGSC	120,674			120,674			120,674		
032 Above Standard Inflation	204			204			204		
033 Exceptional Inflation				-					
050 Fund Shifts									
TOTAL ESSENTIAL PACKAGES	204,714	0	0.00	204,714	0	0.00	204,714	0	0.00
POLICY PACKAGES:									
096 Statewide Adjustment DAS Chgs				(18,676)					
097 Statewide AG Adjustment				(37)					
099 Microsoft 365 Consolidation				(5,234)			(5,234)		
103 Increased personnel salary costs	875			-					
104 Rent Allocation budget shortfall	(6,303)			-			(6,303)		
105 Position Reclassifications	1,907			-					
107 Medical Examiner's Office - Staffing	1,352,624	6	5.64	-			1,352,624	6	5.64
802 Medical Examiner Support							1,850,518	10	9.02
810 Statewide Adjustments							(11,586)		
TOTAL POLICY PACKAGES	1,349,103	6	5.64	(23,947)	0	0.00	3,180,019	16	14.66
TOTAL 2021-23 BUDGET	8,244,615	19	18.14	6,871,565	13	12.50	10,075,531	29	27.16

ESSENTIAL / POLICY PACKAGES:**PURPOSE:**

The essential packages present budget adjustments needed to bring the base budget to Current Service Level (CSL), the calculated cost of continuing legislatively approved programs into the 2021-23 biennium.

010 Non-PICS Personal Services Adjustments

The vacancy factor was recalculated and adjusted by (\$2,293) General Fund and \$242 Other Funds. The package also adjusts the pension bond obligation (using amounts provided from DAS) by \$86,506 General Fund and (\$619) Other Funds. Mass Transit was recalculated and adjusted to the maximum allowed amounts for General Fund and Other Funds. The remaining Non-PICS Personal Services accounts were inflated by the standard inflation factor of 4.3% (overtime, shift differential, other differential, temporaries, and unemployment) and includes an exception to differential account line by an additional 5.8%.

030 Inflation/Price List Adjustments

The Cost of Goods and Services increase totals \$59,362 General Fund and \$7,194 Other Funds. This is based on the price list inflation factor of 19.43% for Attorney General charges, 5.7% for professional services and medical services, and the standard 4.3% biennial inflation factor increase in other services and supplies, capital outlay, and special payments.

This program has a net increase/(decrease) of \$54,322 General Fund for State Government Service Charges, based on the Department of Administrative Services' price list.

090/800 Analyst Adjustments

Analyst adjustments total a net increase/(decrease) of \$1,838,264 General Fund, and (\$4,566) Other Funds. This includes the Package 099 for Microsoft 365 Consolidation adjustment of (\$685) General Fund and (\$4,549) Other Funds, Package 802 Medical Examiner Support increase of \$1,850,518 General Fund with 10 positions, and Package 810 for Statewide Adjustments of (\$11,569) General Fund and (\$17) Other Funds.

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 010 - Non-PICS Psnl Svc / Vacancy Factor

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	84,213	-	-	-	-	-	84,213
Total Revenues	\$84,213	-	-	-	-	-	\$84,213
Personal Services							
Overtime Payments	484	-	19	-	-	-	503
All Other Differential	668	-	-	-	-	-	668
Public Employees' Retire Cont	237	-	4	-	-	-	241
Pension Obligation Bond	82,792	-	(568)	-	-	-	82,224
Social Security Taxes	88	-	1	-	-	-	89
Mass Transit Tax	2,237	-	(75)	-	-	-	2,162
Vacancy Savings	(2,293)	-	242	-	-	-	(2,051)
Total Personal Services	\$84,213	-	(\$377)	-	-	-	\$83,836
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	84,213	-	(377)	-	-	-	83,836
Total Expenditures	\$84,213	-	(\$377)	-	-	-	\$83,836
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	377	-	-	-	377
Total Ending Balance	-	-	\$377	-	-	-	\$377

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 031 - Standard Inflation

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	113,480	-	-	-	-	-	113,480
Total Revenues	\$113,480	-	-	-	-	-	\$113,480
Services & Supplies							
Instate Travel	375	-	-	-	-	-	375
Out of State Travel	450	-	-	-	-	-	450
Employee Training	376	-	-	-	-	-	376
Office Expenses	1,045	-	-	-	-	-	1,045
Telecommunications	980	-	51	-	-	-	1,031
State Gov. Service Charges	54,322	-	-	-	-	-	54,322
Data Processing	143	-	6	-	-	-	149
Professional Services	2,720	-	5,730	-	-	-	8,450
Attorney General	103	-	-	-	-	-	103
Dues and Subscriptions	125	-	-	-	-	-	125
Facilities Rental and Taxes	49,637	-	-	-	-	-	49,637
Facilities Maintenance	321	-	-	-	-	-	321
Medical Services and Supplies	627	-	-	-	-	-	627
Agency Program Related S and S	1,192	-	-	-	-	-	1,192
Other Services and Supplies	249	-	18	-	-	-	267
Expendable Prop 250 - 5000	104	-	-	-	-	-	104
IT Expendable Property	209	-	1,389	-	-	-	1,598
Total Services & Supplies	\$112,978	-	\$7,194	-	-	-	\$120,172

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 031 - Standard Inflation

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Capital Outlay							
Other Capital Outlay	502	-	-	-	-	-	502
Total Capital Outlay	\$502	-	-	-	-	-	\$502
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	113,480	-	7,194	-	-	-	120,674
Total Expenditures	\$113,480	-	\$7,194	-	-	-	\$120,674
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	(7,194)	-	-	-	(7,194)
Total Ending Balance	-	-	(\$7,194)	-	-	-	(\$7,194)

