

**MEDICAL EXAMINER & TRAUMA MANAGEMENT
OPERATIONS**

Fiscal Year 2008

Goal Statement

To collect and analyze information pertaining to deaths which fall within the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner, and to provide for indigent burial/cremation when no private funds are available, in order to preserve the public health and preclude economic hardship to Broward County residents.

Performance Measures	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY08 Actual	% Change FY07-FY08	Variance Number
Number of cases investigated & accepted	1,920	1,909	2,000	1,794	-6%	
Number of cases investigated but rejected for medical examination	1,107	985	1,600	898	-9%	
Total number of indigent cases investigated	329	377	350	358	-5%	
Number of indigent cases investigated and approved for burial/cremation at public expense	270	267	330	267	0%	2
Number of indigent cases buried or cremated with private funding	49	42	50	34	-19%	1
Percent of indigent cases disposed of at public expense	81	71	95	75	5%	
Number of cases per investigator	N/A	436.0	527.0	406.7	-7%	

Explanation of variances greater than 15 percent:

- 1** This measure decreased due to less private funding available due to the economy.
- 2** This measure totaled to the same number of indigent cases investigated in FY08 as reported in FY07, even though the individual quarterly measures reported in FY08 were different from the measures reported in FY07. The individual annual totals resulted in the same amounts by coincidence.

**MEDICAL EXAMINER AND TRAUMA MANAGEMENT
PATHOLOGY**

Fiscal Year 2008

Goal Statement

To provide medical and legal determinations of the cause and manner of deaths which require investigation, and to develop and implement programs designed to protect public health and reduce mortality.

Performance Measures	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY08 Actual	% Change FY07-FY08	Variance Number
Number of scenes investigated	46	50	45	67	34%	1
Number of full autopsies performed	1,361	1,434	1,400	1,248	-13%	
Number of examinations performed	545	621	550	546	-12%	
Number of Death Certificates issued	6,185	5,874	6,000	6,048	3%	
Percentage of autopsies completed within 18 hours of receipt of body	99	99	99	99	0%	
Percent of cases for which cause and manner of death determination made	100	100	100	100	0%	
Number of full autopsies (or equivalents) per pathologist	N/A	391	264	286	-27%	2

Explanation of variances greater than 15 percent:

- 1** This measure has increased due to an increase in homicides in the County for FY 2008.
- 2** This measure decreased due to a decrease in the number of autopsies in 2008 compared to 2007. The amount of cases that fall under the Medical Examiner's jurisdiction is basically controlled by the amount of deaths, something beyond control of the Medical Examiner's office. The formula was changed to allow for fluctuations in pathologists performing autopsies throughout the fiscal year. The total autopsies of 1430 divided by 5 or 286 was calculated as follows: Full autopsies for the year of 1248 plus external examinations of 546 divided by 3 (National Association of Medical Examiners guidelines) or 1430. Dividing this by 5 full time equivalent pathologists or 286. Full time equivalents calculated as follows--3 full time M.E. plus .5 for fellow, .5 for Chief M.E., and 1 for Deputy M.E.

**MEDICAL EXAMINER AND TRAUMA MANAGEMENT
TOXICOLOGY**

Fiscal Year 2008

Goal Statement

To provide County-wide toxicology testing services for the Medical Examiner Division and other requesting law enforcement agencies.

Performance Measures	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY08 Actual	% Change FY07-FY08	Variance Number
Number of Medical Examiner cases tested	2,205	1,484	2,100	1,432	-4%	
Number of cases referred from other agencies	670	536	700	562	5%	
Number of assays (specimen tests) completed - Drug Court	231,682	236,064	220,000	232,866	-1%	
Number of assays (specimen tests) completed - Broward Addiction Recovery	112,526	131,552	110,000	157,728	20%	1
Percent of cases processed within 60 days	88	86	88	83	-4%	
Percentage of assays (specimen tests) completed	99	100	99	93	-8%	
Number of tests per technician	N/A	42,133	38,455	44,666	6%	

Explanation of variances greater than 15 percent:

- 1** The measure has increased due to the increase in Broward Addiction Recovery Centers' (BARC) urine specimen submissions for drug testing. In FY07, BARC added the Kids in Distress program which increased the number of urine specimens submitted for drug testing.

**MEDICAL EXAMINER AND TRAUMA MANAGEMENT
TRAUMA MANAGEMENT**

Fiscal Year 2008

Goal Statement

To maintain the local Trauma Plan and provide regulatory oversight of the trauma network to ensure that there is quality comprehensive trauma medical care and patient transportation for the citizens and visitors in Broward County.

Performance Measures	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08 Budget	FY08 Actual	% Change FY07-FY08	Variance Number
Number of victims treated/transported as trauma alerts	2,111	2,121	2,150	1,905	-10%	
Number of trauma cases reviewed	261	249	215	256	3%	
Number of over-triage patients (trauma alerts discharged from Emergency within 24 hours)	490	195	440	199	2%	
Number of under-triage patients (trauma alerts who are not taken to a trauma center or who die in a non-trauma center)	171	157	150	136	-13%	
Percent of trauma cases reviewed for quality assurance	N/A	14	10	13	-5%	
Number of inspections per inspector	N/A	173.0	480.0	138.0	-20%	1

Explanation of variances greater than 15 percent:

- 1** This measure decreased due to a lack of staff members available to perform the inspections because of frozen and vacant positions within the program. Only those units that needed inspections for immediate use by the individual providers were conducted.