COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

Special Drug Prosecutor

Description

The General Assembly of Virginia passed legislation in 1983 under Section 19.2-215.3 establishing the Special Drug Prosecutor Program and creating multi-jurisdiction grand juries (MJGJs). A MJGJ, in contrast to a regular grand jury, is an investigative body with the statutory authority to issue statewide subpoenas for documents and other evidence, and to call for sworn testimony of persons with information related to specific criminal offenses. 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, computer crimes, Medicaid fraud, and trademark infringement.

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 proposed budget for FY2015-16 is $193,860, which includes General Fund support of $61,862. The General Fund support reflects an increase of $677 compare to last fiscal year. The increase in the General Fund support is less than the entire budgetary increase for the program because of the anticipation of additional state funding resulting from changes to the Compensation Board's reimbursement for Special Drug Prosecutor.

The budget reflects an increase of 1.5 percent when compared to the FY2014-15 approved budget which is due entirely to an increase in personnel costs. The increase in personnel costs is attributable to the annualization of a salary increase in FY2014-15 in addition to the partial year impact of a 2.0 percent raise in FY2015-16. The State Compensation Board and the County both contribute to the salaries and associated personnel costs for the two positions funded through the program. The operating component has been

Annual Fiscal Plan

Description	FY14 Actual	FY15 Original	FY16 Proposed	15 to 16
Personnel	$ 179,296	$ 185,208	$ 188,402	1.7%
Operation	5,746	5,750	5,458	(5.1%)
Capital	0	0	0	0.0%
Total	$ 185,042	$ 190,958	$ 193,860	1.5%
Personnel Complement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Special Drug Prosecutor (cont'd)

Performance Measures

	FY14	FY15	FY16	Change 15 to 16
Workload Measures				
Total Subpoenaes	1,613	2,375	2,000	(375)
Total Indictments	268	925	500	(425)
Total Defendants	375	350	325	(25)

reduced by $292 compared to the FY2014-15 approved budget.

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.

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

Fiscal Year	State Funding	Approved County Funding	% County
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%
2013-14	121,533	66,715	35%
2014-15	129,773	61,185	32%
2015-16	131,998	61,862	31%

Henrico County, Virginia
Operating Line Item Budget By Cost Center

Cost Center		Prior Year	Approved Budget	Proposed Budget	Dollar Inc/Dec	Percent Change
05003	**Special Drug Prosecutor**					
50100	Full-Time Salaries and Wages - Regular	135,748	137,443	140,530	3,087	2.2%
50110	FICA	10,079	10,515	10,750	235	2.2%
50111	Retirement VRS	20,335	20,836	21,304	468	2.2%
50112	Hospital/Medical Plans	11,519	14,586	13,948	-638	-4.4%
50113	Group Insurance - Life (VRS)	1,615	1,828	1,870	42	2.3%
50410	Postal Services	500	400	300	-100	-25.0%
50412	Telecommunications	389	400	400	0	0.0%
50430	Mileage	1,225	1,400	1,300	-100	-7.1%
50450	Dues And Association Memberships	90	90	90	0	0.0%
50500	Office Supplies	3,013	3,004	2,794	-210	-7.0%
50512	Books and Subscriptions	356	300	400	100	33.3%
50521	Computer Software	173	156	174	18	11.5%
Total Cost Center		**185,042**	**190,958**	**193,860**	**2,902**	**1.5%**