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 032 - Above Standard Inflation

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	204	-	-	-	-	-	204
Total Revenues	\$204	-	-	-	-	-	\$204
Personal Services							
All Other Differential	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Employees' Retire Cont	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Security Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Personal Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services & Supplies							
Medical Services and Supplies	204	-	-	-	-	-	204
Total Services & Supplies	\$204	-	-	-	-	-	\$204
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	204	-	-	-	-	-	204
Total Expenditures	\$204	-	-	-	-	-	\$204
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 096 - Statewide Adjustment DAS Chgs

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services & Supplies							
State Gov. Service Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Data Processing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Services and Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Services & Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 097 - Statewide AG Adjustment

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services & Supplies							
Attorney General	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Services & Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
 Pkg: 099 - Microsoft 365 Consolidation

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
 Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	(685)	-	-	-	-	-	(685)
Total Revenues	(\$685)	-	-	-	-	-	(\$685)
Services & Supplies							
IT Expendable Property	(685)	-	(4,549)	-	-	-	(5,234)
Total Services & Supplies	(\$685)	-	(\$4,549)	-	-	-	(\$5,234)
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	(685)	-	(4,549)	-	-	-	(5,234)
Total Expenditures	(\$685)	-	(\$4,549)	-	-	-	(\$5,234)
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	4,549	-	-	-	4,549
Total Ending Balance	-	-	\$4,549	-	-	-	\$4,549

OFFICE OF STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER

Policy Option Package 103 – Increased Personnel Salary Costs – Not Recommended in Governor’s Budget

Purpose: To request an agency-wide increase to the overtime line item budget to address normal overtime costs exceeding the standard 4.3% inflation. This package requests \$1,483,208 total funds agency-wide to address a budgetary shortfall associated with the projected increase to the Department’s 2021-23 overtime costs due to the 2019-2021 bargained pay increases.

The Office of State Medical Examiner funding request from this Policy Option Package is: General Fund: \$842 and Other Funds limitation: \$33.

Justification:

The 2019-21 biennium had multiple bargained pay increases including two cost of living adjustments (COLA’s) of 2.15% and 3%, and a new top step of approximately 4.75%. This increased base salaries by approximately 9.9%, which means that the same one hour of overtime now costs approximately 9.9% more in the 2021-23 biennium. Standard inflation for overtime is 4.3% leaving a 5.6% inflation shortfall.

As a public safety agency, specifically focused on police and fire operations, overtime hours are not easily controlled, or rather, should not be controlled. Oregon State Police (OSP) employees are first responders to the most difficult circumstances across the state, and therefore, incur overtime on a regular basis. The average number of overtime hours worked per month, per employee has remained relatively static for four biennia, averaging between 21.88 to 20.59 hours. The average cost per overtime hour has increased over the same time period from \$49.81 to \$65.42 due to bargained salary increases.

Package 103 requests the additional 5.6% inflation for the overtime line item to align the budget to reflect that the same amount of normal overtime will now cost approximately 9.9% more in the 2021-23 biennium.

How Achieved:

Based on the projected overtime costs for the 2021-23 biennium the agency-wide request adjusts the overtime line item budget by fund type as follows: \$879,238 General Fund, \$533,403 Other Funds limitation, and \$70,567 Federal Funds limitation to align the budget with the projected overtime costs for the agency.

Staffing Impact: None

Quantifying Results: N/A

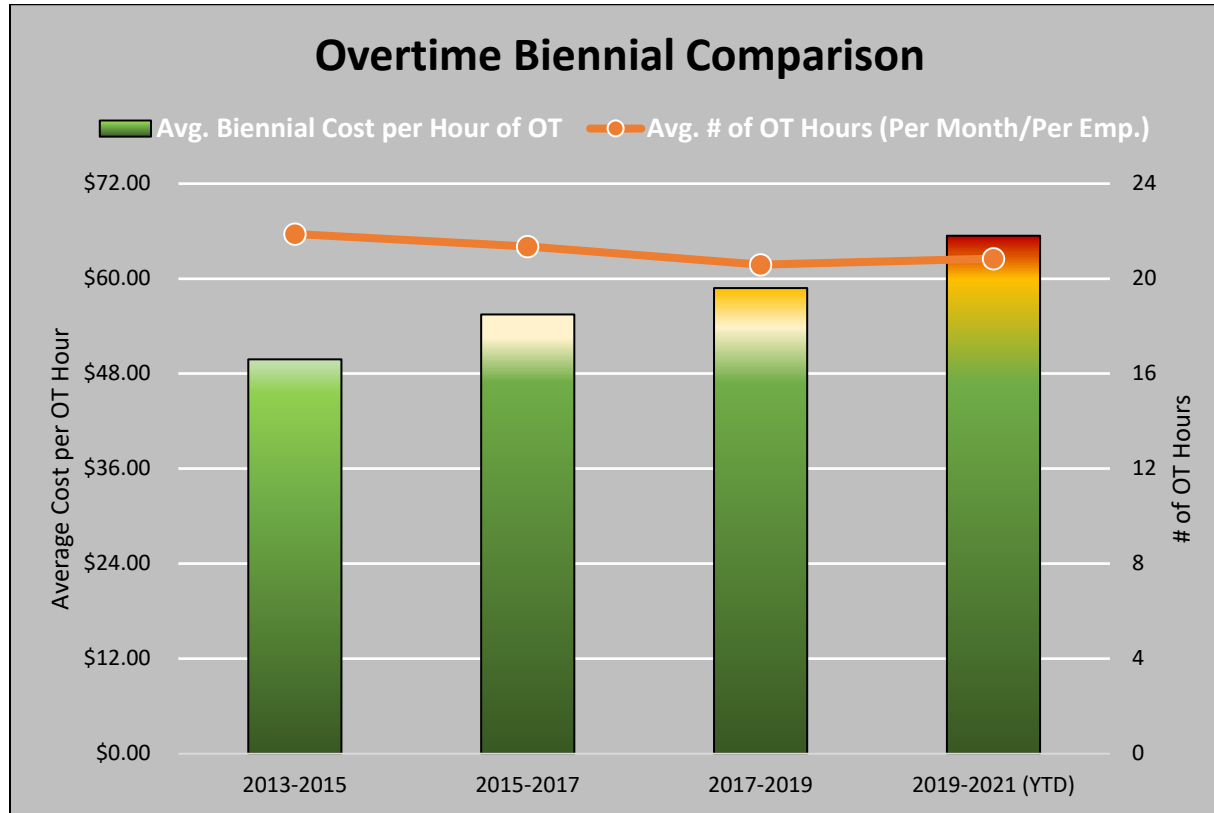
Revenue Source: General Fund: \$842 and Other Funds limitation: \$33.

Expenditure Category	2021-23			2023-25		
	GF	OF	TF	GF	OF	TF
Personal Services – Overtime	\$842	\$33	\$875	\$842	\$33	\$875
Total POP #103	\$842	\$33	\$875	\$842	\$33	\$875

POP 103 Agency-wide summary:

Division	General Fund	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Administrative Services Division	\$10,744	\$1,760		\$12,504
Patrol Services Division	\$631,079	\$252,657	\$11,656	\$895,392
Fish and Wildlife Division	\$33,304	\$71,706	\$12,297	\$117,307
Criminal Investigation Division	\$59,205	\$173,836	\$11,743	\$244,784
Forensic Services Division	\$32,567	\$4,713	\$34,871	\$72,151
Office of State Medical Examiner	\$842	\$33		\$875
Agency Support Division	\$102,154	\$3,765		\$105,919
Criminal Justice Information Services	\$9,256	\$1,272		\$10,528
Gaming Enforcement Division		\$11,555		\$11,555
Office of State Fire Marshal	\$87	\$12,106		\$12,193
Grand Total	\$879,238	\$533,403	\$70,567	\$1,483,208

The chart below depicts the necessity to align the 2021-23 budget to fund overtime costs that exceed standard inflation.



The table below shows that the average number of overtime hours worked remains consistent, however the cost per overtime hour steadily increases due to bargained salary increases.

Biennium	Avg. # of OT Hours (Per Month/Per Emp.)	Avg. Biennial Cost per Hour of OT
2013-2015	21.88	\$49.81
2015-2017	21.36	\$55.48
2017-2019	20.59	\$58.81
2019-2021 (YTD)	20.84	\$65.42

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 103 - Increased personnel salary costs

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Personal Services							
Overtime Payments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Employees' Retire Cont	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Security Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Personal Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICE OF STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER

Policy Option Package 104 – Rent Allocation Budget Shortfall – Recommended in Legislative Adopted Budget

Purpose: To request an agency-wide adjustment of the rent line item budget that aligns individual division’s rent budget with their respective 2021-23 projected rent cost. This package has a net General Fund request of \$976,613 to address a budgetary shortfall associated with the allocation of the Department’s 2021-23 projected rent cost.

The Office of State Medical Examiner funding request from this Policy Option Package is: General Fund: (\$6,303)

Justification:

The agency recently updated the rent allocations for all facilities across the state using updated square foot information identifying the amount of space used by each division as well as the number and funding of personnel located at each of its facilities. The analysis used in preparation of this Policy Option Package compares the 2021-23 Current Service Level budget to the 2021-23 projected rent cost by division and fund type.

This methodology is consistent with the way the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and other agencies allocate rent, which factors the Full Time Equivalent (FTE), associated funding streams, and square footage of each office. Programs that are primarily funded with dedicated other fund revenues have reduced their square footage within Oregon State Police (OSP) facilities which shifts the rent obligation to other funding streams.

How Achieved:

Based on the projected rent cost for the 2021-23 biennium the agency-wide request is to adjust the rent line item budget by fund type as follows: \$976,613 General Fund, (\$2,043,563) Other Funds limitation, and (\$246,311) Federal Funds limitation to align the budget with the rent obligations of the agency.

Staffing Impact: None

Quantifying Results: N/A

Revenue Source: General Fund: (\$6,303).

	2021-23	2023-25
Expenditure Category	GF	GF
Services & Supplies – Facilities Rent	(\$6,303)	(\$6,303)
Total POP #104	(\$6,303)	(\$6,303)

POP 104 Agency-wide summary:

Division	General Fund	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Administrative Services Division	\$273,341	(\$418,919)		(\$145,578)
Patrol Services Division	(\$821,737)	\$10,308		(\$811,429)
Fish and Wildlife Division	\$34,106	(\$35,475)	(\$246,311)	(\$247,680)
Criminal Investigation Division		\$222,727		\$222,727
Forensic Services Division	(\$246,416)			(\$246,416)
Office of State Medical Examiner	(\$6,303)			(\$6,303)
Agency Support Division	\$520,472	(\$133,878)		\$386,594
Criminal Justice Information Services	\$246,537	(\$6,054)		\$240,483
Gaming Enforcement Division		(\$81,693)		(\$81,693)
Office of State Fire Marshal		(\$623,966)		(\$623,966)
Grand Total	\$0	(\$1,066,950)	(\$246,311)	(\$1,313,261)

The Legislative Adopted Budget decreases General Fund by \$6,303. OSP recently evaluated its use of building space and updated the rent allocations for all facilities statewide. The reevaluation is consistent with the way the Department of Administrative Services allocates rent expense, based on FTE, funding source, and square footage at each location. Rent expense is re-allocated among the Agency's program areas, resulting in a net reduction of \$1.3 million in Other Funds and Federal Funds rent expense agency-wide.

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
 Pkg: 104 - Rent Allocation budget shortfall

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
 Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	(6,303)	-	-	-	-	-	(6,303)
Total Revenues	(\$6,303)	-	-	-	-	-	(\$6,303)
Services & Supplies							
Facilities Rental and Taxes	(6,303)	-	-	-	-	-	(6,303)
Total Services & Supplies	(\$6,303)	-	-	-	-	-	(\$6,303)
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	(6,303)	-	-	-	-	-	(6,303)
Total Expenditures	(\$6,303)	-	-	-	-	-	(\$6,303)
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICE OF STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER**Policy Option Package 105 – Position Reclassifications – Recommended as Modified in Legislative Adopted Budget**

Purpose: The purpose of this Policy Option Package (POP) is to align position authority to support Department staffing and operational needs.

- A. Administrative Services Division* – request position reclassification to support position alignment for five (5) positions. Four are in Human Resources and one is in Financial Services (Budget, Accounting and Grants management).
- B. Patrol Services Division* – request position reclassification to support position alignment for four (4) positions in Patrol Services Headquarters and Field Support.
- C. Forensic Services Division* – request position reclassification to support position alignment for two (2) positions at the Portland lab.
- D. Medical Examiner’s Office* – request position reclassification to support position alignment for one (1) position in Medical Examiner’s Office.
- E. Criminal Justice Information Services Division* – request position reclassification to support position alignment for one (1) position in the Law Enforcement Data Systems section.

The Medical Examiner’s Office request is specific to item D above.

Justification:

The Department has identified one (1) position to reclassify to align with operational needs. As workload demands have increased without new position authority, numerous staff have been required to take on additional duties, causing the agency to re-class their positions upward. The agency has been absorbing the cost of this re-classification by holding positions vacant across the department. The approval of this POP will allow the agency to hire critical positions that are currently being held vacant to pay for this re-classification.

Position Detail:

1. Medical Examiner’s Office:

- **Medical Transcriptionist to Office Specialist 2 – Position #7000810**

This position provides secretarial and clerical support to the Forensic Pathologists and Forensic Administrator within the Office of the Medical Examiner. The Medical Examiner’s Office has a need to diversity the work and it makes reasonable sense to reclassify the Medical Transcriptionist to an Office Specialist 2 for the position to meet the broader intent to accomplish new and various duties.

How Achieved: This reclassification request has been reviewed and approved by the Department of Administrative Services’ Chief Human Resources Office. In addition, the agency submitted this request to the February 2020 Legislative Session and was approved through the Ways and Means process, however the Session ended prior to final legislative approval.

Staffing Impact: This Policy Option Package is requesting the establishment of the new position classification. This POP is a critical step in putting the agency on the right track to providing the level of service required to support the core mission of the agency.

Quantifying Results: Reclassification of this position will contribute to the increased support needed within the Office of the Medical Examiner.

Revenue Source: General Fund: \$1,907

The position compensation plan does not overlap, therefore the agency is only requesting minimal funding relating to position #7000810 as identified below. The roll-up costs will be realized in the 2023-25 biennium.

POP #105 – Medical Examiner’s Office	2021-23	2023-25
Expenditure Category	GF	GF
Personal Services	\$-0-	\$-0-
Total POP #105 (Medical Examiner’s Office)	\$-0-	\$-0-

Governor’s Budget: This reclassification package was approved with no funding.

The Legislative Adopted Budget reclassifies two administrative positions to address workload issues. This action has no cost in the 2021-23 biennium.

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 105 - Position Reclassifications

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Personal Services							
Class/Unclass Sal. and Per Diem	1,488	-	-	-	-	-	1,488
Public Employees' Retire Cont	305	-	-	-	-	-	305
Social Security Taxes	114	-	-	-	-	-	114
Reconciliation Adjustment	(1,907)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,907)
Total Personal Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICE OF STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER**Policy Option Package 107 – Medical Examiner’s Office – Staffing – Recommended in Legislative Adopted Budget**

Purpose: The purpose of this Policy Option Package (POP) is to request funding and position authority to support the State Medical Examiner’s Office and to improve medical examiner service delivery. Request includes:

1. **Medical Laboratory Technician 2’s (autopsy assistant)** – Add three (3) Medical Laboratory Technician 2 positions at the State Medical Examiner’s Office in Clackamas (currently employed as unfunded liabilities)
2. **Office Specialist 2** – Add one (1) Office Specialist 2 position at the State Medical Examiner’s Office in Clackamas
3. **Research Analyst 2** – Add one (1) Research Analyst 2 position at the State Medical Examiner’s Office in Clackamas
4. **Deputy State Medical Examiner** – Add one (1) new Deputy State Medical Examiner at the State Medical Examiner’s Office in Clackamas

Justification:

The population of Oregon has increased dramatically in the last decade and continues to do so. Oregon is an increasingly popular relocation destination for Americans. This is relevant to the State Medical Examiner Office (SMEO) as medical examiner workload is directly proportional to the size of the population that an office covers. Oregon’s death investigation system is statutorily defined as a state system. However, the (SMEO) has historically not had the funding or position authority that would allow appropriate state coverage. Due to a small budget relative to the size of the population, the SMEO currently functions at only the most basic level, which is far below practice standards that have been established by national organizations. Very few autopsies are performed, and the State’s trained forensic pathologists participate directly in very few death investigations of medicolegal and public health interest. Oregon’s low autopsy rates have received negative media attention in recent years. In lieu of a true state system in Oregon, individual county medical examiner’s offices exist. Our Oregon counties often rely on law enforcement officers and healthcare professionals to perform death investigation on a part-time basis. As these individuals are not generally trained in forensic pathology, the risk of overlooking subtle findings is high. Furthermore, participation by SMEO employees in State and County level public health surveillance programs is extremely limited due to staffing constraints which result in extremely low autopsy rates and the inability to handle the additional administrative duties that these activities would require. Examples of these surveillance activities include child abuse clinics, trauma audit groups, and drug awareness programs. Participation in these programs also provides useful opportunities for education in a field that is underrepresented both nationally and in Oregon. Finally, accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) is a highly desirable goal, as it would validate the office independence and enhance the credibility of testimony at trial. It would also serve as formal recognition of the Oregon State Medical Examiner Program getting closer to nationally recognized practice standards maintaining the kind of professional environment that produces top quality public health results. On a more critical level, accreditation will be extremely valuable in the future recruitment of pathologists, a factor which is essential to the success of the SMEO: three of our six pathologists have been practicing for more than twenty-four years and are near or past retirement eligibility, Oregon pays pathologists less than most states, and the United States is graduating new pathologists at approximately half the rate of pathologist retirement, so competition for pathologists is increasingly intense.

Collectively, these influences make it difficult for Oregon to compete for pathologists.

At current levels of staffing and support, the SMEO cannot qualify for accreditation because we are far in excess of recommended workload requirements and the proportion of the population covered by each individual pathologist, and the resulting autopsy rate is far below accreditation standards.

These deficiencies have come to the forefront in two ways in recent years. First, the opioid epidemic has resulted in a dramatic increase in medical examiner caseload. Deaths due to drug intoxication are deaths over which medical examiners have jurisdiction and investigation is required by ORS 146.090(b). Postmortem examination is an essential piece of these investigations and is the national practice standard set by the National Association of Medical Examiners. In Oregon, because of the heavy workload and low staffing numbers in the SMEO, autopsies are performed on very few deaths of this type. It is a workload that existing staff cannot manage. Second, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted shortcomings in Oregon's death investigation system. As per ORS 146.090(g), deaths "related to a disease which might constitute a threat to the public health" require investigation. Due to our profound lack of resources, the SMEO has had a limited role in the statewide COVID-19 response. As of Aug 1, 2020, no autopsies have been performed by SMEO employees in confirmed COVID-19 deaths in Oregon. The pathophysiology of COVID-19 is still poorly understood and autopsy examination in fatal cases would contribute to this understanding. Oregon's medical examiners have certified (confirmed) only a few of the State's COVID-19 deaths, possibly contributing to inconsistent death certification and making tracking of these deaths more difficult. Concerns about accurate tracking of COVID-19 deaths have been well-represented in local and national media. (Formal certification of a COVID death requires more than just a positive COVID test. Additional medical inquiry and analysis is required, both of which can be facilitated by autopsy.)

Overall, staffing of the State Medical Examiner program must be supplemented to meet the needs of a growing population in Oregon. More complete participation in existing public health programs and the ability to perform more autopsies will contribute to a better understanding of the overall health of Oregon. Justifications for the individual positions are below:

1. Medical Laboratory Technician 2 (Clackamas office):

Assistant support is a necessary component of consistent, effective, and safe autopsy performance. Duties of the autopsy assistant include manipulating the body, photography, drawing fluids for toxicological analysis, and completing administrative tasks related to specimens that are procured during an examination. Autopsy assistance for pathologists at the Clackamas morgue had been previously provided by two Multnomah County employees, but the staffing was inadequate and inconsistent, and the lack of direct supervision led to difficulties with autopsy scheduling and quality control. Furthermore, in January 2020, Multnomah County decided to move all of its employees housed within the SMEO to a different facility, with their morgue technicians being assigned other work supporting Multnomah County government. As a result, recruitment for three State-employed autopsy technicians was undertaken and completed successfully. This level of staffing has allowed State forensic pathologists to continue to perform autopsies and has allowed for an equitable distribution of weekend autopsy coverage, allowing us to perform more autopsies during week-end shifts as needed. It has also allowed our office to shift focus from simply completing the daily caseload to planning for special projects that will allow us to function at a level that is closer to established national standards. These positions are currently unfunded liabilities and we are asking that budget and position authority be granted to the Office of the State Medical Examiner.

2. Office Specialist 2(Clackamas office):

Currently the State Medical Examiner's Office has authority for two Office Specialist II (OSII) and one Medical Transcription positions. The OSII supports death investigation reporting for the entire state program, including investigators and physicians from all 36 counties. The position handles requests for reports from families, law enforcement, and public health agencies. It also provides all clerical support, including phone calls, file organization, report processing, mail distribution of all required records to law enforcement, district attorneys, families, public health, insurance companies, and many others. Current staffing is insufficient for this level of responsibility and work volume, leading to a backlog of administrative work, delays in producing reports for families of the deceased, and the inability to take on special projects to improve the functioning of the office. Furthermore, weekend administrative support is not currently available and we experience significant deficits when current staff is ill or on vacation. Weekend administrative support is necessary to perform tasks such as answering phone calls and assisting in the release of bodies to funeral homes.

