

Lane County - Service Option Sheet - FY 20-21 Adopted

SOS 11: **Death Investigations**
 Dept: District Attorney
 Contact: Patty Perlow 682-4093; Rebecca Messenger 682-4508

Service Category: Public Safety

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|---------|--------------|
| Mandate | None | Related | SHALL |
| Leverage | None | Some | HIGH |

Executive Summary

Lane County Medical-legal Death Investigators will be called to investigate between 1,000 and 1,200 suspicious and unattended deaths over the next year. Our Lead Medical-legal Death Investigator, and Medical-legal Death Investigators work with law enforcement partners, the State Medical Examiner's pathologist assigned to Lane County and others to investigate and report cause and manner of death. Over 5 FTE are required to fully cover a 24/7 post, but Lane County is managing 24/7 coverage with three full-time employees, and a handful of part-time staff who agree to accept on-call shifts.

Service Descriptions

| | Revenue | Expense Total | General Fund | FTE |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------------|--------------|------|
| Adopted Budget Total | \$0 | \$590,933 | \$590,933 | 3.00 |

Work with law enforcement partners, the State Medical Examiner's pathologist assigned to Lane County, and others to investigate and report the cause and manner of all unattended and suspicious deaths. We remain below threshold staffing. The system will continue functioning at this staffing level only as long as we're able to continue finding qualified staff who are willing to accept "on-call" compensation for working extended weekend and night shifts.

State/Federal Mandate

ORS 146.065, 146.075, 146.085

Leverage Details

The General Fund portion of this program leverages the following:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| _____ \$0 | back to the Discretionary General Fund |
| _____ \$0 | into other non Discretionary County Funds |
| _____ \$0 | directly to community members |