

County Coroner (Dept. 31)

Mission Statement: *The McHenry County Coroner's Office exists to provide the people of McHenry County with a thorough investigation in the event of a death, and to ensure that the facts surrounding the death are as complete as possible so as to arrive at the cause and manner of death.*

Department Created By: *Illinois Compiled Statutes (55 ILCS 5/Div. 3-3) Coroner.*

Classification – Public Safety

Background: Per Illinois State Statute, each Coroner shall be conservator of the peace in his/her county, and, in the performance of his/her duties as such, shall have the same powers as the sheriff. When it appears from the papers in a case that the sheriff or his deputy is a party thereto, or from an affidavit filed that he is interested therein, or is of kin, or partial to or prejudiced against either party, the summons, execution or other process may be directed to the coroner, who shall perform all the duties in relation thereto, and attend to the suit in like manner as if he/she were sheriff; and the interests, consanguinity, partiality or prejudice of the sheriff shall not be cause for a change of venue.

Functions: MANDATED BY STATE STATUTE

- **Unexplained Deaths** - Every Coroner, whenever, as soon as he/she knows or is informed that the deceased body of any person is found, or lying within his/her county, whose death is suspected of being: A sudden or violent death; A maternal or fetal death due to abortion or any death due to a sex crime or a crime against nature; A death where the circumstances are suspicious, obscure, mysterious or otherwise unexplained, or where, in the written opinion of the attending physician, the cause of death is not determined; A death where addiction to alcohol or to any drug that may have been a contributory cause; or A death where the decedent was not attended by a licensed physician; shall go to the place where the dead body is, and take charge of the same and shall make a preliminary investigation into the circumstances of the death.
- **Motor Vehicle Deaths** – In cases of accidental death involving a motor vehicle in which the decedent was the operator or a suspected operator of a motor vehicle, or a pedestrian 16 years of age or older, the coroner shall require a blood specimen to be tested for drugs and alcohol.
- **All Other Deaths** - In all other cases coming within the jurisdiction of the coroner, blood and whenever possible, urine samples shall be analyzed for the presence of alcohol and other drugs.
- **Autopsies** – A complete autopsy must be performed on all children under the age of two who die, and on anyone regardless of age, who dies while in police custody.
- **Inquest** – In cases where the circumstances of death are unclear, an inquest may be held to determine the manner of death.

2024 Highlights

- The process began of upgrading/remodeling the morgue and office areas with WOLD Architects and Engineering. This will increase the efficiency and operations within those areas for the next 50 yrs.
- Purchased a new Dodge Durango to increase the Coroner fleet without using general fund taxpayer dollars.
- Through cost savings initiatives, helped reduce the Coroner's budget by almost 10%.
- Initiated a new prescription and OTC drug take back program with no cost to the citizens of McHenry County.
- Upgraded the current software system with COHERO that has maximized efficiency in regards death investigations, deputy reports/notes and helps strengthen statistical analysis.
- Finalized the \$113,175 DOJ Grant that helped upgrade aging equipment, increase security, and paid for continuing education for deputies.
- Increased the total of ABMDI Certification for deputies which is the gold standard in the field.
- Had 3 deputies participate in the acclaimed Basic Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course through St. Louis University
- Continued our collaboration with Gift of Hope's tissue and organ donation to help save lives.
- Continued our collaboration with Lamplight for whole-body tissue donation for surgical training and medical research, with no cost of cremations to the family.
- Continued collaboratively working in an accurate and timely manner to determine the cause and manner of death with law enforcement, fire departments, hospitals, and all other agencies.

