

ORPHANS' COURT - 06

MISSION AND SERVICES

Mission - The Orphans' Court provides administration of decedents' estates and minors' property to the citizens of the County in order to protect decedents' and minors' assets.

The Court's mission supports accomplishing the countywide vision by:

- Working to support families and individuals in need

The agency is responsible for –

Services	Customers	Impact on Customers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration of decedents' estates, primarily through probate hearings; determining the validity of wills and claims against estates. ▪ Administration of minors' property, including appointing and supervising the guardianship of minors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ County citizens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect decedents' assets ▪ Protect minors' assets

FY 2010 BUDGET SUMMARY

The FY 2010 proposed budget for the Orphans' Court is \$385,500, a decrease of \$5,900 or 1.5% under the FY 2009 approved budget.

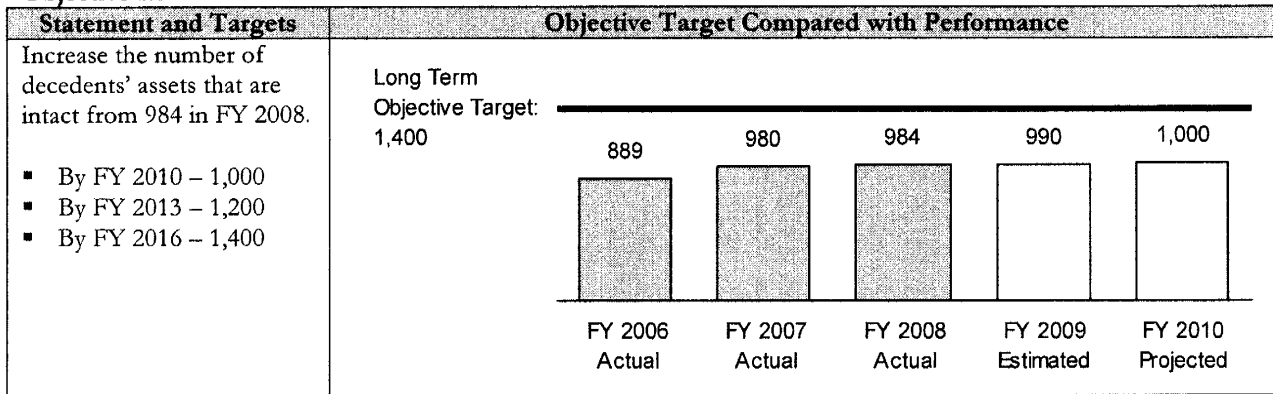
Where the Money Goes –

FY 2009 APPROVED BUDGET	\$391,400
Compensation adjustments for position changes	(\$3,600)
Removal of Summer Youth Program funds	(\$1,500)
Fringe benefits rate change from 21.9% to 23.91%	\$5,100
Reduction of books and periodicals as the result of a free subscription of a West Law database from the State	(\$600)
Reduction in the number of professional association memberships	(\$1,800)
Reduction to operating and office supplies	(\$3,500)
FY 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET	\$385,500

SERVICES DELIVERY PLAN AND PERFORMANCE

GOAL 1 – To provide protection for assets of a deceased resident of the County in order to carry out the wishes of the decedent.

Objective 1.1 -



Performance Measures –

Measure Name	Measure Category	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Estimated	FY 2010 Projected
Number of judges	Input	3	3	3	3	3
Number of support staff	Input	3	3	3	3	3
Number of hearings	Output	1,682	1,949	2,426	2,500	2,700
Average number of hearings per judge	Efficiency	560.7	649.7	808.7	833.3	900.0
Number of pleadings reviewed within 24 hours	Quality	264	265	268	270	290
Number of intact estates	Outcome	889	980	984	990	1,000

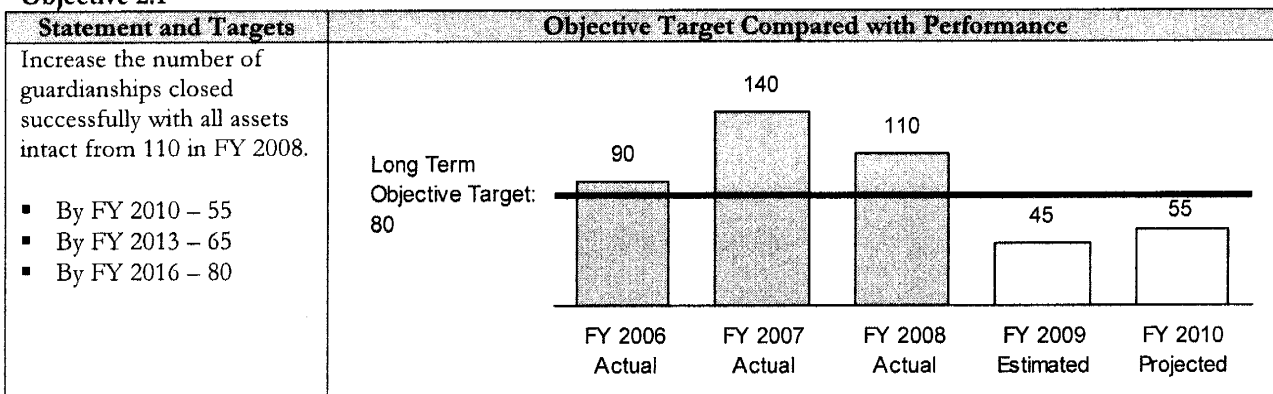
Performance Measures Explanation – The Court is mandated by the State to have three judges. The increase in the number of hearings and intact assets is due to the increase in deaths in the County.