Oregon's population is growing, which translates directly to increased workload for the SMEO, and an increasing administrative workload load related to day-to-day case management. The addition of an OS2 position will allow the SMEO office to handle administrative tasks in a more efficient and timely manner, thus providing a better level of service to Oregon.

In 2019, the SMEO began a project to digitize existing paper records that are stored in an offsite storage location that is owned and maintained by Multnomah County*. There are approximately 70,000 records spanning 24 years that will need to be scanned. Each record also contains an ink thumb print card and a DNA blood spot card that will need to be removed and catalogued before the file can be scanned. This project represents approximately two years' worth of work for a full-time OS2. Preliminary quotes place the cost of a third-party vendor in the six-figure range. It is therefore more cost effective, and more flexible, for the project to be completed by a full-time State employee. When the project is completed, this employee would be shifted to help manage the growing volume of administrative work within the office and provide additional coverage for weekends and vacations. (*Multnomah County uses a disproportionate amount of cold-storage at the morgue. In the short term Multnomah County and the State have agreed to trade the cost of state-provided cold storage for county-provided records storage.)

3. Research Analyst 2(Clackamas office):

The SMEO routinely receives requests for aggregate case data. This demand has increased with the opioid epidemic and the increasing public visibility of medical examiners. This trend is expected to continue. These requests may include, but are not limited to, cause of death, characteristics of certain case types such as drug overdoses, workplace injuries, and in custody deaths, and missing/unidentified person data. More recently, we have received requests for presumptive COVID-19 deaths handled by the State Medical Examiner. This position will benefit Oregon in two ways. First, in depth data analysis is a necessary component of any public health activity. This analysis allows for the identification of trends, and therefore interventions. This data would be available for use by the SMEO, public health officials, government officials, law enforcement, and other interested stakeholders. We are currently unable to perform significant data analysis due to time and personnel constraints. Second, there are an increasing number of grant opportunities available to medical examiner offices related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the opioid epidemic. This position will help us to apply for grant funding, thus providing opportunities to improve service delivery statewide. Finally, the SMEO receives a high volume of public records requests that may be complex and involve higher level functions such as interpreting State law in the context of medical examiner activities. A research analyst would be able to aid in these requests.

4. Deputy State Medical Examiner (Clackamas office):

Currently, 6 forensic pathologists are employed by the State of Oregon and this number includes Dr. Sean Hurst, the Chief Medical Examiner. Four are based in the main medical examiner facility in Clackamas. One is based in Lane County and covers that county exclusively. One is based in Central Point and covers Jackson, Josephine, Curry, Coos, Klamath, and Lake Counties. This request is for an additional physician in the Clackamas office. The four physicians in Clackamas provide forensic pathology services to the majority of the State. Approximately 3.2 million people reside in this coverage area, or approximately 850,000 people per forensic pathologist. National recommendations for forensic pathologists staffing call for 1 forensic pathologist per 250,000 to 500,000 people. Oregon is far above this recommendation as well as far above maximum workload recommendations for medical examiners. Oregon's State medical examiner office also differs in management structure. The vast majority of medical examiner offices nationwide split administrative duties between a Chief Medical Examiner and a Deputy Chief Medical examiner, Oregon does not. As a result, Oregon's Chief Medical Examiner position is responsible for a large administrative workload as well as a full autopsy workload. An additional physician will help rebalance case management responsibilities. An additional physician will also help in other ways not directly related to autopsy performance. For example, court appearances are a frequent occurrence in the practice of a forensic pathologist. As the population served by the Clackamas office continues to grow, court appearances have become increasingly frequent and increasingly difficult to accommodate, which risks conflicts with county law enforcement agencies and district attorney's offices. The Clackamas Office, at times, is required to perform autopsies on decedents from all 36 counties. When this occurs, the physicians can be required to travel throughout Oregon when subpoenaed. This position will also allow for more opportunities to provide forensic pathology education to a wider variety of stakeholders. Additional physician support will allow us to more easily accommodate such extracurricular activities that are expected of a forensic pathologist.

How Achieved:

This Policy Option Package requests an additional allocation of general fund to the SMEO to fund the positions outlined above. Recruitment for the three Medical Laboratory Technicians has been completed. The Office Specialist and the Research Assistant positions would be opened for recruitment at the beginning of the 2021 - 2023 biennium with the intent to start the positions by October 1, 2021. If the Medical Laboratory Technician positions are not funded, it will represent an ongoing budget constraint for the Forensic Science and Pathology Bureau which will be required to hold vacancies open to cover the budget shortfall. If these positions are not supported, autopsy performance in the Clackamas facility cannot continue. If plans are not made to increase the number of forensic pathologists in Oregon, it will constitute an existential threat to the SMEO. As the population grows, the existing physicians will be increasingly unable to provide the most basic services of a functioning medical examiner office. This will in turn make Oregon an increasingly hostile environment for physicians with forensic pathology training. Requested positions would be recruited and hired following human resources and collective bargaining agreement guidelines/procedures with an expected start date of October 1, 2021.

