



**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY**  
118 NORTH CLARK STREET  
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**TONI PRECKWINKLE**  
PRESIDENT

To the Residents of Cook County:

I am pleased to present to you the Cook County Budget for Fiscal Year 2018.

This \$5 billion budget reflects our ongoing commitment to making Cook County healthier, safer and more efficient. We must continue our progress in expanding insurance coverage and critical health services to all residents, regardless of need. We must continue our progress in reducing the Cook County Jail population, ensuring that we are not needlessly detaining non-violent persons accused of crimes in the jail simply because they cannot afford bond. This longstanding practice is expensive to taxpayers and does not materially improve public safety. And we must continue our progress in pursuing innovative partnerships with non-profits that, together with Cook County government, invest in our most vulnerable communities, bridging service gaps and meeting resident needs where they live.

This investment is critical in the fights against food, housing and employment insecurity. And as I've often said, the economic potential of Cook County will never be fully realized if we let certain communities fail while others thrive, because we are unwilling to do the difficult work of confronting our structural socioeconomic issues. In 2017, the McArthur Foundation recognized Cook County government's important work in improving the criminal justice system by awarding us a \$1.85 million grant to continue our work at the forefront of this nationally important issue.

Cook County has a proud legacy of service as the social safety net for our residents, especially when other levels of government pull back on their commitments. The State of Illinois consistently has owed the County many millions of dollars each month, and we've had to budget around the shortfalls we anticipate when Springfield is either unwilling or late in meeting its financial obligations to us. Yet Cook County government has made the tough decisions necessary to meet our moral and fiscal obligations, protecting vital services to residents while also producing the eighth balanced budget of my tenure as president.

Almost half of Cook County's budget is spent on public health and we are continuing to expand our role as a provider of insurance to Medicaid patients and a provider of services to all, regardless of need. In recent years, Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCHHS) has become a system of choice as opposed to of last resort, while also reducing the



cost burden to taxpayers. As a result of the Affordable Care Act, and technological advancements embraced by CCHHS to make health care delivery more efficient, we have reduced its taxpayer allocation by 75% over the seven years of my tenure. Investing and encouraging healthier residents now creates long-term savings for the County because sicker patients are much more expensive to treat. Even with a significant increase in the number of insured patients, Cook County still provides 45 percent of the charity care in the County, even though our hospitals are only two of the 72 hospitals located here.

This year, we had to solve for a \$315.9 million budget gap, which was difficult. Despite our fiscal challenges, I believe this budget is reasonable, responsible and responsive. I look forward to continuing the great progress we've made together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Toni Preckwinkle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Toni Preckwinkle



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished  
Budget Presentation  
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**Cook County**

**Illinois**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

**December 1, 2016**

*Christopher P. Morrill*

Executive Director

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Cook County, Illinois, for its Annual Budget for the fiscal year beginning December 1, 2016. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as a financial plan, as an operations guide, and as a communication device.

The award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

|  |      |
|--|------|
| LISTING OF COMMISSIONERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS | VI   |
| COOK COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART               | VIII |

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| INTRODUCTION                                       | 1  |
| FISCAL YEAR 2018 COOK COUNTY BUDGET OVERVIEW       | 3  |
| CLOSING THE PRELIMINARY GAP                        | 6  |
| FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET POLICY GOALS               | 7  |
| COOK COUNTY LONG-TERM REVENUE AND EXPENSE FORECAST | 13 |
| PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT                             | 18 |
| FUND BALANCE STATEMENT                             | 22 |
| BUDGET PROCESS                                     | 23 |

**REVENUE ESTIMATE**

|                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| INTRODUCTION TO REVENUE               | 27 |
| REVENUE BY SOURCE                     | 29 |
| NON-PROPERTY TAXES                    | 31 |
| GENERAL FUND FEES                     | 37 |
| HEALTH ENTERPRISE FUND                | 39 |
| INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES            | 41 |
| MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES                | 42 |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES               | 43 |
| REVENUE BY SOURCE - TABLE             | 45 |
| INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS | 46 |

**PROPOSED EXPENDITURES**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY   | 55 |
| EXPENDITURES BY TYPE                                      | 57 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES BY FUND                            | 59 |
| SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS, ELECTION FUND & GRANT EXPENDITURES | 63 |
| 2018 EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY              | 64 |
| EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION BY AREA PIE CHART         | 65 |
| BUDGET SUMMARY TABLES                                     | 66 |

**GRANTS**

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| GRANTS OVERVIEW                  | 113 |
| GRANTS SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS | 126 |
| BUDGETED GRANTS                  | 127 |

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| OVERVIEW OF CAPITAL BUDGET                         | 261 |
| DEBT OVERVIEW                                      | 265 |
| RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGETS | 271 |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS                       | 277 |
| CORPORATE PORTFOLIO                                | 295 |
| HEALTH AND HOSPITALS PORTFOLIO                     | 295 |
| PUBLIC SAFETY PORTFOLIO                            | 296 |
| TRANSPORTATION & HIGHWAY CAPITAL PLAN              | 306 |
| FY2018 BUDGET                                      | 312 |
| 2018-2022 SPENDING PRIORITIES                      | 325 |
| CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PROGRAM                          | 339 |

**RESOLUTION**

353

**POLICIES**

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| BUDGETING POLICIES            | 368 |
| COOK COUNTY ANTI-FRAUD POLICY | 378 |

**APPENDICES**

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| APPENDIX A: COUNTY PROFILE       | 383 |
| APPENDIX B: GLOSSARY             | 389 |
| ACRONYMS                         | 397 |
| APPENDIX C: DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY | 399 |
| APPENDIX D: CHART OF ACCOUNTS    | 407 |

PRESIDENT OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

HONORABLE TONI PRECKWINKLE

PRESIDENT, COOK COUNTY BOARD

County Building
118 N. Clark Street, Room 537
Chicago, IL 60602-1304
312-603-6400

www.cookcountygov.com

In addition to presiding at county board meetings, the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, as Chief Executive of the County (Const. Art. 7 § 4 (b)), is responsible for preparing the Annual Executive Budget (submitted to the Board for final approval) and the administration of the County government, except for the responsibilities held by other elected officials. With the consent of the Board, the President appoints the heads of County departments falling under the Board's jurisdiction.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County Building
118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Room 567
Chicago, IL 60602-1304
312-603-6398

Table listing board members and their districts: Richard R. Boykin (D) 1st District, Dennis Deer (D) 2nd District, Jerry Butler (D) 3rd District, Stanley Moore (D) 4th District, Deborah Sims (D) 5th District, Edward M Moody (D) 6th District, Jesus G. Garcia (D) 7th District, Luis Arroyo Jr. (D) 8th District, Peter N. Silvestri (R) 9th District, Bridget Gainer (D) 10th District, John P. Daley (D) 11th District, John A. Fritchey (D) 12th District, Larry Suffredin (D) 13th District, Gregg Goslin (R) 14th District, Timothy O. Schneider (R) 15th District, Jeffrey R. Tobolski (D) 16th District, Sean M. Morrison (R) 17th District

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**COOK COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS**

HONORABLE KAREN YARBROUGH

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HONORABLE KIMBERLY M. FOXX

Suite 3200  
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**COOK COUNTY TREASURER**

HONORABLE MARIA PAPPAS

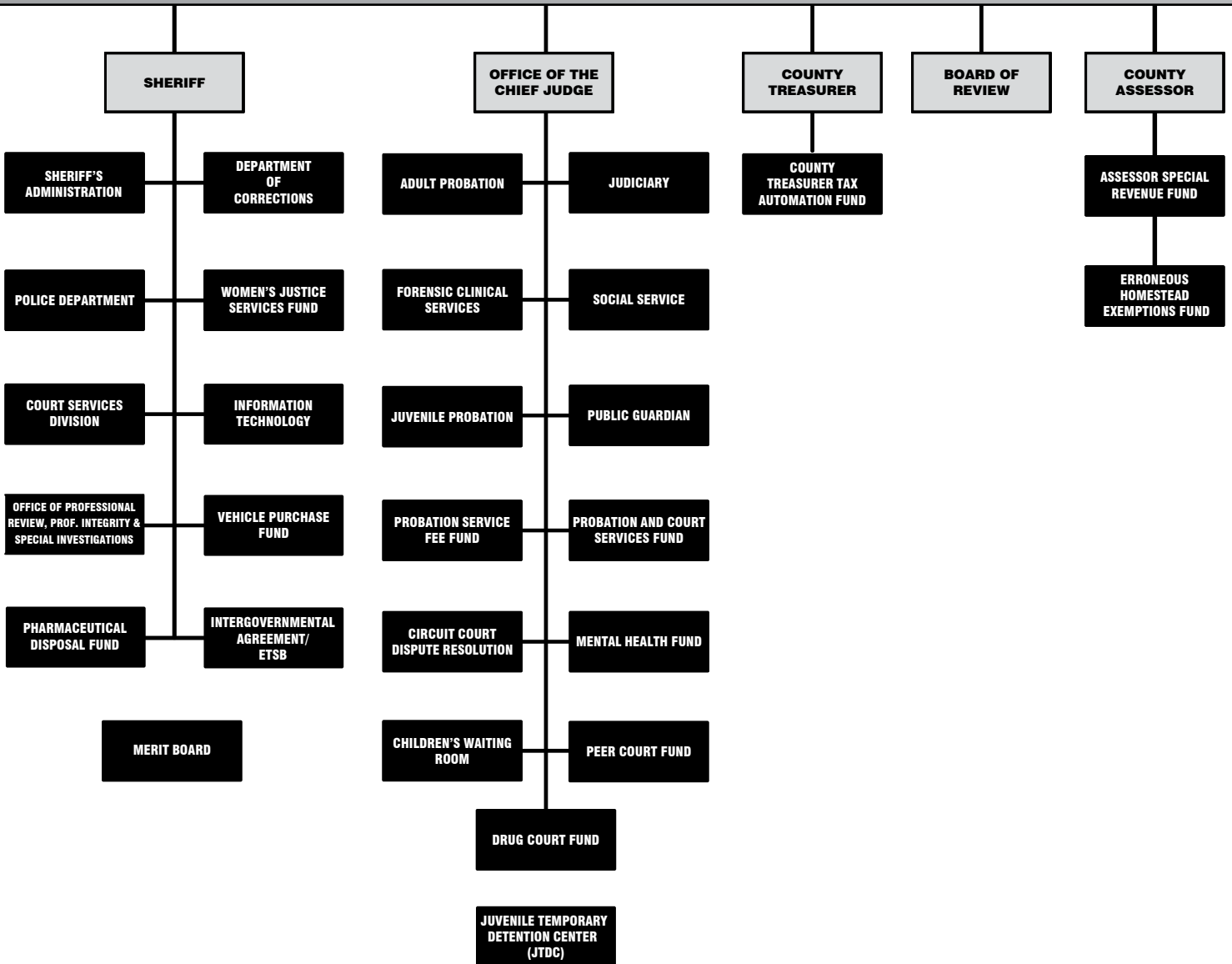
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# 2018 COOK COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

