



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OPERATIONS

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
STAFF: RUSSELL FRANSDEN

BUDGET BRIEF

## SUMMARY

The Executive Director's Operations (EDO) include those functions of the Department of Health that provide overall direction of policy, management, and administrative support to the divisions, offices, and programs of the Department. This organizational line item also includes Preparedness Grants, the Center for Health Data, and the Office of the Medical Examiner. For more detailed information please see the Compendium of Budget Information for the 2010 General Session at [http://www.le.utah.gov/lfa/reports/cobi2010/LI\\_LAA.htm](http://www.le.utah.gov/lfa/reports/cobi2010/LI_LAA.htm).

## ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Analyst base budget recommendation is \$25,877,500. The current funding level supports five programs within the Executive Director's Operations line item. These include the Executive Director's Office, Program Operations, Medical Examiner, Preparedness Grants and the Center for Health Data.

The funding allocations to the programs are:

Executive Director's Office	\$ 2,517,900
Preparedness Grants	\$ 10,129,300
Center for Health Data	\$ 5,718,800
Program Operations	\$ 4,477,200
Medical Examiner	\$ 3,034,300

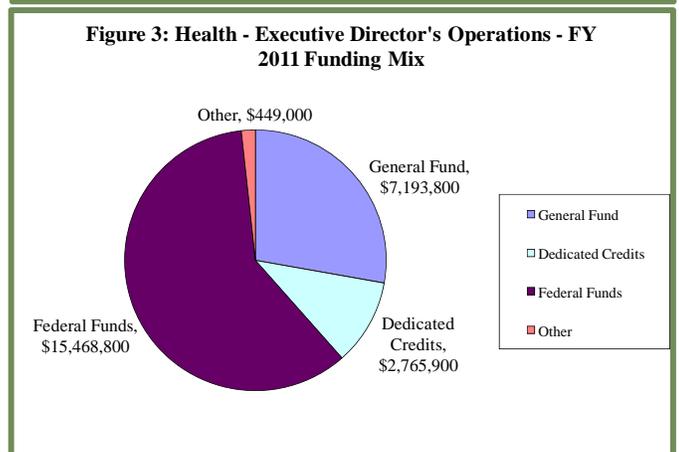
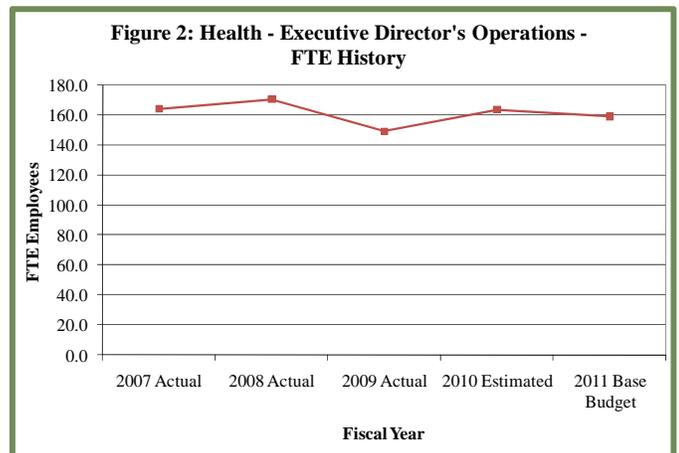
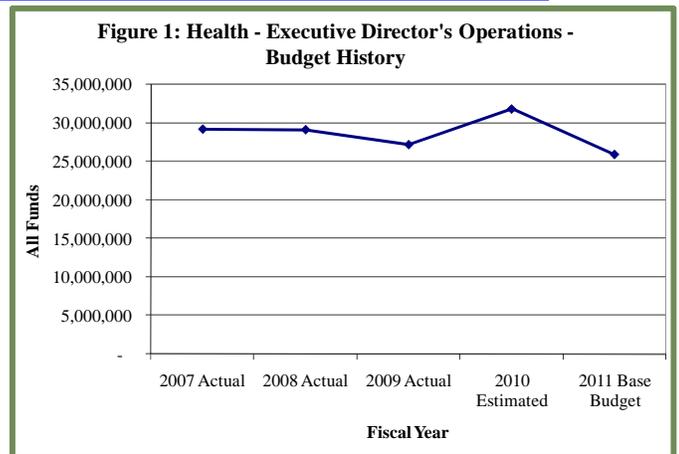
The base funding supports 159 FTE positions and 27 vehicles.

