
2018

Budget Requests

Muscogee County Coroner's Office

Eddie L. "Buddy" Bryan, Coroner

DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY

570 CORONER'S OFFICE GENERAL FUND				
	FY16 ACTUAL	FY17 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY18 REQ BUDGET	% CHANGE
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 259,328	\$ 266,550	\$ 427,452	60.36%
OPERATING	23,217	22,614	22,814	0.88%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	-	-	2,000	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 282,545	\$ 289,164	\$ 452,266	56.40%

The Coroner is elected for a four-year term and is charged with the responsibility of investigating deaths from unknown or violent causes, and deaths that occur while unattended by a physician. The Coroner is also charged with holding inquests, assisting law enforcement agencies with investigations, locating, advising, and counseling with families of the deceased, maintaining an up-to-date and complete record system on each case, and when necessary, the responsibility of transporting bodies to and from the Medical Examiner's Lab in Atlanta for autopsy.

Personal Services:

◆ Personnel adjustments of \$ 155,186 consist of:

- Add one(1) Deputy Coroner G14-\$88,227 (salary with benefits including car allowance)
- Reclass one(1) Deputy Coroner Freeman Worley to Chief Deputy Coroner -\$18,526 (salary with ben-
- Reclass one(1) Deputy Coroner Charles Newton- \$13,647 (salary with benefits)
- Reclass one(1) Administrative Assistant Malika Hampton 12A to Executive Assistant 14I- \$13,793 (
- Reclass one(1) Coroner Eddie "Buddy" Bryan- \$20,993 (salary with benefits)

Operations:

◆ Operational increase of \$200 consists of:

- Various operation increases of \$200

Capital Outlay:

- ◆ Capital increase of \$2,000

DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY

570 CORONER'S OFFICE GENERAL FUND				
	FY16 ACTUAL	FY17 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY18 REC BUDGET	% CHANGE
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 259,328	\$ 266,550	\$ 267,221	0.25%
OPERATING	\$ 23,217	\$ 22,614	\$ 22,614	0.00%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 282,545	\$ 289,164	\$ 289,835	0.23%

The Coroner is elected for a four-year term and is charged with the responsibility of investigating deaths from unknown or violent causes, and deaths that occur while unattended by a physician. The Coroner is also charged with holding inquests, assisting law enforcement agencies with investigations, locating, advising, and counseling with families of the deceased, maintaining an up-to-date and complete record system on each case, and when necessary, the responsibility of transporting bodies to and from the Medical Examiner's Lab in Atlanta for autopsy.

Personal Services:

◆ No Issues

Operations:

◆ No Issues

Capital Outlay:

◆ No Issues

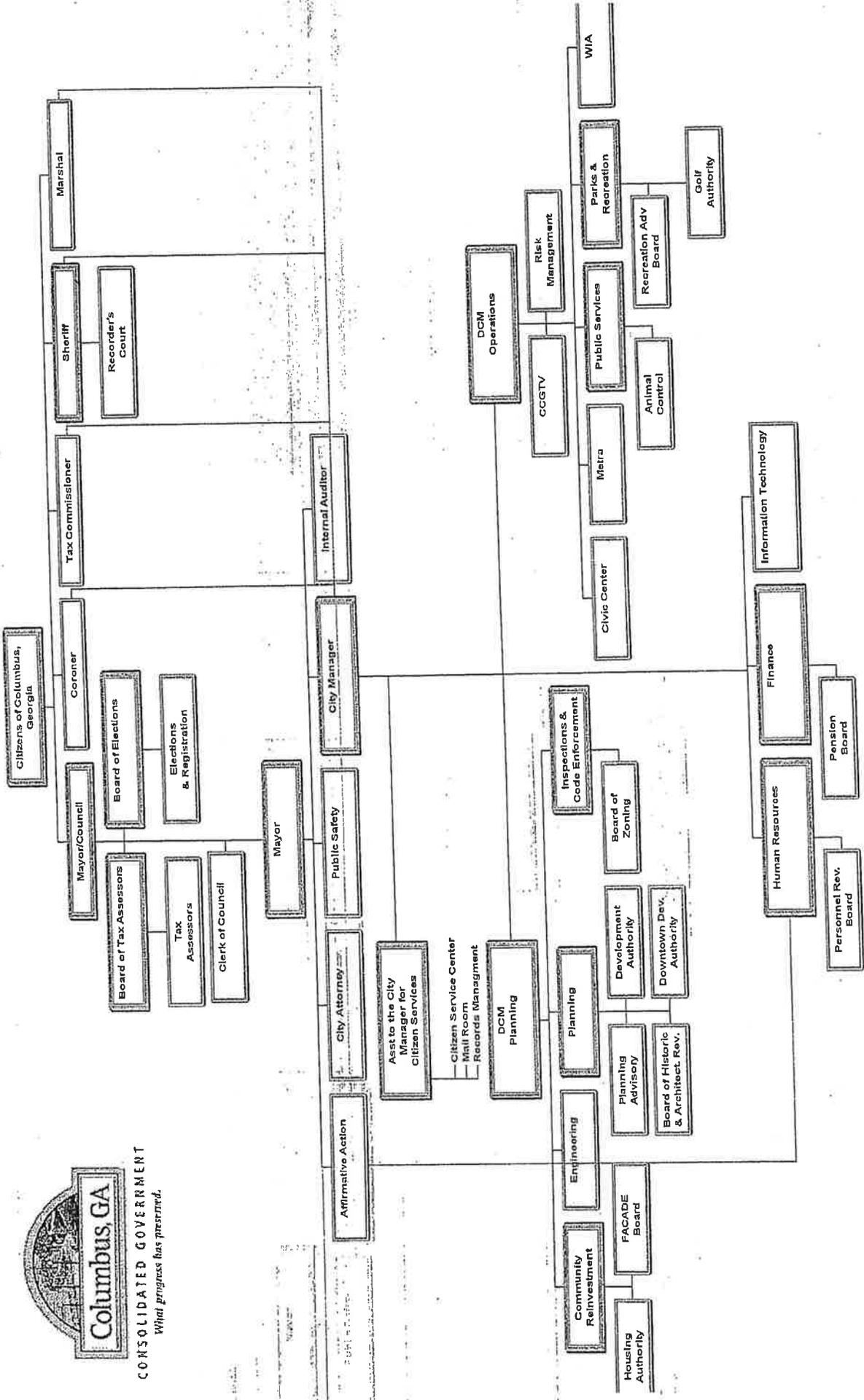
COMPARISON WITH SURROUNDING COUNTIES

In the state of GA there are 159 counties: 5 are under the **Medical Examiner** and the others have **elected coroners**. Out of the last 154, only **2 are comparable to Columbus in population, investigated death rates and salaried coroners**. Please see the chart below to review the discrepancy in salary and deputies. Our office is requesting an increase in salary for the coroner, an additional full time deputy coroner and additional salary for one of our full time employees.

	COLUMBUS	AUGUSTA	MACON
POPULATION	202,824	197,182	153,721
INVESTIGATED DEATHS	812	935	714
ANNUAL BUDGET	\$289,164	\$763,000	\$322,000
CORONER SALARY	\$60,000	\$80,000	\$78,000
DEPUTIES	2 F/T 1 P/T	4 F/T	3 F/T



CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT
What progress has preserved.



Muscogee County Coroner's Office

*The coroner—as head of the department—is an administrative position; but currently must be on call 24 hour shifts (weekly) due to staff shortages. An additional deputy coroner would allow the coroner more flexibility in his administrative duties and community involvement.

Surrounding counties with similar population have 1 coroner and 3-4 deputy coroners.

Another deputy coroner would give additional coverage in a city of more than 200,000 people. The deaths investigated by the Coroner's Office are 700-825 annually—which averages to about 58-68 deaths per month—and it makes it difficult for the staff to take time off for vacations and/or sick time.

This environment creates an overworked and understaffed office because the job of the coroner and deputy coroner does not end at the death scene; but continues through investigation, family notification, medical record review and a host of other areas that continue weeks and or months after the initial death.

