

COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

Special Drug Prosecutor

Description

The Special Drug Prosecutor Program was established in Virginia in 1983 under Section 19.2-215.3 of the Code of Virginia. Henrico's Drug Prosecutor program was implemented in May of 1984. The goal is to investigate criminal violations of Virginia drug laws as well as other illegal activities, including homicide, abduction, perjury, embezzlement, and computer crimes.

Objectives

- Investigate and prosecute those involved in the illegal use or distribution of drugs, and drug paraphernalia.
- Provide assistance in any other provision of law when such condition is discovered in the course of an investigation, which a multi-jurisdiction drug prosecutor is otherwise authorized to undertake and to investigate any condition, which involves or tends to promote any attempt, solicitation or conspiracy to violate laws.
- Administer use of the grand jury by prosecutors from each of the member jurisdictions Commonwealth's Attorney's Offices.

Budget Highlights

The use of the Special Drug Prosecutor Program provides a vital function for the County of Henrico. The Program's approved budget for FY2012-13 is \$186,115, which includes General Fund support of \$66,715. The budget reflects a decrease of 1.5 percent when compared to the FY2011-12 approved budget, due to a slight reduction in salary costs and a corresponding reduction in FICA attributable to the reduction in salaries. This reduction was partially offset by increased benefits costs. Overall, personnel costs are decreasing \$2,848 or 1.6 percent, equal to the total departmental budget reduction. The State and the County both contribute to the salaries and associated personnel costs for the two complement II positions funded through the program.

The Special Drug Prosecutor's responsibilities include working with a multi-jurisdictional investigative grand jury comprised of the Counties of Henrico, Hanover and Chesterfield, and the City of Richmond. The Special Drug Prosecutor coordinates witnesses and subpoenas for tangible evidence ordered by the grand jury and handles a full caseload of criminal matters. The multi-jurisdictional grand jury plays an essential role in the investigation of drug and homicide cases in the Richmond metropolitan area.

Annual Fiscal Plan

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY11 Actual</u>	<u>FY12 Original</u>	<u>FY13 Approved</u>	<u>Change 12 to 13</u>
Personnel	\$ 172,621	\$ 183,213	\$ 180,365	(1.6%)
Operation	4,821	5,750	5,750	0.0%
Capital	1,120	0	0	0.0%
Total	\$ 178,562	\$ 188,963	\$ 186,115	(1.5%)
Personnel Complement*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Two complement II positions funded through this program are included in the Commonwealth's Attorney's General Fund complement.

Special Drug Prosecutor (cont'd)

Performance Measures				
	<u>FY11</u>	<u>FY12</u>	<u>FY13</u>	<u>Change 12 to 13</u>
Workload Measures				
Total Subpoenaes	2,172	2,225	2,275	50
Total Indictments	1,011	825	1,050	225
Total Defendants	348	400	375	(25)

The table below presents a historical depiction of the State/County split for the program.

Fiscal Year	State Funding	County Funding	% County
2003-04	107,487	32,321	23%
2004-05	107,487	38,308	26%
2005-06	101,383	36,947	27%
2006-07	105,767	38,545	27%
2007-08	121,594	32,539	21%
2008-09	130,357	32,773	20%
2009-10	124,305	44,730	26%
2010-11	124,305	52,855	30%
2011-12	119,400	69,563	37%
2012-13	119,400	66,715	36%