

Program #15102 - Domestic Violence Unit 4/25/2019

Department: District Attorney **Program Contact:** John Casalino
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Domestic violence is a social, economic and public health concern. The Domestic Violence Unit prosecutes felonies and misdemeanors involving victims and survivors of domestic violence including physical and sexual assaults, homicides and violations of restraining orders. Additionally, this unit's mental health DDA handles Aid and Assist issues in a case and coordinates the efforts of the Multnomah County Mental Health Court and Civil Commitment proceedings. This team works closely with our victim advocates to ensure trauma-informed support for survivors and their children.

Program Summary

The Domestic Violence Trial Unit prosecutes all types of family or intimate partner violence including physical and sexual assaults (rape, sodomy, for example), strangulation, kidnapping and homicide. The goals of this program are to secure victim and community safety while seeking defendant accountability.

Additionally, these Deputy District Attorneys play a valuable role in advocating for community-oriented interventions to help support survivors and their children in breaking the vicious, generational cycle of family violence. Moreover the Unit works to ensure that each victim is treated respectfully, compassionately and with dignity. Our Victim Assistance program assigns an advocate to each case to provide outreach and assist survivors in obtaining comprehensive wrap around support services to help alleviate survivors' psychological, social, and financial fears.

The unit works in collaboration with state and local law enforcement, the Multnomah County Department of Community Justice and a variety of local nonprofit domestic violence organizations and shelters. Initiatives include working closely with the Portland Police Bureau Domestic Violence Reduction Unit (DVRU) and the Domestic Violence Emergency Response Team (DVERT). The Senior Deputy District Attorney is also an Executive Committee member for the Family Violence Coordination Council and, the Domestic Violence Fatality Review, the DV court workgroup and is the Co-Chair of the local Chapter of Justice Jammers, a work group that meets to identify gaps in the justice system affecting domestic violence victim's safety and offender accountability.

The Domestic Violence Unit participates in the Deferred Sentencing program for eligible offenders. This program allows first time offenders an opportunity to earn a dismissal of the charge upon successful completion of a highly supervised and closely monitored program of batterer's intervention strategies and counseling. The Domestic Violence unit works with the county's Adult Protective Services agency to provide a specialized emphasis on the prosecution of elder abuse cases within Multnomah County. This unit acts as a resource for training of community partners, state and local law enforcement agencies. The unit dedicates a full time attorney to mental health court and civil commitments for the county.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	All DV Cases Reviewed (Felony, Misdo, VRO)	2,664	2,479	2,737	2,737
Outcome	Percentage of presumptively prison eligible defendants diverted from prison to community supervision	81.4%	na/-	69.3%	75.35%
Input	Number of Attorneys needed to fulfill description duties	na/-	7	10.7	7

Performance Measures Descriptions

For additional MCDA Budget Information:
<http://mcda.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/MCDA-Budget-Informational-Packet-FY-20.pdf>

Legal / Contractual Obligation

ORS 8.660 - Attending court and prosecuting offenses. (1) The district attorney shall attend the terms of all courts having jurisdiction of public offenses within the district attorney's county, and, except as otherwise provided in this section, conduct, on behalf of the state, all prosecutions for such offenses therein. ORS 8.665 - Prosecuting violations. Upon the issuance of a citation by any person authorized to issue citations for violations, a district attorney shall prosecute the case if it appears that a violation has occurred. ORS 8.670 - Proceedings before magistrates and grand jury. The district attorney shall institute proceedings before magistrates for the arrest of persons charged with or reasonably suspected of public offenses, when the district attorney has information that any such offense has been committed, and attend upon and advise the grand jury when required.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$1,533,969	\$0	\$1,636,635	\$0
Contractual Services	\$24,000	\$0	\$34,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$17,300	\$0	\$19,150	\$0
Internal Services	\$7,583	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,582,852	\$0	\$1,689,785	\$0
Program Total:	\$1,582,852		\$1,689,785	
Program FTE	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 15102-19 Domestic Violence Unit