

Program #15402 - Investigations

3/2/2021

Department: District Attorney **Program Contact:** Jeff Howes

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program Program Offer Stage: As 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 our 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 Summary

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 our community and our office continues to reckon with the historical truths of overrepresentation of persons of color in all facets of the justice system, investigators are front line ambassadors. We have assembled a diverse, gifted, caring and committed investigative team, reflective of the community we serve.

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	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer				
Output	Subpoenas issued	3,303	3,500	3,400	4,200				
Outcome	Subpoenas served	1,139	4,550	3,150	3,750				

Performance Measures Descriptions

Serving subpoenas is critical function of DA Investigators. The duty has evolved prior to, and to a greater extent during the pandemic. More victims of crime are houseless and achieving personal service during the pandemic has been challenging.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$346,965	\$471,039	\$368,392	\$491,850
Materials & Supplies	\$30,750	\$0	\$16,500	\$0
Internal Services	\$75,454	\$0	\$181,262	\$10,445
Total GF/non-GF	\$453,169	\$471,039	\$566,154	\$502,295
Program Total: \$924,208		\$1,068,449		
Program FTE	2.57	3.43	2.55	3.45

Program Revenues							
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$471,039	\$0	\$502,295			
Total Revenue	\$0	\$471,039	\$0	\$502,295			

Explanation of Revenues

IGA with the City of Portland, Portland Police Bureau: \$430,688 - funds 3.00 FTE Portland Investigators + \$10,445 covers partial fleet expenses for investigators

IGA with the City of Gresham, Gresham Police Department \$61,162 - funds part of 1 investigator for Gresham

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 15402 Investigations

Internal service charges are increased reflecting a change to allocate facilities, data, distribution, telecommunications, and fleet services in individual units. Previously these costs were consolidated in 15001 - Administrative Support Services, 15002 - Information Technology, and the Division I, II, III, and IV Administration program offers.