

## FY 2026 District Attorney - Summary of Addition Packages - Ongoing

Ongoing or OTO	Priority	Package Number	Program Offer	Program Offer Name(s)	Amount	FTE
Ongoing	1	Addition-01-Ongoing	15206	Strategic Prosecution & Services Unit (SPSU)	1,784,910	12.00
Ongoing	2	Addition-02-Ongoing	Various	Agency-wide - Senior Legal Assistant Expansion	966,000	7.00
Ongoing	3	Addition-03-Ongoing	15305	Homicide Unit	380,000	1.00
Ongoing	4	Addition-04-Ongoing	15403	Body Worn Cameras	810,500	3.00
Ongoing	5	Addition-05-Ongoing	15402	Investigations Unit - Gun Dispossession Investigator	175,000	1.00
Ongoing	6	Addition-06-Ongoing	15209	Treatment Court - Civil Commitment DDA	211,985	1.00
Ongoing	7	Addition-07-Ongoing	15013	Research & Planning - R&P Manager	175,000	1.00
<b>Grand Total</b>					<b>4,503,395</b>	<b>26.00</b>



# Multnomah County FY 2026 Department Requested Budget

**District Attorney's Office**  
**Addition-01-Ongoing**

**Ongoing**

**Priority Number**

**Related Program Offer(s)**

**Related Program Offer Name(s)**

**Budget Summary: General Fund**

	Personnel	Contractual Services	Materials & Supplies	Internal Services	Capital Outlay	Total
Budget	1,784,910 *					1,784,910
FTE	12.00					12.00

\* Assumes continued funding from the City of Portland for the Org. Retail Theft/Auto Theft Task Force, funded one-time as a City/County partnership in FY 2025.

**Brief Description**

The Strategic Prosecution & Services Unit (SPSU) is a nationally recognized, evidence-based program that focuses on individuals who disproportionately impact law enforcement resources and the criminal justice system. By using an equity-informed approach, SPSU seeks to break offense cycles, reduce reliance on incarceration, and improve community safety through court-supervised drug and mental health interventions when appropriate.

Unlike traditional prosecution models that categorize cases by crime type, SPSU is defendant-driven, consolidating cases based on an individual's full history of system involvement. This approach relieves pressure on overburdened law enforcement units while allowing for customized interventions that address the root causes of recidivism. Most High-Volume System Users (HVSUs) experience eight or more unplanned system contacts within six months, often driven by unmet behavioral health or social service needs.

This budget request expands SPSU from 3.00 FTE to 10.00 FTE, adding Deputy District Attorneys, a Data Analyst, a Victim Advocate, and an Investigator to strengthen the unit's ability to identify and support chronic offenders, collect and analyze data, and ensure victims receive trauma-informed advocacy. It also continues 5.00 FTE previously funded through the City-County theft task force partnership, reinforcing efforts to combat organized retail and auto theft.

With an emphasis on data-driven and equity-informed prosecution, SPSU creates more responsive and culturally relevant outcomes for both defendants and victims. By customizing sentencing structures to an individual's unique needs and identity, SPSU improves public safety while fostering more effective, long-term justice solutions.

## **Service & Equity Impacts**

The Strategic Prosecution & Services Unit (SPSU) is defendant-driven rather than categorized by crime type, allowing the unit to relieve pressure on overburdened prosecution teams by consolidating cases based on an individual's full history of system involvement. This approach ensures that high-volume system users (HVSUs)—who often experience eight or more arrest cycles or unplanned system contacts within six months—receive targeted interventions aimed at breaking the cycle of recidivism.

By focusing on the root causes of criminal behavior, SPSU provides customized and timely interventions for defendants, victims, and impacted communities. The unit prioritizes equity by addressing disparities in criminal justice outcomes, ensuring that individuals receive the support and resources necessary for long-term stability and rehabilitation. This includes alternative dispositions emphasizing mental health care, substance use treatment, and restorative justice practices when appropriate.

Through this data-driven and equity-informed approach, SPSU fosters more responsive, culturally relevant, and fair justice outcomes. The ability to customize sentencing structures to an individual's unique needs and circumstances improves every measure of success, both empirically and quantitatively, leading to safer communities and a more just legal system.



