

### Program #15021B - Justice Integrity Unit Expansion

**Program Contact:** Mike Schmidt 3/7/202

**Department: District Attorney Program Offer Type:** Innovative/New Program Program Offer Stage: As Requested

**Related Programs:** 

Program Characteristics: Out of Target

### **Executive Summary**

Now more than ever, in order to seek justice a District Attorney must be willing to look back and undo past harms. The Justice Integrity Unit (JIU) is tasked with reviewing all clemency applications submitted by the Governor; consider applications for resentencing under the newly passed law SB 819 (2021); assist in the processing of expungement applications and fine and fee forgiveness requests; reexamine old DNA samples with the OSP crime lab legacy DNA project; work with community stakeholders in order to build relationships and legitimacy in the criminal legal system; and assist in reconsidering previous non-unanimous jury convictions that were the unconstitutional vestige of a racist system.

### **Program Summary**

The JIU is staffed with 1 Senior Level attorney funded partially through ongoing county funds, and partially through ongoing federal funds via the Byrne JAG grant received by the city of Portland, and 1 mid level prosecutor, funded as one time only in FY 2022. Since the inception of the JIU the work has monumentally increased due to changes in the law (Ramos & SB 819); changes in technology (new DNA techniques that increase accuracy of past test); changes in the politics (unprecedented increase in gubernatorial clemency and pardon petitions); and continued need to give people a chance to thrive by reducing barriers.

An expanded JIU will provide MCDA with an additional attorney, investigator, victim advocate, and administrative staff to actively engage with community members to support them to expunge old convictions and address fines and fees—socalled collateral consequences of criminal legal involvement. JIU will work with community groups to significantly reduce barriers and encourage engagement in the legal process. Addressing collateral consequences of criminal legal involvement allows those impacted to access essential resources like housing, lines of credit, driver's licenses, and better employment opportunities. It also alleviates many complex stressors, reduces hopelessness, and lessens the generational trauma and impact of criminal involvement. This will result in stronger families, safer streets, and thriving communities where the criminal justice system can restore those effected, not just burden them.

This program is a cornerstone of answering the call to actively reduce the disparity that the criminal legal system has had on people of color. The expanded JIU will repair past harms and assist people who have already been held accountable to move on with their lives and thrive. The JIU must also be trauma informed and observe a victim's right to be notified of decisions impacting the cases that they were involved in, and not risk causing more unnecessary harm or trauma.

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY21 Actual	FY22 Budgeted	FY22 Estimate	FY23 Offer			
Output	Number of Justice Integrity Unit cases	N/A	300	200	300			
Outcome	Number of expunged convictions	N/A	300	300	600			

#### **Performance Measures Descriptions**

# **Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds	
Program Expenses	2022	2022	2023	2023	
Personnel	\$259,794	\$0	\$623,118	\$0	
Materials & Supplies	\$206	\$0	\$5,200	\$0	
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$10,221	\$0	
Total GF/non-GF	\$260,000	\$0	\$638,539	\$0	
Program Total:	\$260	\$260,000		\$638,539	
Program FTE	1.56	0.00	4.00	0.00	

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

# **Explanation of Revenues**

# Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2022: 15021B Justice Integrity Unit Expansion

Adds a Victim Advocate (1.00 FTE) to the program and replaces a Paralegal (1.00 FTE) with a Sr. Legal Assistant (1.00 FTE) while increasing the partially funded Deputy District Attorney and Investigator positions to full-time (1.00 FTE)