

Program #15204B - Pretrial - Deputy District Attorney and Office Assistant (2.00

3/4/2020

FTE)

Department: District Attorney **Program Contact:** Kirsten Snowden

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program Program Offer Stage: As Requested

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

Restores a 2.00 FTE staffing reduction taken to meet 2% constraint of a deputy district attorney position and an office assistant position. The positions review misdemeanor drug possession cases defined in ORS Ch. 475. They are responsible for the administration of the Treatment First Program and handle all aspects of the weekly Treatment First docket where defendants are offered the opportunity to complete treatment and/or supervision in accordance with their assessed risk and needs.

Program Summary

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office receives approximately 1200 drug possession cases annually that qualify either under state law, or office policy, to be treated as misdemeanors. The Treatment First Program deputy district attorney (DDA) assigned to the Pretrial Unit is responsible for initial review of these cases to ensure that any cases with legal impediments, including invalid searches or missing information, are rejected for prosecution and not charged. This requires a more experienced attorney who has the capacity to approach these cases methodically and not inflict downstream system costs on this office, the courts, and the public defenders by rushing charging decisions. The Treatment First Program DDA also handles all aspects of the weekly Treatment First docket where defendants are offered the opportunity to complete treatment and/or supervision in accordance with their assessed risk and needs. This allows appropriate targeting of services without "over supervising" individuals. Defendants resolving their cases through the Treatment First docket can earn a dismissal, further minimizing the collateral consequences of their involvement in the criminal justice system, while at the same time addressing the root causes of their involvement and incentivizing their participation in drug treatment. This office's ability to engage with this novel program would be severely impaired were this position not funded and would result, in part, in an inability to prosecute many of these charges.

Continuing to prosecute the subset of these cases that we could with available resources, in the absence of this position, would result in undifferentiated treatment not in accordance with best practices simply due to the realities of case volume and the inability to spend the time to engage with a risk-needs based case resolution model.

The office assistant position supports the flow of case files, assessment documents, and docket preparation to ensure the Treatment First Program DDA is able to focus time on promptly addressing program issues requiring lawyer involvement.

Performar	Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer				
Output	Misdemeanor Drug Cases Reviewed	1260	1263	1263	1263				
Outcome									

Performance Measures Descriptions

Legal / Contractual Obligation

ORS Ch. 475

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$234,640	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$234,640	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$234,640	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: