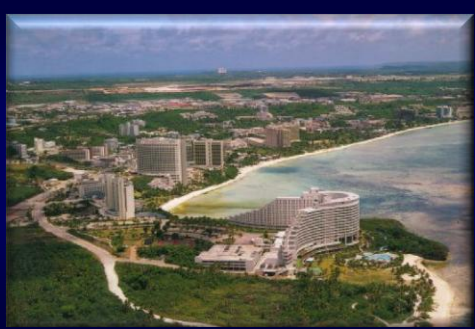
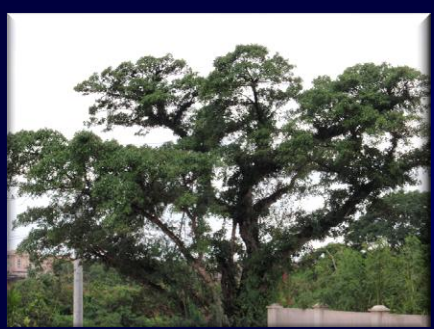


OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

UFISINAN GE'HILO' MEDIKON EKSAMINA

A Report to Our Citizens

For Fiscal Year 2010



About Office of Chief Medical Examiner

The **Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)** was created under Public Law 11-37 known as the Post-Mortem Examination Act which was passed into law on May 08, 1971 under the guidance of the Eleventh Guam Legislature and enacted by the people of the Territory of Guam and then Governor of Guam Carlos G. Camacho.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner is controlled and supervised by the Commission on Post-Mortem Examinations which comprise of the Attorney General of Guam, the Chief of Guam Police Department, the Director of Public Health & Social Services, the Administrator of Guam Memorial Hospital, the President of the Guam Medical Society, and the current Chief Medical Examiner.

Strategic Goals and Objectives

In achieving its Missions, OCME is committed to:

- ✓ Provide timely medico-legal* death investigations.
- ✓ Establish a true Cause & Manner of death by performing death examinations.
- ✓ Assist families and/or the public by conducting consultation so to promote health awareness of various illnesses/diseases.
- ✓ Increase the awareness of the Fundamentals of Medico-legal Death Investigations to law enforcement authorities, school students (middle, high, & college levels), attorneys, jurors, judges, and the public.
- ✓ Provide student internship acceptance for students relating to the fields of forensics, law enforcement, medical, and/or nursing.

**Medico-Legal: Relating to or concerned with medicine and law.*

Table of Contents

About OCME.....1

Performance Measures.....2

Our Finances.....3

What's Next?4

Mission Statement

Our mission is to conduct investigations, autopsies, and toxicology analysis on all deaths which occur within the Territory of Guam and to provide support with health and public safety to Guam's community by establishing a true cause and manner of death for individuals and/or to aid in criminal and civil court proceedings working closely with the Attorney General, the Courts, Guam Police Department & other law enforcement agencies, and defense attorneys.

OCME Performance Measures

FY 2009 - 2010



OCME Staff

Our *Mission & Goals* are continuously accomplished with only three employees. Each employee has a different job description but performs similar duties and responsibilities on a daily basis to fulfill our goals.



Aurelio A. Espinola, M.D.
Director

Compiling Data

In addition to conducting medico-legal death investigations, OCME compiles data for the completion of Death Certificates which are filed with the Office of Vital Statistics, DPHSS and other documents such as but not limited to Verification of Deaths (VOD), Certification of Non-communicable Disease (NCD), autopsy & non-autopsy reports for each case, etc.

The following performance measures show the total medical examiner cases investigated based on the manner of death.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER			
(Distribution by manner of death)			
Presumptive Death	2009	2010	Percentage Change
Total Cases Investigated	529	522	-1.32%
Presumptive Death Certificates Issued	1	0	-100.00%
Manner of Death (Autopsied Cases)			
Natural	53	51	-3.77%
Suicide	11	1	-90.91%
Homicide	6	4	-33.33%
Auto Accidents (Motor Vehicle Accidents)	13	16	23.08%
Drowning Accident	11	6	-45.45%
Aircraft/Industrial Accident	1	1	0.00%
Other Accident	3	9	200.00%
Could Not Be Determined	1	3	200.00%
Total Autopsied Death Cases	99	91	-8.08%
Manner of Death (Non-Autopsied Cases)			
Natural	409	389	-4.89%
Suicide (Sudden or Delayed Death)	19	30	57.89%
Auto Accidents (Passenger and/or Delayed Deaths)	0	2	0.00%
Near Drowning Accident (Delayed Death)	0	3	0.00%
Other Accident (Sudden/Delayed Death)	1	6	500.00%
Could Not Be Determined	0	1	0.00%
Total Non-Autopsied Death Cases	429	431	0.47%

Medico-Legal Death Investigation (Calendar Years 2006-2010)					
Types of Investigations	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Autopsies	108	117	127	99	91
Non-Autopsies	326	379	363	429	431
Presumptive Death Issued	0	1	0	1	0
Total CME Cases	434	497	490	529	522

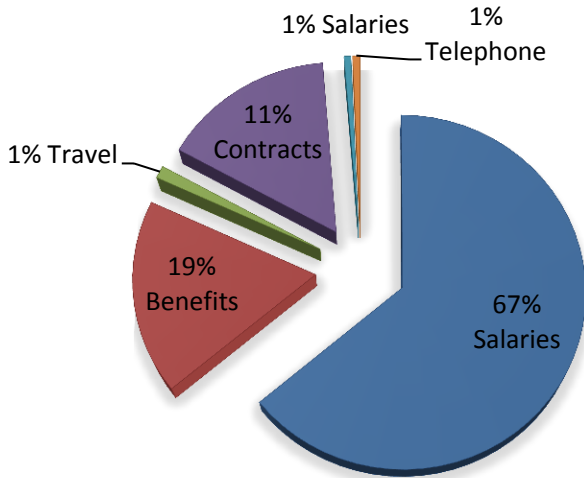
Based on the chart above, there was a 20% increase of medico-legal* death investigations when comparing years 2006 and 2010. The chart also indicates a median of 497 medico-legal death investigation cases per year when comparing FY 2006 thru 2010.

*Medico-Legal: Relating to or concerned with medicine and law.

OCME's Finances

FY 2009 - 2010

Appropriations

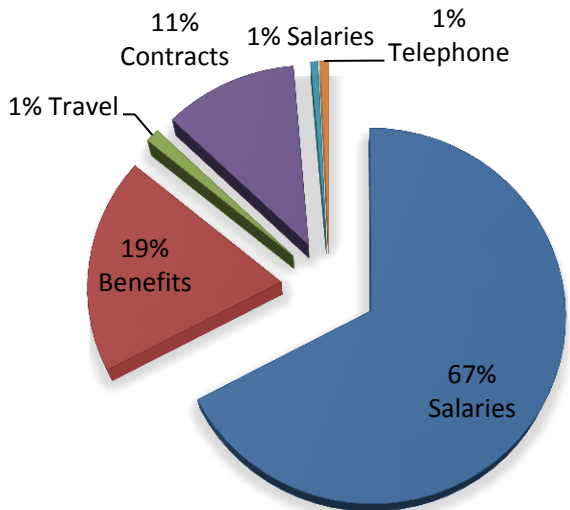


For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2010 and September 30, 2009.

APPROPRIATION			
	FY10	FY09	% Change
Salaries	\$256,634	\$254,954	0.66%
Benefits	71,346	75,999	-6.12%
Travel	4,580	4,607	-0.59%
Contracts	63,251	56,664	11.63%
Supplies	2,454	1,240	97.94%
Telephone	2,684	2,682	0.09%
Total	\$400,949	\$396,144	1.21%

*Amounts may not add due to rounding.

Expenditures



For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2010 and September 30, 2009.

EXPENDITURES			
	FY10	FY09	% Change
Salaries	\$256,634	\$254,954	0.66%
Benefits	71,346	75,999	-6.12%
Travel	4,580	4,607	-0.59%
Contracts	43,874	56,194	-21.93%
Supplies	2,454	1,240	97.92%
Telephone	2,661	2,608	2.03%
Total	\$381,548	\$395,601	-3.55%

*Amounts may not add due to rounding.

Operations

OCME's operations comprise of:

Off-island Travel:

The Chief Medical Examiner is allowed only one Seminar/Conference attendance per year. Based on the CME's contract agreement.

Contract Agreements:

Locum Tenens Contract: to provide our agency with an Acting Medical Examiner during the absence of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Memorandum of Understanding: between Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA) & OCME to provide services such as but not limited laboratory, housekeeping, morgue coverage, maintenance, etc.

Purchasing of office supplies: which need replenishment only. (Supplies are purchased only on an "As needed basis." This minimizes the manner & amount of usage of available supplies within our agency.

The **Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)** is 100% funded by the government of Guam General Funds. There are no federally funded positions or expenditures at this time. There are no revenues generated by our agency. We provide both public safety & public health assistance to the island.

OCME is part of the GovGuam audit. GovGuam received an unqualified (clean) opinion. Most recent information on OCME finances can be found at <http://www.guam.gov/?pg=finances> or at the OCME's website: <http://ocme.guam.gov>

Future Outlook & Challenges



Hours of Operation:

Monday – Friday:

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Closed on:

Weekends & all Govt. of Guam
Holidays

*We are located right behind the
Guam Memorial Hospital next to the
Emergency Room.*



What's Next? ...

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) main future challenge is “BUDGET CUTS” which adversely result in the following:

Inadequate Personnel Available:

There is only three staff providing services to the public both on and off-island. Obtaining additional personnel is necessary for the potential rise in Guam’s population in the near future relative to the anticipated military buildup of over 4,000 active military personnel & dependents and continuous influx of individuals from other islands into Guam.

Nonfunctioning and Lack of Office & Morgue Equipment:

With the current government of Guam deficit, funding for replacement and/or repair of office & morgue equipment is scarce to none. Currently, many of OCME’s office & morgue equipment are barely to no longer operable. In addition, there are insufficient office equipments that are frequently breaking down causing personnel to utilize personal funds to outsource the needed services from such equipments.

Office Environment Disadvantages:

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner’s workspace not including the Morgue area is approximately 1,943 square feet. There is only 39 square feet of unoccupied area for personnel & client usage. With the continuous flow of workload, its office space is decreasing giving limited room for OCME personnel to work and assist clients in a safe environment. With the limited workspace available, clients have little to no privacy when being interviewed by personnel.



We will continue to perform our duties and responsibilities to the best of our abilities on a daily basis to fulfill our mission and goals.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you like this report?

Do you believe that it should include more information?

Please let us know by contacting Johanna Bamba,
Administrative Assistant/Office Manager at

(671) 646-9363 or 647-2369, cme.guam@gmail.com or write us
at #325 Duenas Drive, Tamuning Guam, 96913.

Prepared by: Castro, A. (Fall 2011). BA401
Government Accounting. School of
Business and Public Administration,
University of Guam under the guidance of
Dr. Doreen Crisostomo, CGFM.