Staffing Impact: The positions outlined below are requested to ensure the success of each program. Services & Supplies and Capital Outlay (if applicable) were applied using the agency's position pricing model:

Position Number	Classification Title	Classification Number	2021-23			2023-25		
			Pos Count	FTE Count	Pos Budget	Pos Count	FTE Count	Pos Budget
3100866	Deputy State Medical Examiner	MNNN Z7507	1	0.88	\$541,551	1	1.00	\$616,478
3100867	Research Analyst 2	AO C1116 AP	1	0.88	\$144,981	1	1.00	\$165,694
3100868	Office Specialist 2	AO C0104 AP	1	0.88	\$114,100	1	1.00	\$130,401
3100869	Medical Laboratory Technician 2	OAS C6821 AP	1	1	\$171,536	1	1.00	\$171,536
3100870	Medical Laboratory Technician 2	OAS C6821 AP	1	1	\$159,853	1	1.00	\$159,853
3100871	Medical Laboratory Technician 2	OAS C6821 AP	1	1	\$159,853	1	1.00	\$159,853
	Total		6	5.64	\$1,291,874	6	6.00	\$1,403,815

Quantifying Results:

The SMEO is the sole source provider of forensic autopsy service in Oregon. Although the SMEO is not linked directly to any performance measure, our work directly supports law enforcement and public health. The SMEO has recently upgraded to a web-based information system that has more advanced search capabilities than the previous information system. The SMEO has internal measures that help quantify the performance of the office. These include:

- Arrive at cause and manner of death for 98% or greater for all cases. Cases with an “undetermined” cause and manner of death can be identified and evaluated by searching the database.
- Perform examinations on decedents within 24 hours of report to this office or work with local officials for earliest, convenient time.
- Decrease turnaround time for cause of death. One factor that will impact this metric is the long turnaround time for toxicology results. Many pending cases rely on toxicology results to inform the cause of death.
- Forensic Pathologist available to families at time of call or within 24 hours of inquiry (with exceptions for vacation, sick leave etc.)

Key Legislation:

ORS 146.090(g) requires investigation of deaths related to a disease which might constitute a threat to the public health. Resource and staffing constraints prevented the SMEO from taking an active role in the investigation of COVID related deaths. Future public health crises will present similar issues for the SMEO.

Revenue Source: General Fund

	2021-23	2023-25
Expenditure Category	GF	GF
Personal Services	\$1,291,874	\$1,403,815
Services & Supplies	\$60,750	\$39,000
Total POP #107	\$1,352,624	\$1,442,815
Positions	6	6
FTE	5.64	6.00

The Legislative Adopted Budget increases General Fund by \$1,352,624 and establishes six permanent full-time positions (5.64 FTE) to support the increasing number of autopsies performed in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Positions include three Medical Laboratory Technicians (Autopsy Assistants), one Deputy Medical Examiner, one Research Analyst, and one medical transcriptionist. Also included in this package are the associated services and supplies, totaling \$60,750.

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 107 - Medical Examiner's Office - Staffing

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	1,352,624	-	-	-	-	-	1,352,624
Total Revenues	\$1,352,624	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,352,624
Personal Services							
Class/Unclass Sal. and Per Diem	841,833	-	-	-	-	-	841,833
Empl. Rel. Bd. Assessments	324	-	-	-	-	-	324
Public Employees' Retire Cont	172,743	-	-	-	-	-	172,743
Social Security Taxes	56,642	-	-	-	-	-	56,642
Worker's Comp. Assess. (WCD)	258	-	-	-	-	-	258
Mass Transit Tax	5,050	-	-	-	-	-	5,050
Flexible Benefits	215,055	-	-	-	-	-	215,055
Reconciliation Adjustment	(31)	-	-	-	-	-	(31)
Total Personal Services	\$1,291,874	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,291,874
Services & Supplies							
Employee Training	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	3,000
Office Expenses	6,750	-	-	-	-	-	6,750
Telecommunications	6,750	-	-	-	-	-	6,750
Data Processing	13,500	-	-	-	-	-	13,500
Other Services and Supplies	6,750	-	-	-	-	-	6,750
Expendable Prop 250 - 5000	9,000	-	-	-	-	-	9,000
IT Expendable Property	15,000	-	-	-	-	-	15,000
Total Services & Supplies	\$60,750	-	-	-	-	-	\$60,750

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
 Pkg: 107 - Medical Examiner's Office - Staffing

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
 Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	1,352,624	-	-	-	-	-	1,352,624
Total Expenditures	\$1,352,624	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,352,624
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Positions							
Total Positions							6
Total Positions	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Total FTE							
Total FTE							5.64
Total FTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.64

MEDICAL EXAMINERS DIVISION

Policy Option Package 802 – Medical Examiners Supplement

Justification:

This package increases General Fund by \$1,850,518 and establishes ten permanent full-time positions (9.02 FTE) to address the challenge of the increasing numbers of autopsies performed by the Office of the State Medical Examiner. The volume at the morgue has increased by 20% from January 2020 through December 2020 and the number of overdose deaths and homicides has nearly overwhelmed the ability of the Medical Examiner’s staff to manage workload in a timely way. This package adds additional morgue technicians and administrative staff, forensic scientists to address the toxicology work associated with autopsies, and funding for contracts with traveling pathologists, for outsourced lab work, and for the rental of refrigerated trailers to use as temporary morgue space.