Coroner Salary Increase

Eddie L. Bryan has been the coroner for almost 5 years but has over 40 years of experience in the death and funeral home field. With so many years of experience, his pay is not comparable to the salaries of those coroner's in similar sized cities. Buddy has implemented several programs that benefit the citizens of Columbus which include: Free will services, death and dying classes, child safety seminars and he is an active participant in the Child Fatality Review Committee.

Although he is an elected official he works 24 hour shifts like the deputy coroners because we are short staffed and he does not want all the work to fall on the deputy coroners. He also maintains an open dialogue with the media to allow the people of Columbus to know about the deaths here. Buddy also take time out in his busy schedule to personally go to the homes of family members who are not being forthcoming in the funeral arrangements in order to expedite the process and also took over the handling of the pauper's program in order to aid the families who have no funds to dispose of their relatives. After the Coroner's Office took over the program, we have almost exclusively used cremations-- which will extend the life of Porterdale Cemetery.

Because of his years of experience and to make his pay comparable to those in neighboring cities with similar populations and death rates, we are requesting that his pay be increased to \$80,000 annually.

DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY**PUBLIC SAFETY**

570-9900 CORONER'S OFFICE OTHER LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND				
	FY16 ACTUAL	FY17 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY18 REC BUDGET	% CHANGE
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 8,046	\$ 7,937	\$ 7,812	-1.57%
OPERATING	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 8,046	\$ 7,937	\$ 7,812	-1.57%

The Coroner is elected for a four-year term and is charged with the responsibility of investigating deaths from unknown or violent causes and deaths that occur while unattended by a physician. The Coroner is also charged with holding inquests, assisting law enforcement agencies with investigations, locating, advising, counseling with families of the deceased, maintaining an up-to-date and complete record system on each case, and when necessary, the responsibility of transporting bodies to and from the Medical Examiner's Lab in Atlanta for autopsy.

Personal Services:

- ◆ LOST Supplement with Benefits is \$7,812 (2 officers)

Operations:

- ◆ No Issues

Capital Outlay:

- ◆ No Issues

DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY**PUBLIC SAFETY**

570-9900				
CORONER'S OFFICE				
OTHER LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND				
	FY16 ACTUAL	FY17 ADOPTED BUDGET	FY18 REQ BUDGET	% CHANGE
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 8,046	\$ 7,938	\$ 7,968	0.38%
OPERATING	-	-	-	N/A
CAPITAL OUTLAY		-	-	N/A
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 8,046	\$ 7,938	\$ 7,968	0.38%

The Coroner is elected for a four-year term and is charged with the responsibility of investigating deaths from unknown or violent causes, and deaths that occur while unattended by a physician. The Coroner is also charged with holding inquests, assisting law enforcement agencies with investigations, locating, advising, and counseling with families of the deceased, maintaining an up-to-date and complete record system on each case, and when necessary, the responsibility of transporting bodies to and from the Medical Examiner's Lab in Atlanta for autopsy.

Personal Services:

◆ No Issues

Operations:

◆ No Issues

Capital Outlay:

◆ No Issues

COST OF ADDITIONAL DEPUTY CORONER

SALARY: \$38,000

BENEFITS: \$15,462

VEHICLE: \$20,215

COMPUTER: \$2,000

CLOTHING

ALLOWANCE: \$600

Total: \$76,277



**Carl Vinson
Institute of Government
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

**An Analysis of Positions for Columbus Consolidated Government's Classification and
Compensation Plan**
Human Resources Management Unit
Strategic Operations & Planning Assistance (SOPA)
April 2017

Columbus Consolidated Government Personnel Project

Institute of Government Summary Recommendations for Reclassification & New Position Requests	Department	Current Position Title	Current Grade	Department Request	Institute of Government Position Title & Grade Recommendation	Institute of Government Comments
	Coroner's Officer	Deputy Coroner	Grade 16	Reclassification – Position Title & Grade	Chief Deputy Coroner – Grade 18	None
	Coroner's Officer	Administrative Assistant	Grade 12	Reclassification – Position Title & Grade	Administrative Assistant – Grade 12	None