### Preparedness Grants – Required Match

Funding for Preparedness Grants is from federal funds. There have been adjustments made the last few years, but the overall funding has remained relatively stable. Beginning in FY 2009, the preparedness grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention required a 5% or \$518,700 funding match, either cash or in kind, which is expected to increase to a 10% or \$1,037,400 match required in FY 2010. The Department is using existing State funded Personal Service costs as in-kind services to meet the required match.

### Medical Examiner Internal Audit

In October 2008, internal health auditors completed an audit of the Office of the Medical Examiner. Below lists



their recommendations and the follow up by the Department in *italics*:

1. **Hire 2 additional physician investigators and associated support staff** – *The Department used \$200,000 in new funding in FY 2010 to pay for increased in body transportation costs and increased caseloads.*
2. **Consider adding a cremation review requirement** – *the Legislature passed SB 142 in the 2009 General Session which provided the Department the authority to charge a cremation review fee up to \$100.*
3. **Improve review and control of body transportation costs and consider paying for only initial pickup** – *the Department has indicated they have implemented improved procedures and reviews. The Department has made no decision regarding only paying for the initial pickup of a body.*

### **Restricted & Lapsing Funds Summary**

EDO has some funding from three restricted accounts. Each of the restricted accounts have a unique funding source and cannot be used for purposes other than for their designated purpose. The three funds are discussed here below along with their FY 2009 closing balance:

- 1) \$159,400 in the Kurt Oscarson Organ Transplant Account to assist families with some of the ancillary expenses involved with an organ transplant.
- 2) \$86,000 in the Organ Donation Contribution Fund to promote and support organ donation, assist in maintaining an organ donation registry, and provide donor awareness education.
- 3) \$60,400 in the Cat and Dog Community Spay and Neuter Program Restricted Account to assist low-income individuals have their cats and/or dogs spayed or neutered.

### **Internal Transfer**

The Department of Health has identified \$872,000 in funding to pay for the costs of moving and setting up their equipment in the new State laboratory. There is \$575,000 available from the building contingency fund and the other \$297,000 will come through internal transfers. The Department is requesting \$30,000 one-time General Fund from Executive Director's Operations to be moved to Epidemiology and Laboratory Services in FY 2010. The Analyst recommends approving this transfer.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY DETAIL**

The following paragraphs discuss recent appropriations and how they were used by the agency:

#### **FY 2010**

- 1) **Cat and Dog Community Spay and Neuter Program Restricted Account:** Because the Department collected more money for this account than previously anticipated , the Legislature approved an increase of \$30,000 in the General Fund Restricted - Cat and Dog Community Spay and Neuter Program Restricted Account for FY 2010. For FY 2009, an increase of \$16,200 was approved.
- 2) **Medical Examiner:** \$200,000 to hire an additional physician for investigations. The Department used the money to pay for increased in body transportation costs and increased caseloads.
- 3) **H.B. 265 "Postmortem Procedures Amendments"** \$4,200 (one-time) in FY 2009 for computer programming changes to allow non-funeral director personnel to submit death certificate information. The changes were completed by May 2009 at a cost of \$3,500. Through November 2009, two individuals had used the new method for registering death certificates.

#### **FY 2009**

- 1) **H.B. 174, "Traumatic Brain Injury Fund"** \$50,000 (one-time) for administrative costs and services to individuals with traumatic brain injuries as directed by an advisory committee. Three contracts were negotiated and released: (1) \$12,300 to Intermountain Healthcare, (2) \$11,900 to the Brain Injury

Association of Utah, and (3) \$11,000 to Phoenix Services Corporation to provide resource facilitation for traumatic brain injury victims.

