

Department: District Attorney **Program Contact:** Jeff Howes
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

National best practices in criminal prosecution continue to include the use of data research, evaluation and planning teams to enable data-driven policy development and resource allocation decision making. Similar programs exist within Multnomah County's Department of Community Justice, the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council, the Multnomah County Circuit Court of the Oregon Judicial Department, as well as within the Portland Police Bureau and state-based agencies such as the Criminal Justice Commission.

Program Summary

The creation of the Research and Planning Unit has enhanced the ability of the District Attorney to make evidence-based decisions and reinforce the county's long standing commitment to data analysis. This unit now produces research that evaluates, explores and uncovers prosecutorial effects and trends in Multnomah County's criminal justice system and its impact both locally and on the state. This further insight helps to inform policy decision making in important areas such as to strategically address disparities within our county. Additionally, we continue to endeavor to strategically deploy our valuable prosecution and service resources in areas that have the greatest public safety impact. Data, research and planning are critical to achieving successful outcomes.

Furthermore, the trend in public safety in the county and across the nation is for increased cooperation among peers to answer questions greater than any one entity. Experience here in the county has shown that when one partner in criminal justice evaluation comes to the table without the capacity to keep up with others, that weak link causes the whole enterprise to suffer. I am grateful that the county funded one data, research and planning FTE position with MCDA. As public safety systems in Multnomah County join to tackle important questions, the District Attorney's office is determined to be an equal partner with others in this endeavor and, to that end, will need to seek additional staffing resources.

Internally, the DA's office continues to ask more sophisticated questions about its own working processes and policies including examinations of equity and disparity in prosecution, DDA workload and effectiveness, and business/case flow efficiency. At one time it may have been sufficient to find answers to these questions through the authority of long tenure, management discussion and speculation by line staff. These older methods are insufficient in the face of greater reliance in the county and nationwide on sophisticated data analyses that provide more objective means to drive policy.

Performance Measures

| Measure Type | Primary Measure | FY19 Actual | FY20 Budgeted | FY20 Estimate | FY21 Offer |
|--------------|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Output | Data analysis reports | N/A | 32 | 32 | 32 |
| Outcome | Number of outcome measures analyzed for reporting | N/A | 840 | 840 | 840 |

Performance Measures Descriptions

Data analysis reports refers to a monthly report on community courts, a monthly report on LEAD, and eight independent topical reports. Outcome measures analyzed for reporting is derived from four reports under development (as of Feb 2019) utilizing a total of 350 independent variables as well as the community court count of 10 variables over 12 months.

For additional MCDA Budget Information:

<https://www.mcda.us/index.php/documents/multnomah-county-district-attorneys-informational-budget-book-fv-2021.pdf>

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Adopted General Fund | Adopted Other Funds | Adopted General Fund | Adopted Other Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Program Expenses | 2020 | 2020 | 2021 | 2021 |
| Personnel | \$126,593 | \$0 | \$196,931 | \$0 |
| Materials & Supplies | \$3,407 | \$0 | \$10,000 | \$0 |
| Total GF/non-GF | \$130,000 | \$0 | \$206,931 | \$0 |
| Program Total: | \$130,000 | | \$206,931 | |
| Program FTE | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |

| Program Revenues | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Total Revenue | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2020: 15013-20 MCDA Research & Planning Unit

Two half-time graduate school interns are added to the program in FY21