Revenue Source: General Fund

	2021-23	2021-23	2021-23
Expenditure Category	GF	OF	TF
Personal Services	\$ 1,293,906.00		\$ 1,293,906.00
Services & Supplies	\$ 556,612.00		\$ 556,612.00
Capital Outlay			\$ -
Total	\$ 1,850,518.00	\$ -	\$ 1,850,518.00
Position	10		
FTE	9.02		

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 802 - Medical Examiner Support

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	1,850,518	-	-	-	-	-	1,850,518
Total Revenues	\$1,850,518	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,850,518
Personal Services							
Class/Unclass Sal. and Per Diem	919,401	-	-	-	-	-	919,401
Empl. Rel. Bd. Assessments	479	-	-	-	-	-	479
Public Employees' Retire Cont	188,662	-	-	-	-	-	188,662
Social Security Taxes	70,332	-	-	-	-	-	70,332
Worker's Comp. Assess. (WCD)	383	-	-	-	-	-	383
Mass Transit Tax	5,458	-	-	-	-	-	5,458
Flexible Benefits	320,193	-	-	-	-	-	320,193
Reconciliation Adjustment	(211,002)	-	-	-	-	-	(211,002)
Total Personal Services	\$1,293,906	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,293,906
Services & Supplies							
Employee Training	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Office Expenses	10,050	-	-	-	-	-	10,050
Telecommunications	10,050	-	-	-	-	-	10,050
Data Processing	20,100	-	-	-	-	-	20,100
Professional Services	461,362	-	-	-	-	-	461,362
Other Services and Supplies	10,050	-	-	-	-	-	10,050
Expendable Prop 250 - 5000	15,000	-	-	-	-	-	15,000

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 802 - Medical Examiner Support

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Services & Supplies							
IT Expendable Property	25,000	-	-	-	-	-	25,000
Total Services & Supplies	\$556,612	-	-	-	-	-	\$556,612
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	1,850,518	-	-	-	-	-	1,850,518
Total Expenditures	\$1,850,518	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,850,518
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Ending Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Positions							
Total Positions							10
Total Positions	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Total FTE							
Total FTE							9.02
Total FTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.02

MEDICAL EXAMINERS DIVISION

Policy Option Package 810 – Statewide Adjustments

Justification:

The Statewide adjustments reflect budget changes in multiple agencies based on reductions in Department of Administrative Services’ assessments and charges for services and Attorney General rates.

This package reduces General Fund by \$11,569 and reduces Other Fund by \$17, for a total reduction of \$11,586.

Revenue Source: General Fund and Other Funds

	2021-23	2021-23	2021-23	2021-23
Expenditure Category	GF	OF	FF	TF
Personal Services				\$ -
Services & Supplies	\$ (11,569)	\$ (17)		\$ (11,586)
Capital Outlay				\$ -
Total	\$ (11,569)	\$ (17)	\$ -	\$ (11,586)

ESSENTIAL AND POLICY PACKAGE FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Police, Dept of State
Pkg: 810 - Statewide Adjustments

Cross Reference Name: Office of State Medical Examiner
Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Description</i>	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Nonlimited Other Funds	Nonlimited Federal Funds	All Funds
Revenues							
General Fund Appropriation	(11,569)	-	-	-	-	-	(11,569)
Total Revenues	(\$11,569)	-	-	-	-	-	(\$11,569)
Services & Supplies							
State Gov. Service Charges	(11,486)	-	-	-	-	-	(11,486)
Data Processing	(16)	-	-	-	-	-	(16)
Attorney General	(35)	-	-	-	-	-	(35)
Other Services and Supplies	(32)	-	(17)	-	-	-	(49)
Total Services & Supplies	(\$11,569)	-	(\$17)	-	-	-	(\$11,586)
Total Expenditures							
Total Expenditures	(11,569)	-	(17)	-	-	-	(11,586)
Total Expenditures	(\$11,569)	-	(\$17)	-	-	-	(\$11,586)
Ending Balance							
Ending Balance	-	-	17	-	-	-	17
Total Ending Balance	-	-	\$17	-	-	-	\$17

DETAIL OF LOTTERY FUNDS, OTHER FUNDS, AND FEDERAL FUNDS REVENUE

Medical Examiners (SCR 006-00)								
Source	Fund	ORBITS Revenue Acct	2017-2019 Actual	2019-21	2019-21 Estimated	2021-23		
				Legislatively Adopted		Agency Request	Governor's	Legislatively Adopted
Records Request Fees	OF	0410 Charges for Service	2,400	-	4,330	-	-	-
IGA's (Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington Counties)	OF	0975 Other Revenue	190,140	205,889	177,764	255,889	255,889	255,889
Autopsy & report revenue / Training Reimbursement	OF	0975 Other Revenue	7,817	102,697	1,800	8,997	8,997	8,997
MDI Log one-time grant	OF	1443 Transfer In from OHA	-	-	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Overdose to Action grant (O2A)	OF	1443 Transfer In from OHA	-	-	23,700	23,700	23,700	23,700
Total - OF:			200,357	308,586	227,594	308,586	308,586	308,586
LEICE Grant	FF	0995 Federal Funds Revenue	-	-	270,000	-	-	-
Total - FF:			-	-	270,000	-	-	-
Total Available Revenue			200,357	308,586	497,594	308,586	308,586	308,586

DETAIL OF LOTTERY FUNDS, OTHER FUNDS, AND FEDERAL FUNDS REVENUE

Police, Dept of State
2021-23 Biennium

Agency Number: 25700

Cross Reference Number: 25700-006-00-00-00000

<i>Source</i>	2017-19 Actuals	2019-21 Leg Adopted Budget	2019-21 Leg Approved Budget	2021-23 Agency Request Budget	2021-23 Governor's Budget	2021-23 Leg. Adopted Budget
Other Funds						
Charges for Services	2,400	-	-	-	-	-
Other Revenues	197,957	308,586	308,586	308,586	308,586	308,586
Total Other Funds	\$200,357	\$308,586	\$308,586	\$308,586	\$308,586	\$308,586