- 2) **Specimen Preparation Equipment and Inflation:** The Office of the Medical Examiner's budget was increased by \$260,000 (\$190,000 one-time) to address the program's caseload growth and to replace 12 year-old pathology equipment used in determining about 1,500 causes of death annually. The one-time \$190,000 was used to purchase the new equipment, which included, training and initial startup supplies (\$150,000). The balance was used to offset ongoing budget needs.
- 3) **H.B. 133, "Health System Reform"** \$615,000 ongoing funding provides the money to implement H.B. 9, "Health Care Cost and Quality Data" from the 2007 General Session. This funding has allowed the Department to initiate health care cost and quality data collection, and analysis. By mid-December 2009 over 160 million claims had been submitted by Utah health plans to the Health Department. Some preliminary reports from the new All Payer Database will be available in January 2010.
- 4) **H.B. 133, "Health System Reform"** \$500,000 one-time for implementation of the standards developed for the electronic exchange of clinical health information between different organizations. The \$500,000 was matched with the federal Medicaid fund (\$500,000), doubling the funding to a total of \$1,000,000. The Department of Health has contracted with Utah Health Information Network for \$990,000 to implement the standards developed for the clinical health information exchange (cHIE) project. The exchange of medical information began in August 2009 in one area (Moab). The Department is preparing other providers in that region of the State to use the medical information exchange.

Vital Records Certificate Activity	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009
Births	51,711	53,507	55,476	56,713	55,971
Deaths	13,573	13,966	14,525	14,539	14,434
Fetal Deaths	311	307	285	322	284
Induced Abortions	3,554	3,556	2,784	3,891	N/A
Marriages	23,933	24,592	24,323	23,947	N/A
Divorces	6,818	10,020	9,126	9,611	N/A
Ancillary Records	4,669	6,701	6,244	6,486	6,565
Other New Records	2,456	2,624	2,794	3,048	3,026
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,025</b>	<b>115,273</b>	<b>115,557</b>	<b>118,557</b>	<b>80,280</b>

### Vital Records Trends

The Center for Health Data processes vital records for the State. This information is shown in the table to the right. This information shows two trends: (1) FY 2009 is the first year since FY 2005 that births have gone down year-over-year. In FY 2009 births went down by 1% from FY 2008.

MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES										
Case Type	FY 2005	% of Cases	FY 2006	% of Cases	FY 2007	% of Cases	FY 2008	% of Cases	FY 2009	% of Cases
Natural	656	34.78%	654	34.42%	743	37.00%	716	33.46%	615	29.38%
Accidents	454	24.07%	457	24.05%	485	23.00%	577	26.96%	664	31.72%
Suicides	370	19.62%	345	18.16%	365	18.00%	385	17.99%	409	19.54%
Undetermined	348	18.45%	379	19.95%	456	19.00%	384	17.94%	339	16.20%
Homicides	58	3.08%	65	3.42%	68	3.00%	78	3.64%	56	2.68%
Pending	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	10	0.48%
<b>Total Autopsies</b>	<b>1,886</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>2,117</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
*Terminated	1,461		1,455		1,466		1,452		1,515	
*Inquiries	1,638		1,640		1,700		1,875		1,949	
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>4,985</b>		<b>4,995</b>		<b>5,283</b>		<b>5,467</b>		<b>5,557</b>	

\*Inquiries and Terminated Cases: Not examined at OME, but are processed and investigated.

### Medical Examiner

The Office of the Medical Examiner (OME) is responsible for the investigation and certification of any sudden and/or unexpected death, which occurs within the State of Utah. The OME is involved to a varying degree in approximately 25 percent of the deaths in Utah each year. The Office of the Medical Examiner provides information and expertise to health care providers, EMTs, law enforcement officials, the courts and attorneys concerning issues relating to death and injury within Utah. Since FY 2005, the total number of cases handled by the Medical Examiner has grown 11% from 4,985 (FY 2005) to 5,557 (FY 2009). The Inquiries and Terminated

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OPERATIONS

Cases are not examined by the Medical Examiner's Office but they are processed and investigated. The last five years' activities are detailed above.

