

Program #15305 - Homicide Unit

Program Contact: Don Rees FY 2025 Adopted

Department: **District Attorney Program Offer Type:** Operating Program Offer Stage: Adopted

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Homicide Unit consists of five experienced DDAs who focus their work exclusively on homicide cases. The Homicide Unit was created in response to a dramatic increase in the number of homicides in Multnomah County. Working closely with investigators and staff, Homicide Unit members seek equitable treatment for offenders, justice for victims and ultimately to reduce the number of homicides committed in Multnomah County.

Program Description

Homicide Unit DDAs are assigned new cases from the beginning: responding to homicide scenes to assist investigators, attending autopsies and then seeking charges in homicide cases. Because homicide cases are complex, involve novel legal issues, and are frequently high profile and the subject of intense community interest, DDAs in the Homicide Unit are among the most experienced prosecutors at MCDA. The Homicide Unit was created after homicide numbers peaked in 2022 with 108 people killed in Multnomah County, mostly involving gun violence. The twenty year average for homicides in Portland was only 28. There were 99 homicides in Multnomah County in 2023. Prosecutors in the Homicide Unit use trauma informed and equity practices in their approach to cases seeking fair, unbiased outcomes for offenders and justice for victims. The ultimate goal of the Homicide Unit is to reduce gun violence and homicides in the community.

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target			
Input	Percent of unit DDAs with at least 10 years of legal experience in the justice system.	N/A	N/A	67%	83%			
Outcome	Create Homicide Unit	N/A	N/A	1	1			

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025	
Personnel	\$1,168,383	\$0	\$1,461,854	\$0	
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,168,383	\$0	\$1,471,854	\$0	
Program Total:	\$1,168,383		\$1,471,854		
Program FTE	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	

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

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was:

The Homicide Unit was created mid-year FY 2024. This new unit is budgeted for 5.00 FTE DDA 3 positions that were reallocated from various other units within MDCA.