

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

Executive Summary

Unit C is a felony trial unit responsible for prosecuting a variety of very serious and mid-level felony crimes including: homicides, robberies, weapons offenses, gang crimes, vehicular homicides, vehicular assaults, arson, residential burglaries and felony animal abuse. These crimes are predominantly person crimes, and many of the violent cases handled by this unit have long-lasting effects on the victimized community members.

Program Summary

Unit C works cooperatively with state and local law enforcement agencies to target and reduce the instances of violent offenses. In the continuum of prosecution services, this unit prosecutes mostly high-risk and some medium-level offenders. Due to the nature of these crimes, many cases handled in Unit C have high visibility in the community. Unit C works cooperatively with the Portland Police Bureau, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, Gresham Police Bureau, and other local law enforcement agencies in the county to promote better case investigation and development by consulting with and training officers in the complex legal issues these cases present. Members of the unit are available to officers with questions 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Due to the negative impact of gang violence in our community, Unit C attorneys are involved in numerous meetings with law enforcement and regularly attend community engagements and outreach programs. These events are used to address and educate the public, while utilizing evidence-based solutions to gang-related crimes in Multnomah County.

Additionally, Unit C collaborates with the US Attorney's Office the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to vigorously prosecute the illegal use, possession and transfer of firearms. Hundreds of felony weapons cases are handled by Unit C annually, resulting in both state and federal prosecutions.

Unit C is responsible for prosecuting all felony cases that result from unintentional vehicular collisions where serious physical injury or fatalities occur. Unit C attorneys are assigned to the vehicular crimes team and each attorney is on-call to respond to vehicular crashes approximately seven weeks a year. Unit C attorneys spend approximately six hours responding to the scene of a crash and assisting law enforcement with the initial investigation.

The program seeks to hold offenders accountable for committing serious person and property crimes and to keep victims protected

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Cases reviewed for prosecution by Unit C	927	N/A	950	950
Outcome	Percentage of presumptively prison eligible defendants diverted from prison to community supervision	58.7%	N/A	55.6%	55%
Input	Number of attorneys needed to fulfill program description duties	N/A	6	11.8	9

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	\$1,512,708	\$0	\$2,213,947	\$0
Contractual Services	\$40,000	\$0	\$43,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$18,500	\$0	\$18,500	\$0
Internal Services	\$8,989	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,580,197	\$0	\$2,275,447	\$0
Program Total:	\$1,580,197		\$2,275,447	
Program FTE	9.50	0.00	12.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 15201A-19 Unit C/Gangs

In FY19, MCDA merged portions of the Neighborhood Prosecution Unit with Unit C to accommodate a Unit C FY19 reduction of 1.00 FTE Deputy District Attorney in order to meet general fund constraints.