RECLASSIFICATION & BENEFITS

Deputy coroner Freeman Worley has been approved for reclassification to Chief Deputy Coroner due to his 20+ years of medical experience and education with the city and the ambulance services thorough out GA. As a certified paramedic, he manages the coroner's office and investigates all deaths in the city, keeps records and provides information that is crucial in the hiring and firing of employees. He also manages 2 full time employees and his job requires him to have continuous medical study about diseases, criminality and causes of death; and he must complete an annual class and test to maintain his certification. Due to HIPPA regulations he must use the utmost discretion about all deaths and he also determines the manner of death in any case that is not under a doctor's care.

Freeman Worley was promoted to Chief Deputy Coroner in 2009 by the previous coroner, William "Bill" Thrower; but that coroner did not follow through with the necessary steps to make it official. The previous coroner also reiterated that the money would come the following year to fund the non-existing promotion. He never went to the finance dept., or council-- although he told the staff in the office that he had. The promotion was documented in the office with photos, articles in the paper, a new badge with the title changes and witnessed by the Administrative assistant. Due to this error, Freeman was given extra responsibility that coincided with the promotion; but the promotion never existed. This mistake was unknown to our office until the 2018 budget proposal.

Because of this initial error, years of experience and to make his pay comparable to those in neighboring cities with similar populations and death rates, we are requesting that He be reclassified as a G18-I and his pay be increased to \$51,135.02 annually to match the reclassification.

Henry Freeman Worley

6407 Glover Court ♦ Columbus, GA 31907 ♦ (706) 587-4785 ♦ footsworley1@aol.com

Employment History

LAVONIA EMS. – Lavonia, GA; Volunteer - 1980 to 1984

LAVONIA EMS. – Lavonia, GA; Vice President - 1984 to 1986

Columbus Consolidated Government – Columbus, GA; Paramedic/Dep Coroner – 1986 to 2005

CARE AMBULANCE SERVICE – Columbus, Ga. Field Medic – 2005 to 2006

CARE AMBULANCE SERVICE – State of Georgia; Manager of Georgia Operations for CARE
Ambulance Service – 2006 to 2007

MUSCOGEE COUNTY. – Columbus, GA; - Deputy Coroner – 2007 to 2009

MUSCOGEE COUNTY - Columbus, GA; Promoted to Chief Deputy Coroner 2009- Present

Education

FRANKLIN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL Camesville, GA. –1977 - High School Diploma (GED)

NORTH GA TECHNICAL SCHOOL Clarkesville, GA - 1984 - EMT Certification

COLUMBUS Vocational Tech - Columbus, GA 1987 National Emergency Medical Tech

COLUMBUS Vocational Tech - Columbus, GA - 1987 – Cardiac Tech Certification

COLUMBUS Vocational Tech - COLUMBUS, GA - 1987 Advanced Cardiac Life Support

COLUMBUS Vocational Tech - COLUMBUS, GA - 1987 Basic Trauma Life support

COLUMBUS TECHNICAL SCHOOL – Columbus, GA - 1987 – Paramedic Certification

GA. PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING Center – Forsyth, GA; - 2005 – Coroner's Certification

GA. PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING Center – Forsyth, GA; - 2005 – Death Investigation's
Certification

Experience

LAVONIA EMS. – Lavonia, GA.

Assisted the President in his duties by managing full and part-time personnel, ordering new ambulances, rescue trucks, managing and distributing inventory.

Responsible for maintaining, and operating three ambulances and a rescue truck.

Participated in community functions for fund raising events, such as for the Jaws-of-Life.

COLUMBUS EMS. – Columbus, GA. I was responsible for the assistance, treatment and transportation of the sick and injured to the appropriate hospital and facility.

I was responsible to attend educational classes, seminars, and to complete other assigned training criteria.

Coroner's Office.- Muscogee County. Appointed as **Deputy Coroner** due to my management experience and exceptional people skills and assisted in criminal investigations, working with doctors in the determination and cause of death of individuals. I testified in court proceedings regarding the cause of death of individuals.

Buddy Bryan

From: Freeman Worley <fworley1@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 1:01 PM
To: Buddy Bryan
Subject: Chief Deputy Coroner Badge



Sent from my iPhone Freeman Worley



FREEMAN WORLEY
CHIEF DEPUTY CORONER
MUSCOGEE COUNTY

Public Safety Building
510 10th Street
Columbus, Georgia 31901

Office: (706) 653-3260

OPERATIONS

ADDITIONAL POSTAGE REQUEST

Our office has seen an increase in the amount of shipping due to personal effects and records of the deceased. We often ship wallets to the family, records and photos to the GBI and other things; and many of these things have to be sent certified mail. Our office also mails death certificates to all hospitals and other medical facilities with a SASE to receive the signed copy back. This allows for a reduction in driving time, mileage and fuel used by the Coroner and Deputy Coroners when they were picking them up.

Due to the increase in postage used by our office we are requesting an increase to \$200.

Run Date: 04/25/2017

Budget Summary by Detail Objects

Run Time: 11:49 PM UTC

Fund	Organization	FY2015		FY2016		FY2017		FY2018	
		Actual	Expenditures	Actual	Expenditures	Adopted	Budget	Mayor's Proposed	Budget
0101 - GENERAL FUND	5701000 - CORONER								
6105 - Salaries-General Government		30,481		30,752		30,594		31,206	
6110 - Wages		5,000		9,864		18,187		18,187	
6120 - Salaries-Sworn Personnel		144,698		145,790		144,526		147,966	
6205 - Fica Contributions		13,016		13,463		14,926		15,098	
6210 - Employer Retirement Contr-GG		5,199		4,111		3,059		2,574	
6215 - Employer Retirement Contr-PS		31,910		30,064		28,183		25,894	
6220 - Group Health Insurance		26,043		22,600		24,400		23,600	
6225 - Group Life Insurance		893		884		875		896	
6265 - Clothing Allowance		1,800		1,800		1,800		1,800	
6311 - Professional Services		8,454		0		0		0	
6321 - Medical Services		0		1,187		750		750	
6519 - Miscellaneous Equipment Maintn		25		70		250		250	
6601 - Education/Training		1,440		1,080		1,500		1,500	
6622 - Mobile Phone		2,600		2,382		1,800		1,800	
6625 - Postage		156		371		100		100	
6631 - Printing Services		40		23		150		150	
6632 - Copier Charges		460		450		250		250	

Run Date: 04/25/2017

Budget Summary by Detail Objects

Run Time: 11:49 PM, UTC

	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
	Actual	Actual	Adopted	Mayor's Proposed
	Expenditures	Expenditures	Budget	Budget
6641 - Travel, Schools & Conferences	2,543	1,769	2,000	2,000
6657 - Membership Dues And Fees	225	300	250	250
6711 - Office Supplies	1,993	1,820	1,500	1,500
6714 - Publications/Subscriptions	0	0	200	200
6721 - Auto Parts And Supplies	603	1,646	2,000	2,000
6728 - Operating Materials	4,866	6,323	5,794	5,794
6746 - Motor Fuel	5,863	5,797	6,070	6,070
Total 5701000	288,308	282,545	289,164	289,835
Total 0101	288,308	282,545	289,164	289,835
Grand Total	288,308	282,545	289,164	289,835

Run Date: 04/25/2017

Budget Summary by Detail Objects

Run Time: 11:50 PM UTC

Fund	Organization	FY2015		FY2016		FY2017		FY2018	
		Actual	Expenditures	Actual	Expenditures	Adopted	Budget	Mayor's Proposed	Budget
0102 - LOST - Public Safety	5709900 - Coroner - LOST								
	6120 - Salaries-Sworn Personnel	6,267		6,291		6,242		6,242	
	6205 - Fica Contributions	450		450		478		478	
	6215 - Employer Retirement Cont-PS	1,392		1,306		1,217		1,092	
	7721 - Automobiles	24,164		0		0		0	
	Total 5709900	32,273		8,046		7,937		7,812	
	Total 0102	32,273		8,046		7,937		7,812	
	Grand Total	32,273		8,046		7,937		7,812	