# Multnomah County FY 2026 Department Requested Budget

**District Attorney's Office**  
**Addition-02-Ongoing**

**Ongoing**

**Priority Number**

**Related Program Offer(s)**

**Related Program Offer Name(s)**

### Budget Summary: General Fund

	Personnel	Contractual Services	Materials & Supplies	Internal Services	Capital Outlay	Total
Budget	966,000					966,000
FTE	7.00					7.00

### Brief Description

To improve efficiency, equity, and justice system effectiveness, this program offer adds 7.00 FTE Senior Legal Assistants, allowing attorneys to focus on legal work that fully utilizes their expertise. By delegating administrative and non-technical tasks to experienced legal professionals, MCDA can increase case-handling capacity, enhance efficiency, and ensure a more timely and fair justice process.

This request follows a formal analysis that identified historical under-investment in administrative support as a key challenge. Heavy caseloads have forced Deputy District Attorneys (DDAs) to take on administrative work, reducing their ability to focus on legal proceedings. Shifting non-legal tasks to Senior Legal Assistants provides a more cost-effective solution than hiring additional DDAs, maximizing resources while improving the speed and quality of case management.

The under-utilization of skilled legal professionals creates inefficiencies that disproportionately affect vulnerable community members who depend on timely case resolutions. By redistributing workloads, this investment improves efficiency and strengthens equity in the justice process, ensuring fairer and more effective outcomes for all. Strengthening administrative capacity not only supports the attorneys but reinforces the office's ability to deliver justice in a way that is both responsive and equitable for the community.

### Service & Equity Impacts

The under-utilization of skilled legal professionals creates inefficiencies, increases workload strain, and diminishes the quality of service for vulnerable community members who rely on timely and effective case resolution. When Deputy District Attorneys (DDAs) are burdened with administrative tasks, their ability to focus on legal work that fully utilizes their expertise is compromised, impacting the efficiency and fairness of the justice system.

By delegating non-technical and administrative responsibilities to Senior Legal Assistants, this expansion allows DDAs to dedicate more time to casework, improving the speed and quality of legal proceedings. A well-supported legal team ensures that cases move efficiently through the system, reducing delays that disproportionately affect marginalized communities and improving access to justice for all.

This investment strengthens both the organizational structure of the office and equitable outcomes for the community. By increasing efficiency, effectiveness, and fairness in prosecution, the office can better serve victims, defendants, and the public while upholding principles of justice and equity.



# Multnomah County FY 2026 Department Requested Budget

**District Attorney's Office**  
**Addition-03-Ongoing**

**Ongoing**

**Priority Number**

**Related Program Offer(s)**

**Related Program Offer Name(s)**

### Budget Summary

	Personnel	Contractual Services	Materials & Supplies	Internal Services	Capital Outlay	Total
Budget	380,000					380,000
FTE	1.00					1.00

### Budget Summary: General Fund

This program offer requests funding for 1.00 FTE Senior Deputy District Attorney (DDA 4) to oversee the Homicide Unit, ensuring sustained leadership in prosecuting complex homicide cases, supporting victims, and addressing the rising homicide rate in Multnomah County. This position was created in FY 2025 using one-time cost savings from vacant positions, but ongoing funding is critical to maintaining the unit's ability to seek justice for victims, ensure equitable treatment for offenders, and ultimately reduce homicides—particularly those involving gun violence.

The Homicide Unit was established in response to a dramatic rise in homicide cases, with Multnomah County recording 108 homicides in 2022—nearly four times the historical average. In 2024, Homicide Unit DDAs responded to 82 homicide and death investigations. These cases are highly complex, often involve novel legal issues, and are subject to intense community interest. The Senior DDA provides critical oversight, ensuring cases are handled with trauma-informed, equity-focused prosecution strategies that promote fairness and accountability.

With gun violence disproportionately affecting BIPOC and other historically impacted communities, this role is essential for guiding investigators and legal staff in applying fair and just legal practices. Homicide Unit DDAs work cases from the outset, responding to homicide scenes, attending autopsies, and overseeing the charging and prosecution process.

Sustained funding for this position is essential to strengthen public safety, enhance equity in homicide prosecutions, and maintain the integrity of the justice system during a period of unprecedented need.

### Service & Equity Impacts

Homicides in Multnomah County disproportionately impact BIPOC communities, causing trauma that extends into families, schools, and neighborhoods. The Senior DDA provides critical leadership in the Homicide Unit, ensuring cases are prosecuted with trauma-informed and equity-focused practices that seek fair outcomes for offenders and justice for victims.