## CITIZENS OF COOK COUNTY

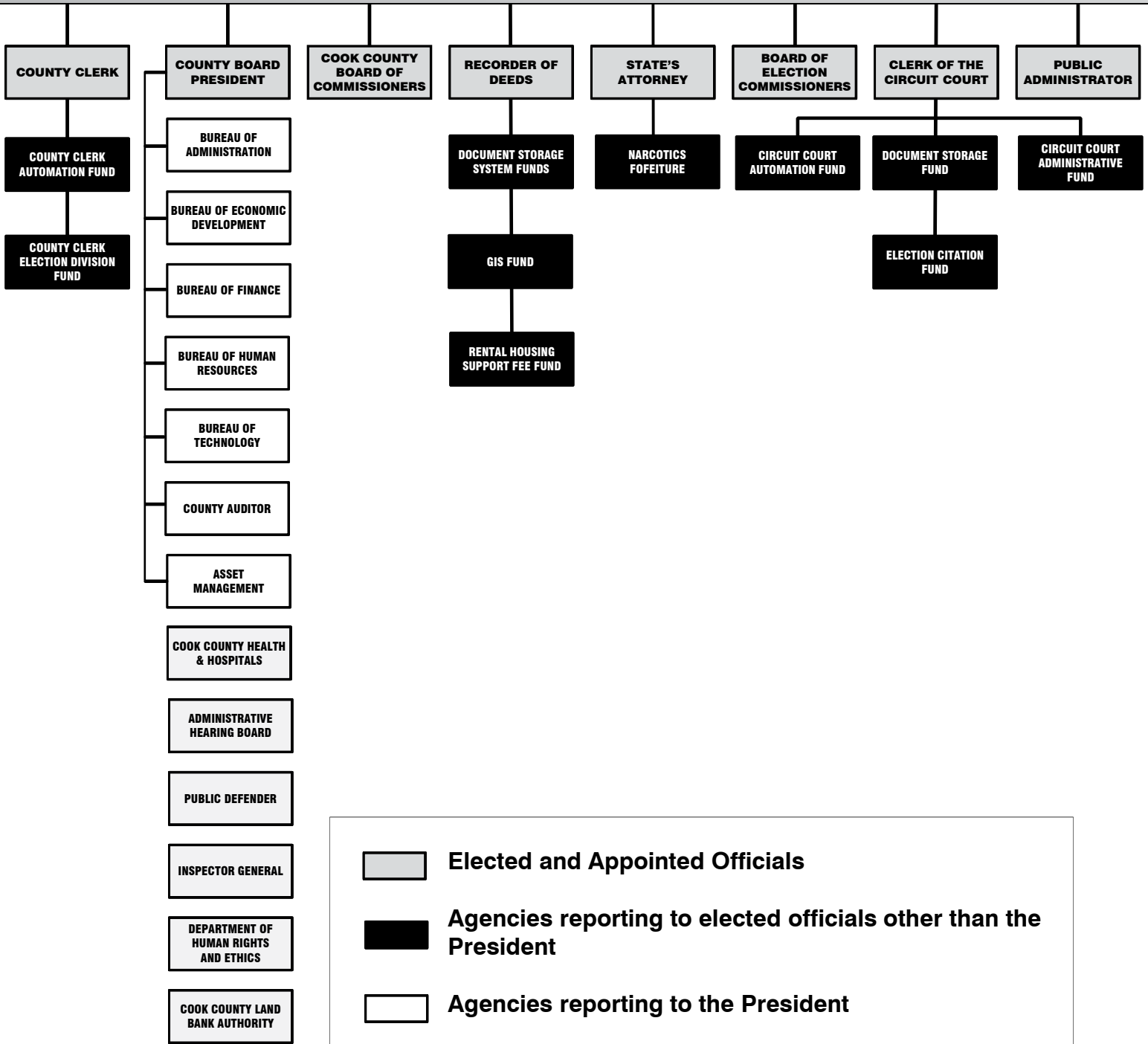
## CITIZENS OF COOK COUNTY





**CITIZENS OF COOK COUNTY**

**CITIZENS OF COOK COUNTY**



**Elected and Appointed Officials**



**Agencies reporting to elected officials other than the President**



**Agencies reporting to the President**

