

MAGISTRATE

DESCRIPTION

The principal function of the Magistrate’s office is to provide independent review of complaints from police officers, sheriff’s deputies, and residents. These complaints provide the magistrate with facts needed to determine whether a warrant of arrest should be issued. In addition to issuing warrants of arrest, magistrates conduct bail hearings, commit offenders to jail, and release prisoners from jail. The Magistrate’s office operates under the supervision of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide efficient, unbiased, and professional services to law enforcement officers, mental health professionals, and citizens including the issuance of Emergency Protective and Custody Orders and Temporary Detention Orders.
- To cooperate with the Sheriff’s department to try to develop a more efficient means of committing defendants and releasing those who have posted bonds.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Magistrate’s proposed budget for FY2020-21 decreased to \$5,972. Funding in FY2020-21 represents a 5 percent decrease in the daily operation budget for thirteen Magistrates. The new funding is due to the needed reductions from the COVID-19 outbreak. There are no County paid positions assigned to this office, as the thirteen magistrates are State employees. The County does provide space, furnishings, and operating expenses for the Magistrate’s office.

FISCAL YEAR 2021 SUMMARY

Annual Fiscal Plan

| Description | FY19 Actual | FY20 Original | FY21 Approved | Change 20 to 21 |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Personnel | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | 0.0% |
| Operation | 6,091 | 6,286 | 5,972 | (5.0%) |
| Capital | 483 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total | \$ 6,574 | \$ 6,286 | \$ 5,972 | (5.0%) |
| Personnel Complement * | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

*Personnel Expenses are paid by the Commonwealth of Virginia.