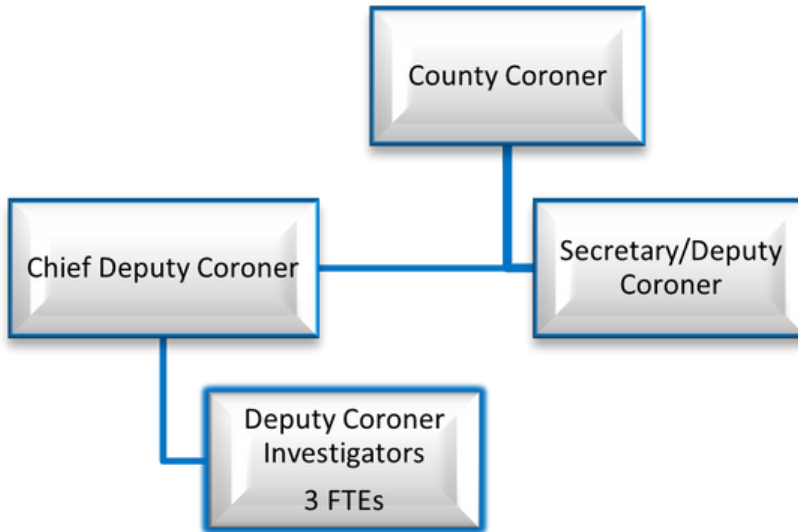
2025 Goals

- Start and complete construction of upgrading/remodeling the morgue and office areas. This will increase the efficiency and operations with these areas for the next 50 yrs.
- Purchase a new Dodge Durango to rotate out the last aging vehicle without using general fund taxpayer dollars.
- Through cost savings initiatives to help reduce the Coroner's budget by up to 10% for FY2024-2025.
- Increase the total of ABMDI Certifications for deputies, which is the gold standard in the field.
- Increase community outreach of the Coroner's Office to students, the elderly and the general public.
- Purchase a new trailer, without using property tax dollars, for our disaster readiness.
- Continue our collaboration with Gift of Hope, tissue and organ donation to help save lives.
- Continue our collaboration with Lamplight for whole-body tissue donation for surgical training and medical research, with no cost for cremations to the family.
- Continue collaboratively working in an accurate and timely manner to determine the cause and manner of death with law enforcement, fire departments, hospitals, and all other agencies.

Full Time Equivalents History

Job Title	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	FTE	FTE	FTE
County Coroner	1.00	1.00	1.00
Chief Deputy Coroner	1.00	1.00	1.00
Deputy Coroner/Investigator	3.00	3.00	3.00
Secretary/Deputy Coroner	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total Dept 31 - County Coroner	6.00	6.00	6.00

Organizational Chart



County of McHenry
2025 Proposed Budget
31 - Coroner

Category	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Appropriated	FY2024 Actual (YTD)	FY2025 Budgeted
<i>General Fund</i>					
96 - Misc. Income	-	-	-	727	-
98 - Operating Trnsfrs	-	-	32,000	50,000	50,000
Revenue	-	-	32,000	50,727	50,000
30 - Personnel	360,651	381,171	401,446	283,286	418,787
40 - Contractual	218,022	236,539	174,150	112,322	249,055
50 - Commodities	14,581	16,784	24,600	13,173	-
Expense	593,254	634,495	600,196	408,781	667,842

Category	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Appropriated	FY2024 Actual (YTD)	FY2025 Budgeted
<i>Coroner's Fund</i>					
80 - Fees & Charges for Service	85,066	96,744	85,000	117,750	176,250
94 - Governmental	5,130	112,771	4,400	-	-
95 - Interest Earnings	826	1,799	-	5,524	10,000
96 - Misc. Income	10,364	11,448	2,000	-	-
Revenue	101,386	222,762	91,400	123,274	186,250
30 - Personnel	-	-	2,100	-	-
40 - Contractual	33,806	37,165	19,800	6,429	26,650
50 - Commodities	26,490	10,485	23,750	6,332	48,350
60 - Capital Outlay	3,075	65,351	-	39,518	10,000
67 - Operating Transfers	-	7,000	32,000	57,000	50,000
68 - Fund Balance Enhancement	-	-	13,750	-	51,250
Expense	63,371	120,001	91,400	109,278	186,250

To View Interactive Budget (both Financial and Non Financial Information)

<https://mchenrycountyil.openbook.questica.com/#/spotlight/efe8db06-7ac6-45bc-9f0f-845fa5d1f6d0>

McHenry County Government

Fiscal Year 2025 Supplemental Request

(Include only supplemental requests not covered on the personnel and capital outlay request forms)

DEPARTMENT: Coroner

FUND: 303 (Use a separate sheet for each fund)

(Please give a brief description and justification for the supplemental request)

Requested Item: Trailer with Accessories and Equipment

Projected Cost: \$10,000

Division Code: 3100

Main Account: 602000 and 507200

Justification: (Please start justification on next line)

This trailer will be used specifically in case of a disaster that would include mass casualties. It will be able to haul increased equipment such as tables, tents, chairs, lighting, coolers, bags, etc. needed in these types of situations. This trailer will have great organizational value if these disasters do occur.

Requested Item:

Projected Cost:

Division Code:

Main Account:

Justification: (Please start justification on next line)

Requested Item:

Projected Cost:

Division Code:

Main Account:

Justification: (Please start justification on next line)

TOTAL DEPARTMENT SUPPLEMENT REQUESTS: 10000

Use as many sheets as necessary

The projected cost should be posted under the supplemental column in the Questica budget data entry screen. If the supplemental request is approved it will moved into the department budget.