This position enhances the office's ability to address gun violence and homicide trends, working to reduce disparities, hold offenders accountable, and promote long-term public safety. By maintaining unbiased, data-driven prosecution strategies, the Homicide Unit plays a vital role in building trust and safety within the community.



# Multnomah County FY 2026 Department Requested Budget

**District Attorney's Office**  
**Addition-04-Ongoing**

**Ongoing**

**Priority Number**

**Related Program Offer(s)**

**Related Program Offer Name(s)**

### Budget Summary

	Personnel	Contractual Services	Materials & Supplies	Internal Services	Capital Outlay	Total
Budget	535,500	275,000				810,500
FTE	3.00					3.00

### Budget Summary: General Fund

This program offer continues funding for 3.00 FTE in the Body Worn Cameras (BWC) Unit, helping to ensure that MCDA can meet its constitutional and ethical obligations in prosecuting crimes where BWC footage provides critical, unfiltered evidence. These positions were previously funded on a one-time basis in FY 2024 and FY 2025, but ongoing funding is essential to address the increasing volume of footage submitted by law enforcement agencies.

With the expansion of BWC programs at the Portland Police Bureau, Gresham Police Department, Oregon State Police, and Portland State University, the number of cases requiring footage review continues to grow. Currently, the 4.00 FTE DA Investigators in this unit, including the positions funded one-time in FY 2024 and FY 2025, can only review approximately 17% of submitted footage, prioritizing felony person crimes where the suspect is in custody. To fulfill obligations to the community, all relevant BWC footage should be reviewed before charging a suspect with a crime—a goal that can only be met with sustained resources.

BWC footage provides an unfiltered perspective on crime scenes, witness interactions, and police conduct, enabling a more transparent and equitable review process. Properly resourced, this unit can enhance police accountability, reduce disparities in charging decisions, and ensure procedural fairness. By increasing transparency and public confidence in the justice system, this funding strengthens the integrity of prosecution decisions and reinforces the community's trust that justice is administered fairly, equitably, and based on objective evidence.

### Service & Equity Impacts

To ensure fairness and accountability, all Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage should be reviewed before charging a suspect. BWC footage offers an unfiltered view of crime scenes, witness interactions, and police conduct, enhancing transparency and trust in the justice system.

A fully staffed BWC Unit allows for meaningful oversight of law enforcement interactions, helping to identify disparities, improve equitable outcomes, and strengthen police accountability. By ensuring that charging decisions are based on objective evidence, this unit plays a crucial role in reducing bias, increasing public confidence, and reinforcing the integrity of the legal process.



# Multnomah County FY 2026 Department Requested Budget

**District Attorney's Office**  
**Addition-05-Ongoing**

**Ongoing**

**Priority Number**

**Related Program Offer(s)**

**Related Program Offer Name(s)**

### Budget Summary

	Personnel	Contractual Services	Materials & Supplies	Internal Services	Capital Outlay	Total
Budget	175,000					175,000
FTE	1.00					1.00

### Budget Summary: General Fund

This program offer funds 1.00 FTE DA Investigator to support the enforcement of firearm disposition orders under Oregon House Bill 2013 (HB 2013), strengthening efforts to reduce gun violence and improve public safety. This position will work closely with the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Gun Disposition Unit (GDU) to track and enforce compliance with court orders requiring individuals to surrender firearms and ammunition. Under HB 2013, individuals served with firearm prohibition court orders—including Restraining Orders, Stalking Protective Orders, and Extreme Risk Protection Orders—must surrender their firearms and ammunition within a set time period. Failure to comply may result in criminal charges. The DA Investigator will play a critical role in ensuring compliance by serving court orders, tracking firearm disposition, and conducting investigative work to locate individuals unlawfully retaining firearms.

Research shows that restricting firearm access for individuals with violent misdemeanor convictions reduces intimate partner homicide rates by 23%. Given that domestic violence and other firearm-related crimes disproportionately impact BIPOC communities, this position will enhance equitable enforcement efforts, protect vulnerable populations, and help prevent gun-related tragedies.

Securing ongoing funding for this role is essential to ensuring compliance with firearm prohibition orders, strengthening community safety, and addressing the disproportionate harm caused by gun violence.

### Service & Equity Impacts

Unlawful firearm possession fuels repeat offenses, escalating violence, and cycles of retaliation, disproportionately impacting BIPOC communities. Research shows that restricting firearm access for violent misdemeanor offenders reduces intimate partner homicides by 23%.

The Gun Disposition Investigator will enforce firearm prohibition orders, ensuring compliance and preventing gun-related crimes before they occur. Removing firearms from prohibited individuals reduces violence, protects victims, and strengthens public safety. This role also promotes equity by ensuring consistent, fair enforcement, helping to break cycles of violence and build trust in the justice system.



# Multnomah County FY 2026 Department Requested Budget

**District Attorney's Office**  
**Addition-06-Ongoing**

**Ongoing**

**Priority Number**

**Related Program Offer(s)**

**Related Program Offer Name(s)**

### Budget Summary

	Personnel	Contractual Services	Materials & Supplies	Internal Services	Capital Outlay	Total
Budget	211,985					211,985
FTE	1.00					1.00

### Budget Summary: General Fund

This program offer funds 1.00 FTE Deputy District Attorney (DDA 2) dedicated to Civil Commitment cases, ensuring Multnomah County fulfills its statutory obligation to oversee involuntary psychiatric commitments for individuals who are a danger to themselves, others, or unable to meet basic needs for health and safety. Currently, the civil commitment docket is staffed by misdemeanor DDAs and Certified Law Students (CLS), many of whom lack specialized knowledge of civil commitment law. This patchwork coverage leads to judicial inefficiencies and due process concerns, particularly given the compressed timeline of these cases—where defense attorneys are appointed just 24 hours before hearings. A dedicated DDA would improve case resolution, streamline hearings, and ensure the fair and efficient administration of justice. By funding this position, Multnomah County can improve efficiency, protect due process rights, and strengthen the civil commitment system to better serve the needs of individuals in crisis while promoting public safety and well-being.

### Service & Equity Impacts

Equity is central to the civil commitment process, ensuring that individuals facing involuntary psychiatric commitment receive fair treatment and access to culturally responsive care. Community mental health professionals work to connect individuals with culturally specific services whenever possible, recognizing the importance of tailored support in mental health treatment. To ensure language access and procedural fairness, non-English speakers—whether individuals facing commitment, providers, witnesses, or victims—are provided interpretation services for all hearings. These proceedings are conducted in a manner that prioritizes safety while remaining as therapeutic as possible, balancing legal obligations with the well-being of individuals experiencing mental health crises.





# Multnomah County FY 2026 Department Requested Budget

**District Attorney's Office**  
**Addition-07-Ongoing**

**Ongoing**

**Priority Number**

**Related Program Offer(s)**

**Related Program Offer Name(s)**

### Budget Summary

	Personnel	Contractual Services	Materials & Supplies	Internal Services	Capital Outlay	Total
Budget	175,000					175,000
FTE	1.00					1.00

### Budget Summary: General Fund

This program offer funds 1.00 FTE Manager 1 to lead the Research & Planning Unit, a vital component of MCDA that supports data-driven decision-making and equitable justice outcomes. This position will provide key leadership to enhance MCDA's ability to analyze crime trends, assess program effectiveness, and allocate resources strategically, particularly in support of the Strategic Prosecution & Services Unit (SPSU). A dedicated Research & Planning Manager will strengthen MCDA's capacity to evaluate prosecutorial trends, improve performance tracking, and ensure that policies and practices do not disproportionately impact marginalized communities. The Research & Planning Unit plays a key role in advancing equity in the criminal justice system by identifying disparities in prosecution, sentencing, and diversion outcomes and developing strategies to promote fair and just alternatives, including mental health and substance use treatment when appropriate.

By improving data transparency and performance evaluation, this role will help build public trust and ensure accountability in the justice system. Sustained investment in research and evaluation is essential to ensuring MCDA's policies reflect evidence-based best practices that enhance public safety while promoting equity and fairness for all communities.

### Service & Equity Impacts

A well-resourced Research & Planning Unit is essential to advancing equity within Multnomah County's criminal legal system. This unit enables MCDA to identify and address disparities in prosecution, sentencing, and diversion outcomes, helping to ensure that policies and practices do not disproportionately impact marginalized communities.

By tracking prosecutorial performance, assessing racial and socioeconomic disparities, and improving data transparency, this role strengthens public trust and accountability. A dedicated Research & Planning Manager will support continuous system improvement, helping to ensure that evidence-based strategies promote fairness, equity, and justice for all.