**BUDGET DETAIL**

The budget listed in the table below details the budget allocations in the base budget bill.

Health - Executive Director's Operations						
Sources of Finance	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Appropriated	Changes	FY 2010 Revised	Changes	FY 2011* Base Budget
General Fund	6,967,300	7,340,600	0	7,340,600	(146,800)	7,193,800
General Fund, One-time	(716,500)	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	15,415,800	14,430,000	5,527,300	19,957,300	(4,488,500)	15,468,800
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act	2,000,000	1,230,000	0	1,230,000	(1,230,000)	0
Dedicated Credits Revenue	2,880,800	2,495,200	150,300	2,645,500	120,400	2,765,900
GFR - Cat & Dog Spay & Neuter	66,200	80,000	0	80,000	0	80,000
GFR - Children's Organ Transplant Trust	100,000	100,000	0	100,000	0	100,000
TFR - Dept. of Public Safety Rest. Acct	0	100,000	210,000	310,000	(210,000)	100,000
Organ Donation Contribution Fund	113,000	113,000	0	113,000	0	113,000
Transfers	(750,500)	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers - Within Agency	1,237,100	13,400	42,600	56,000	0	56,000
Lapsing Balance	(142,000)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,171,200</b>	<b>\$25,902,200</b>	<b>\$5,930,200</b>	<b>\$31,832,400</b>	<b>(\$5,954,900)</b>	<b>\$25,877,500</b>
<b>Programs</b>						
Center for Health Data	5,369,300	4,795,500	1,000,400	5,795,900	(77,100)	5,718,800
Executive Director	2,687,700	3,146,200	(574,300)	2,571,900	(54,000)	2,517,900
Medical Examiner	2,618,800	3,079,200	(23,800)	3,055,400	(21,100)	3,034,300
Preparedness Grants	11,748,600	10,390,300	5,502,300	15,892,600	(5,763,300)	10,129,300
Program Operations	4,746,800	4,491,000	25,600	4,516,600	(39,400)	4,477,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,171,200</b>	<b>\$25,902,200</b>	<b>\$5,930,200</b>	<b>\$31,832,400</b>	<b>(\$5,954,900)</b>	<b>\$25,877,500</b>
<b>Categories of Expenditure</b>						
Personnel Services	11,453,400	10,558,300	1,114,300	11,672,600	(333,500)	11,339,100
In-state Travel	58,300	47,900	(8,700)	39,200	(6,300)	32,900
Out-of-state Travel	92,700	105,500	(19,300)	86,200	1,400	87,600
Current Expense	5,759,300	4,697,600	2,948,800	7,646,400	(1,465,900)	6,180,500
DP Current Expense	3,637,600	3,348,500	144,300	3,492,800	(210,100)	3,282,700
DP Capital Outlay	58,600	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	435,300	0	164,900	164,900	(164,900)	0
Other Charges/Pass Thru	5,676,000	7,144,400	1,585,900	8,730,300	(3,775,600)	4,954,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,171,200</b>	<b>\$25,902,200</b>	<b>\$5,930,200</b>	<b>\$31,832,400</b>	<b>(\$5,954,900)</b>	<b>\$25,877,500</b>
<b>Other Data</b>						
Budgeted FTE	149.3	152.1	11.8	163.9	(4.6)	159.3
Vehicles	27.0	28.0	(1.0)	27.0	0.0	27.0

\*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

1. The Analyst recommends that the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee approve a base budget for FY 2011 for the Executive Director's Operations of \$25,877,500 with the program allocations and plan of financing according to the table under the Budget Detail.
2. The Analyst recommends moving \$30,000 one-time General Fund from Executive Director's Operations to Epidemiology and Laboratory Services to help fund the moving costs to the new laboratory in FY 2010.