

Department: District Attorney

Program Contact: Jodi Erickson

Program Offer Type: Support

Program Offer Stage: As Requested

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

Administrative Support Services provides in-person, phone and email assistance to victims, witnesses, staff, defense attorneys, court and law enforcement personnel, and the general public needing contact with or assistance from the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office (MCDA). This program distributes all interoffice, U.S. Mail, and deliveries, provides clerical support for deputy district attorneys, maintains records for MCDA, County and statewide data systems. The people we serve are navigating a complex criminal justice system. MCDA Administrative Support Services seeks more equitable outcomes by providing information, resources and assistance appropriate to the client, including providing services in Spanish.

Program Summary

Main Office Reception: Administrative staff are often the first point of contact with the criminal legal system. We answer phones from 7:30 AM to 5 PM. Staff guide and assist victim and witnesses to properly sign subpoenas to ensure witness fees and mileage reimbursement payments will be received in a timely manner after appearing at a hearing. One position provides Spanish translation in-person and over the phone for victims, witnesses and other callers and monitors a Spanish language-only voice mail box. Staff coordinate mail service for the entire office, including handling and routing an average of 166 pieces of mail and packages each day. This program retrieves and disburses probation violation administrative sanction and Treatment First Program early termination reports, profiles e-recog sheets, enters discovery fees into CRIMES, maintains phone lists and mail guide for entire office, creates and distributes unit availability to chief deputy district attorneys for court appearance list assignments, creates and distributes misdemeanor daily trial list, schedules conference rooms reservations, and are facilities liaisons. Staff are trained in safety and confidentiality in accordance with MCDA and County legal and ethical requirements.

Legal Assistant functions: Assist victims seeking restitution for losses incurred, and extensive communication with victims and witnesses regarding trials, hearings, and meetings. Provide support for trials units including: data entry, file preparation, tracking domestic violence, sexual assault, violent crimes, property crimes, and mental health cases. Staff assist deputy district attorneys with legal documents and running records affecting the issuances of Treatment First, LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion), START (Success through Accountability, Restitutions, and Treatment) and MCJRP (Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program) cases. They process subpoenas, close files, maintain scrupulous desk notes and enter data into the CRIMES case management system.

This program also includes payment of administrative expenses such as bar dues for deputy district attorneys, courier services and facilities charges associated with the Central Courthouse.

We provide a welcoming and trauma-informed atmosphere in all interactions with the public, victims and witnesses, internal and external stakeholders, to ensure equitable access to services and information.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Number of Witness (Subpoena) Fees paid	538	900	60	900
Outcome	Amount paid in Witness (Subpoena) Fees	\$5,269	\$8,500	\$600	\$6,000

Performance Measures Descriptions

Timely reimbursement of witness fees and mileage for witnesses time and travel acknowledges the important roles witnesses have in the judicial system.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

ORS 8.850 - Offices, supplies, and stenographic assistance for district attorneys and deputies. Each county shall provide the district attorney and any deputies for such county with such offices space, facilities, supplies, and stenographic assistance as is necessary to perform efficiently the duties of such office. [1953 c.652 S3]

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$286,211	\$0	\$294,806	\$0
Contractual Services	\$82,200	\$0	\$66,200	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$176,000	\$0	\$308,500	\$0
Internal Services	\$1,594,934	\$0	\$62,003	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$2,139,345	\$0	\$731,509	\$0
Program Total:	\$2,139,345		\$731,509	
Program FTE	3.00	0.00	3.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Other / Miscellaneous	\$827,829	\$0	\$855,880	\$0
Total Revenue	\$827,829	\$0	\$855,880	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 15001 Administrative Support Services

Temporary COVID-19 related restrictions to state court hearings reduced the number of out of custody criminal hearings including a temporary pause of most trials. The courts created systems for some holding hearings and testimony remotely. The number of witnesses appearing in person for hearings was significantly reduced. When court restrictions are lifted there will be a significant increase in witness appearances and fees.

Internal service charges previously consolidated in this program are now allocated to individual units in the Administration division