Strategy to Accomplish the Objective –

- **Strategy 1.11 –** To facilitate the estates of deceased residents of the County in accordance with the laws of the estates and trusts and State of Maryland rules for probate.

GOAL 2 - To provide protection of minors' assets until they reach the age of majority in order to ensure proper monetary distribution for their needs.

Objective 2.1 -



Performance Measures –

Measure Name	Measure Category	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Estimated	FY 2010 Projected
Number of judges	Input	3	3	3	3	3
Number of support staff	Input	3	3	3	3	3
Number of hearings	Output	633	593	753	780	800
Average number of hearings per judge	Efficiency	211.0	197.7	251.0	260.0	266.7
Number of pleadings reviewed within 24 hours	Quality	43	41	49	51	60
Number of intact guardianships	Outcome	90	140	110	45	55

Performance Measures Explanation – The Court is mandated by the State to have three judges. The increase in the number of hearings and intact guardianships is due to the increase in deaths in the County. Intact guardianships means minor’s property the Court is responsible for managing and protecting.

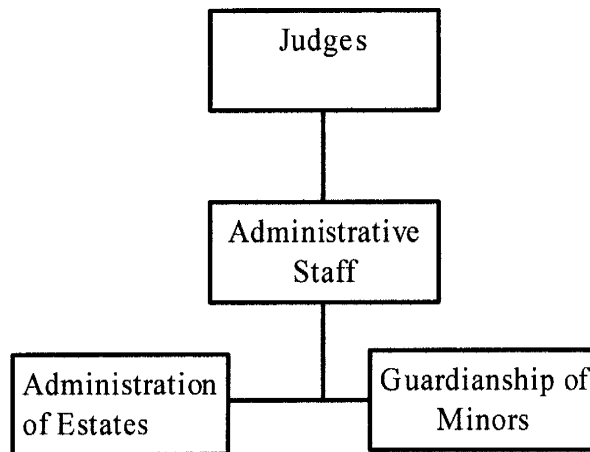
Strategy to Accomplish the Objective –

- **Strategy 2.11 –** To help maintain and protect the interest of minors’ assets until the age of majority at which time the guardianship can be closed.

FY 2009 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Maintained an efficient and effective level of service to the public despite an increase in the number of estate pleadings filed.
- Worked with other Orphans’ Courts to create a statewide resource which includes a breakdown of rules and statutes, the opinions of the Attorney General and lists frequently asked questions by other judges.
- Held quarterly meetings with Estates and Trusts Section of the Prince George’s County Bar Association to discuss new laws, procedures or concerns of the Bar and its clients and any other matters relating to probate.

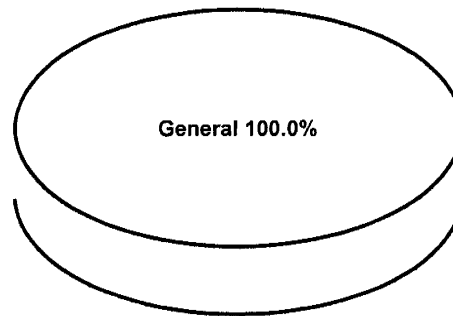
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



	FY2008 ACTUAL	FY2009 BUDGET	FY2009 ESTIMATED	FY2010 PROPOSED	CHANGE FY09-FY10
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 371,125	\$ 391,400	\$ 369,000	\$ 385,500	-1.5%
EXPENDITURE DETAIL					
Orphans' Court	371,125	391,400	369,000	385,500	-1.5%
Recoveries	0	0	0	0	0%
TOTAL	\$ 371,125	\$ 391,400	\$ 369,000	\$ 385,500	-1.5%
SOURCES OF FUNDS					
General Fund	\$ 371,125	\$ 391,400	\$ 369,000	\$ 385,500	-1.5%
Other County Operating Funds:					
TOTAL	\$ 371,125	\$ 391,400	\$ 369,000	\$ 385,500	-1.5%

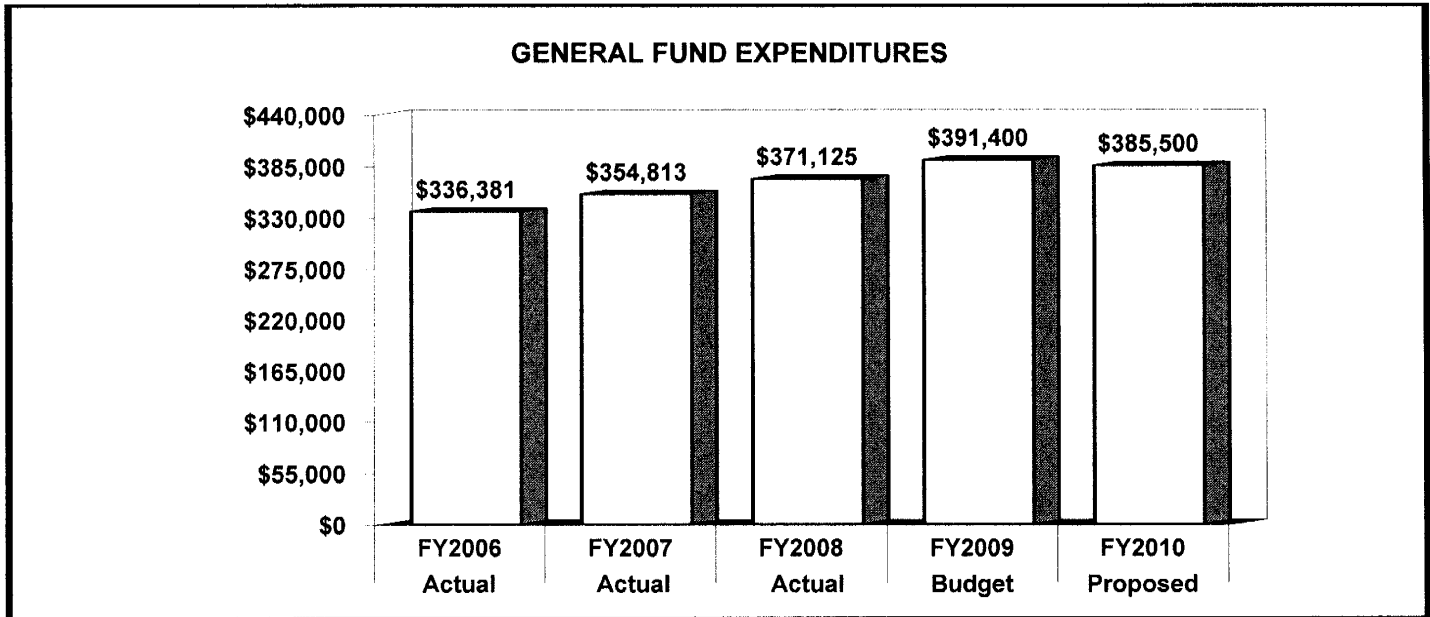
FY2010 SOURCES OF FUNDS

This agency's funding is derived solely from the County's General Fund.

