

Department: District Attorney

Program Contact: Mariel Mota

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Adopted

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:
Program Description

The Strategic Prosecution and Services Unit (SPSU) is an evidence-based program addressing chronic offenders based on a national model. SPSU equitably identifies chronic offenders and seeks to divert them into court-supervised drug and mental health services when possible. The outcome is reduced recidivism by ending offense cycles, decreased reliance on incarceration and increased community safety.

Due to structural and historic racism, chronic offenders in Multnomah County are disproportionately represented. Deputy District Attorneys (DDAs) in SPSU are aware of racial and ethnic disparities and seek unbiased, fair and equitable case resolutions. Priority of SPSU is data-driven decisions based on safety, justice and equity.

The model of strategic prosecution is based on the use of non-identifying criteria to locate offenders creating a disproportionate impact on the criminal justice system within a discrete geographic area. Simply put, we look at localized and objective crime data to find people having unplanned system contacts in a specific area of the county. After that, we screen those individuals for factors like mental health services usage, criminal history, and other factors to determine how our intervention can most effectively interrupt their cyclical criminality. This can include culturally specific treatment services, community/family connection and support, incarceration, community supervision, intensive in-patient drug treatment, housing resources, and more. We also continue to track the impacts of our interventions after the cases are adjudicated. Generally speaking, recidivism rates for this model of prosecution out-perform conventional models.

This model also requires DDAs to be more involved and communicative with community members, stakeholders, and victims of crimes. Often, we see the same groups being negatively impacted by one person's criminal conduct, and offering guidance, advocacy, and support to those people is an import aspect of restoring community perceptions of safety.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	Cases/Search warrants/police reports reviewed	15,100	14,000	15,100	15,000
Outcome	Prosecutor contacts with community members and agency partners	32,500	31,000	32,500	32,500

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Personnel	\$628,749	\$100,000	\$1,312,097	\$163,424
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$110,000
Materials & Supplies	\$17,000	\$0	\$17,000	\$0
Internal Services	\$242,122	\$0	\$22,599	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$887,871	\$100,000	\$1,356,696	\$273,424
Program Total:	\$987,871		\$1,630,120	
Program FTE	2.47	0.53	5.58	0.42

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$100,000	\$621,960	\$273,424
Total Revenue	\$0	\$100,000	\$621,960	\$273,424

Explanation of Revenues

\$105,834 - BJA Hate Crimes Reporting and Response Initiative grant. Competitive award of \$400,000 over 4 years, beginning 6/26/23 - 09/30/26.
 \$122,070 in General Fund from TriMet.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 15206 Strategic Prosecution Unit

Moved 2.00 FTE Deputy District Attorney to MAAP (PO 15207).
 Moved 2.00 FTE Deputy District Attorney and 0.50 FTE Admin to the newly created Treatment Court (PO 15209). These positions are HB3194 (MCJRP) Funded.
 Added 1.00 FTE Legal Assistant 2 funded by TriMet.