



Program #15402 - Investigations FY 2024 Department Requested

Department: District Attorney **Program Contact:** Peter Simpson
Program Offer Type: Existing **Program Offer Stage:** Department Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

The Investigations Unit assists deputy district attorneys, victim advocates, and legal staff in the investigation of cases, locating, interviewing and transporting witnesses, serving subpoenas, preparation of court exhibits, and the gathering and protecting of evidence. Often, an investigator makes the initial contact with a witness or crime victim. Investigators are excellent communicators to a diverse community and are expertly trained in cultural competence and problem solving. COVID-19 has presented challenges to the legal requirements of personal subpoena service. The backlog of trial work will lead to a spike in all forms of investigator service requests.

Program Description

The Investigations Unit is led by the Chief Investigator and staffed by 5.5 experienced investigators. Every division and unit of the office utilizes investigative services. Investigators work closely with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The program provides case specific evidence gathering and evaluation, location of witnesses, witness interviews and transport for testimony, court testimony, video redaction of 911 tapes and video evidence, background investigations and personal service of subpoenas that require witness court appearance.

Investigators are a critical part of the core function of the District Attorney's Office. The Investigations Unit supports criminal prosecutions by performing tasks unique to their qualifications and skill set. Investigators perform all of the duties listed above and other critical tasks needed to support deputy district attorneys and help them protect the community and hold defendants accountable. As the community and MCDA continues to reckon with the historical truths of over-representation of persons of color in all facets of the justice system, investigators are front line ambassadors. MCDA has assembled a diverse, gifted, caring and committed investigative team, reflective of the community.

Members of the Investigations Unit have developed unique skills and are called upon every day to use those skills and learn new skills. Reviewing, compiling, and editing body worn camera data, for example. Additionally, investigators serve as the primary threat assessment team when office members are the subject of threats - including threats of bodily harm or death.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Subpoenas issued	2,909	4,200	2,126	3,000
Outcome	Subpoenas served	639	3,750	456	700

Performance Measures Descriptions

Serving subpoenas is critical function of DA Investigators. More victims of crime are houseless and achieving personal service can be challenging.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Department Requested General Fund	Department Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Personnel	\$303,741	\$447,671	\$785,269	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$19,500	\$0	\$24,500	\$0
Internal Services	\$175,873	\$30,662	\$235,521	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$499,114	\$478,333	\$1,045,290	\$0
Program Total:	\$977,447		\$1,045,290	
Program FTE	2.00	3.00	5.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$541,250	\$491,202	\$0
Total Revenue	\$0	\$541,250	\$491,202	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Revenue IGA (Direct Other-Local) with the City of Portland, Portland Police Bureau:
 \$463,868 - funds 3.00 FTE Portland Investigators + \$27,334 covers partial fleet expenses for investigators

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 15402 Investigations

Moved 1.0 FTE Investigator position from this program offer to PO 15207A MAAP.