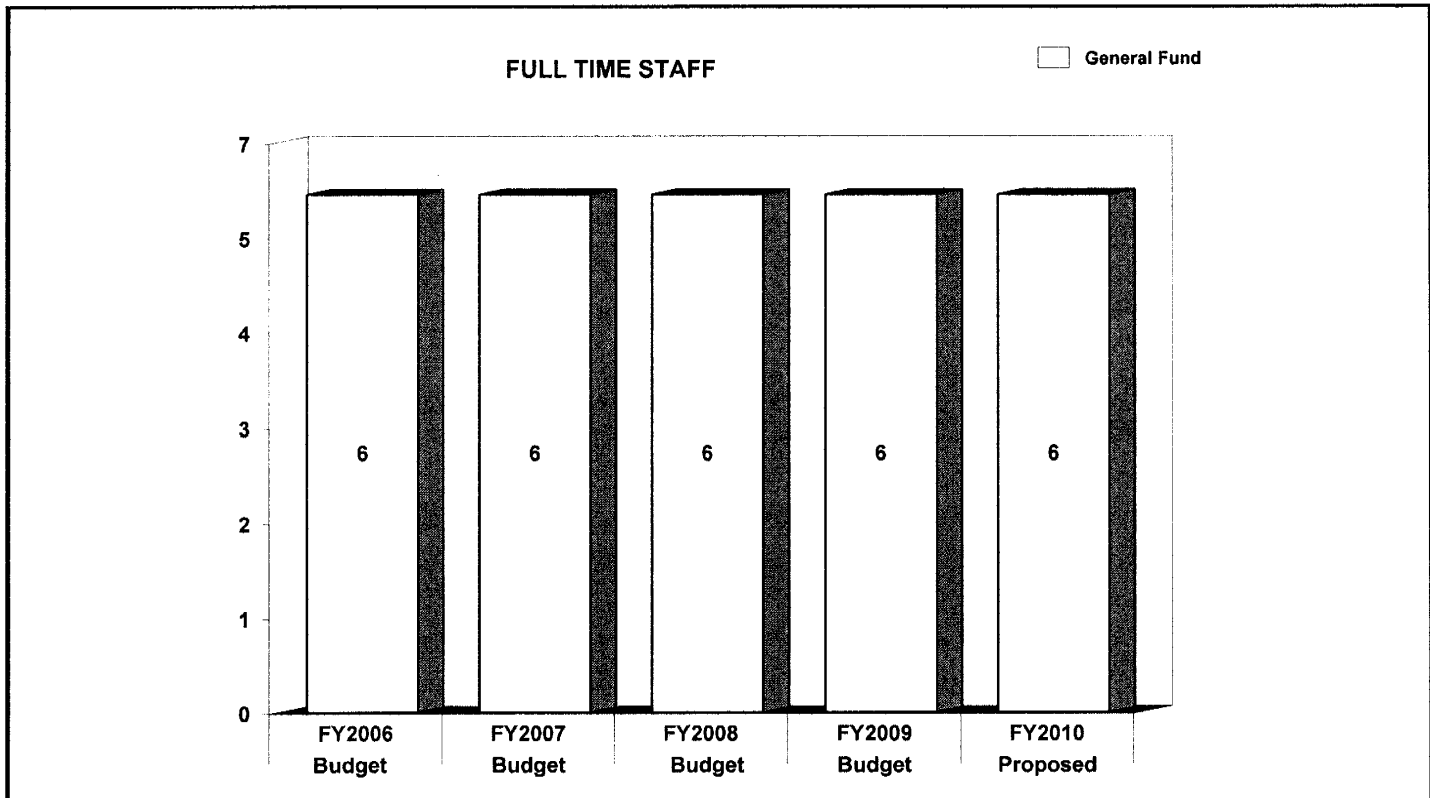


	FY2008 BUDGET	FY2009 BUDGET	FY2010 PROPOSED	CHANGE FY09-FY10
GENERAL FUND STAFF				
Full Time - Civilian	6	6	6	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Part Time	0	0	0	0
Limited Term	0	0	0	0
OTHER STAFF				
Full Time - Civilian				
Full Time - Sworn				
Part Time				
Limited Term Grant Funded				
TOTAL				
Full Time - Civilian	6	6	6	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Part Time	0	0	0	0
Limited Term	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS BY CATEGORY	FULL TIME	PART TIME	LIMITED TERM
Judges	3	0	0
Administrative Assistant IV	1	0	0
Administrative Assistant I	1	0	0
General Clerk III	1	0	0
TOTAL	6	0	0



The agency's actual expenditures increased 10.3% from FY 2006 to FY 2008. This increase was primarily driven by compensation and fringe benefit expenses. The FY 2010 proposed budget is 1.5% less than the FY 2009 approved budget.



The authorized staffing level of six positions remains unchanged from FY 2009.

	FY2008 ACTUAL	FY2009 BUDGET	FY2009 ESTIMATED	FY2010 PROPOSED	CHANGE FY09-FY10
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY					
Compensation	\$ 286,914	\$ 304,800	\$ 293,900	\$ 299,700	-1.7%
Fringe Benefits	69,328	66,600	69,200	71,700	7.7%
Operating Expenses	14,883	20,000	5,900	14,100	-29.5%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0%
	\$ 371,125	\$ 391,400	\$ 369,000	\$ 385,500	-1.5%
Recoveries	0	0	0	0	0%
TOTAL	\$ 371,125	\$ 391,400	\$ 369,000	\$ 385,500	-1.5%
STAFF					
Full Time - Civilian	-	6	-	6	0%
Full Time - Sworn	-	0	-	0	0%
Part Time	-	0	-	0	0%
Limited Term	-	0	-	0	0%

In FY 2010, compensation decreases 1.7% due to the reallocation of one staff position. Fringe benefits increase due to an adjustment in the fringe benefit rate.

In FY 2010, operating expenses will decrease due to reductions in operating and office supplies, books and periodicals, and memberships.

MAJOR OPERATING EXPENDITURES	
FY2010	
Office Automation	\$ 6,300
Operating and Office Supplies	\$ 5,000
Telephones	\$ 2,200
Memberships	\$ 500
Books and Periodicals	\$ 100

