



Program #15102A - Domestic Violence Unit 3/4/2020

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

Executive Summary

Domestic violence is a social, economic and public health concern. The Domestic Violence (DV) 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 deputy district attorney (DDA) handles aid and assist issues in cases and coordinates the efforts of the Multnomah County Mental Health Court. This team works closely with our victim advocates to ensure trauma-informed support for survivors and their children.

Program Summary

The DV 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 DDAs 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, 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 effecting domestic violence victim safety and offender accountability.

The DV Unit participates in the Deferred Sentencing Program for eligible offenders. This program allows first time offenders an opportunity to earn a dismissal of the domestic violence charge with successful completion of a highly supervised and closely monitored program that includes batterer's intervention strategies and counseling. The DV 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 Multnomah County Mental Health Court.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer
Output	All DV Cases Reviewed (Felony, Misdo, VRO)	2,776	2,737	2,727	2,727
Outcome	Percentage of presumptively prison eligible defendants diverted from prison to community supervision	66.2%	75%	71.83%	71.83%
Input	Number of Attorneys needed to fulfill description duties	7	7	10.7	7.25

Performance Measures Descriptions

For additional MCDA Budget Information:
<https://www.mcda.us/index.php/documents/multnomah-county-district-attorneys-informational-budget-packet-fy-2021.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.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
Personnel	\$1,636,635	\$0	\$1,756,384	\$108,325
Contractual Services	\$34,000	\$0	\$36,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$19,150	\$0	\$22,200	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,834
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,689,785	\$0	\$1,814,584	\$128,159
Program Total:	\$1,689,785		\$1,942,743	
Program FTE	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.60

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$128,159
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$128,159

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$19,834 in indirect revenues.

\$108,325 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Competitive Formula Grant, Oregon Department of Justice/Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division, Federal through State

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2020: 15102-20 Domestic Violence Unit

Funding constraints will decrease capacity, while the obligations of the Multnomah County Mental Health Court has expanded. The Mental Health DDA in the DV Unit no longer has capacity to handle non-criminal civil commitments for the county.

In order to meet expanding community need with regard to underserved populations—people of color, LGBTQ, among others—while operating under imposed reduced resources, MCDA sought and obtained a Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to fund a prosecutor to provide service to victims in these underserved populations. The grant will only partially fund a prosecutor. See 15102B for full funding request.