

Department: District Attorney

Program Contact: Amanda Nadell

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Adopted

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Program Description

The Domestic Violence (DV) Unit prosecutes cases involving family and intimate partner violence, including physical and sexual assaults, strangulation, kidnapping, and homicide. It also prosecutes contempt of court cases related to violations of Family Abuse Prevention Act restraining orders. The primary goals of this program are to ensure victim, family, and community safety while holding defendants accountable, particularly within underserved populations. Statistics and experience show that underserved communities—including people of color, immigrants, refugees, individuals with limited English proficiency, people with disabilities, those without stable housing, the elderly, and the LGBTQIA+ community—are disproportionately impacted by domestic violence. To address these disparities, the unit includes a Deputy District Attorney (DDA) partially funded by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The VAWA DDA works closely with underserved populations, coordinating services with law enforcement and advocates to ensure long-term victim safety. Additionally, DDAs advocate for community-oriented interventions that support survivors and their children in breaking the generational cycle of family violence, thereby reducing disparities and mitigating harmful health consequences. The unit prioritizes treating each victim with respect, compassion, dignity, and equity.

The Victim Assistance Program (VAP) assigns an advocate to each case to provide culturally specific outreach and assist survivors in obtaining comprehensive, wraparound support services. These services help survivors achieve equity, remove barriers, and alleviate psychological, social, and financial concerns.

The unit collaborates with state and local law enforcement, the Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, and various nonprofit domestic violence organizations and shelters. It works closely with the Portland Police Bureau Special Victims Unit and the Domestic Violence Emergency Response Team (DVERT). The Chief DDA of the Domestic Violence Unit serves on the executive committee for the Family Violence Coordination Council and the DV Fatality Review. The Senior DDA is a member of the DV Court Workgroup.

First-time offenders are generally eligible to participate in a deferred sentencing program, allowing them to earn a dismissal of charges upon successful completion of a highly supervised program that includes batterer intervention strategies and counseling. The unit also serves as a training resource for community partners and state and local law enforcement agencies. Additionally, the unit works to provide community-based services in lieu of prosecution for survivors involved in the justice system. Through a survivor-centered diversion program, cases are diverted away from traditional prosecution. The unit collaborates with Bradley Angle, which connects survivors with culturally relevant community providers and services to support their recovery and stability.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	All DV cases reviewed (felony, misdemeanor, violation of restraining order)	2,326	2,500	2,500	2,500
Outcome	Percentage of presumptively prison-eligible defendants diverted from prison to community supervision	74%	65%	64%	65%
Output	Number of underserved victims/survivors served through case consultation/contacts-VAWA	466	589	552	550
Outcome	Numbers of offenders charged/prosecuted for harming underserved community members-VAWA	385	454	474	475

Performance Measures Descriptions

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.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Personnel	\$2,153,678	\$109,576	\$2,196,035	\$105,097
Contractual Services	\$48,000	\$0	\$48,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$27,000	\$0	\$16,454	\$0
Internal Services	\$252,648	\$23,749	\$25,127	\$28,220
Total GF/non-GF	\$2,481,326	\$133,325	\$2,285,616	\$133,317
Program Total:	\$2,614,651		\$2,418,933	
Program FTE	10.48	0.52	10.50	0.50

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$133,325	\$0	\$133,317
Total Revenue	\$0	\$133,325	\$0	\$133,317

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$28,220 in indirect revenues.

\$133,317 - Stop Violence Against Women (VAWA) Formula Competitive Grant. Competitive funding that requires 25% general fund match.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 15102 Domestic Violence Unit

Moved 1.00 FTE DDA (Mental Health) to the newly created PO 15209 - Treatment Court.