

BCCO Chaplain Program – Call Volume & Compensation Overview

The proposed chaplain role for the Baldwin County Coroner's Office would provide crisis response, staff support, and family assistance during traumatic incidents while maintaining a manageable annual activation schedule.

Estimated Annual Activity

- **Minimum Call Outs:** 25 per year
- **Maximum Call Outs:** 50 per year
- **Average Expected Volume:** Approximately 2–4 responses per month

Types of Responses

The chaplain would primarily respond to:

- Child deaths
- Homicides or particularly horrific scenes
- High-emotional-impact incidents involving families
- Requests for next-of-kin assistance or grief support
- Staff support after traumatic investigations

Coordination with Law Enforcement Chaplains

- Shared response capability with local law enforcement chaplain programs when appropriate
- Coordination on:
 - Family resource referrals
 - Death notifications
 - Crisis ministry
 - Emotional/spiritual support services

Staff & Organizational Responsibilities

- Attendance at approximately **6 staff meetings annually**
- Availability for:
 - Critical incident debriefing
 - Staff wellness support
 - Peer support and morale assistance
 - Community relations functions as requested

Proposed Compensation Structure

- **No Salary Requested**
 - Position will serve on a volunteer basis with no regular salary or hourly compensation requested.
- **Requested Support**
 - Appropriate issued uniform and identification consistent with agency standards.
 - Reimbursement for mileage expenses associated with official call-outs, responses, meetings, training, and other authorized duties in accordance with applicable county/state travel policies.

This compensation reflects:

- On-call availability
- Incident response demands
- Meeting attendance
- Emotional support services provided to families and staff
- Coordination with partner agencies

Operational Notes

The chaplain position is intended to:

- Enhance compassionate service to families
- Support investigator wellness after traumatic scenes
- Provide continuity of care during difficult death investigations
- Strengthen interagency cooperation with public safety partners

The position would function as a supplemental support role rather than a full-time response position, with activation based upon scene severity, family need, and investigator request.