Office of the State's Attorney



MISSION AND SERVICES

The Office of the State's Attorney strives to secure justice for all residents through firm, fair and consistent prosecutions with the highest level of experience, integrity and professionalism. The Office will be responsive to the very diverse community of Prince George's County, treating every person with dignity and respect.

CORE SERVICES

- Ensure the fair administration of justice including criminal investigations and prosecutions, victim and witness assistance and limited civil matters such as forfeitures and collateral review proceedings
- Provide daily assistance to residents some of whom are unrelated to criminal matters
- Work with law enforcement partners and others involved in the criminal justice process and hold them accountable when necessary
- Provide training to law enforcement on constitutional law, use of force and ethics

FY 2020 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Hosted the first-ever State of Justice and Youth Justice Symposiums to address and update residents of Prince George's County.
- Launched the Human Trafficking Diversion Program in the District Court Unit as a method to continue the prosecution of prostitution cases, but also identify and address concerns involving victims of human trafficking and/or commercial sex workers in need of services.
- Expanded the State's Attorney's Office's Back on Track Program by removing age restrictions to allow defendants over the age of 18 to participate in the program, thus, widening the eligibility pool.
- Initiated and developed the Prince George's County's strangulation protocol in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, healthcare professionals and various social service organizations.

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 Established a partnership with the Howard University School of Law externship program to create a pipeline for students interested in exposure to the criminal justice system and the prosecution of cases; in addition to the various priorities of the State's Attorney's Office.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AND INITIATIVES IN FY 2021

The office's top priorities in FY 2021 are:

- Increase retention of attorneys and other professional staff in the office and to successfully recruit experienced attorneys, as needed.
- Continue increasing the number of successful prosecutions of violent and non-violent, repeat and chronic offenders.
- Transform the juvenile justice system by developing a comprehensive Juvenile Unit that focuses on the best interest
 of the child, employs restorative justice practices and prioritizes prevention. Also, to create a program that expands
 diversion programs for first time juvenile offenders.
- Strengthen District Court and reduce the number of dismissals and requests for continuances by creating dedicated discovery and screening units.
- Promote and expand diversion opportunities for non-violent and vulnerable offenders.
- Implement strategic communications and community outreach strategies that reach the diverse communities and victims in Prince George's County.
- Expand the number of paralegals, law clerks and administrative support staff to improve the efficiency and work product of the various prosecution units throughout the Office.

FY 2021 BUDGET SUMMARY

The FY 2021 approved budget for the Office of the State's Attorney is \$23,518,300, an increase of \$627,600 or 2.7% over the FY 2020 approved budget.

Expenditures by Fund Type

	FY 2019 Actual		FY 2020 Budget		FY 2020 Estimate		FY 2021 Approved	
Fund Types	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total
General Fund	\$18,231,200	90.7%	\$20,212,900	88.3%	\$19,749,000	88.0%	\$20,661,900	87.9%
Grant Funds	1,874,316	9.3%	2,677,800	11.7%	2,685,700	12.0%	2,856,400	12.1%
Total	\$20,105,516	100.0%	\$22,890,700	100.0%	\$22,434,700	100.0%	\$23,518,300	100.0%

GENERAL FUND

The FY 2021 approved General Fund budget for the Office of the State's Attorney is \$20,661,900, an increase of \$449,000 or 2.2% over the FY 2020 approved budget.

Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
FY 2020 Approved Budget	\$20,212,900
Increase Cost: Operating - Technology Cost Allocation — Increase in charges based on the new methodology to support anticipated countywide costs	\$387,100
Increase Cost: Operating — Increase in the interpreter/translation fees contract to align with anticipated costs	124,000

Reconciliation from Prior Year (continued)

	Expenditures
Increase Cost: Recovery Reduction — Decrease in recoverable salaries	50,000
Increase Cost: Operating — Increase in scheduled vehicle maintenance costs	9,200
Decrease Cost: Fringe Benefits — Decrease in the fringe benefits to align with compensation adjustments; fringe benefit rate changes from 31.6% to 31.7%	(7,600)
Decrease Cost: Compensation - Mandatory Salary Requirements — Decrease due to increased vacancy lapse and attrition	(113,700)
FY 2021 Approved Budget	\$20,661,900

GRANT FUNDS

The FY 2021 approved grant budget for the Office of the State's Attorney is \$2,856,400, an increase of \$178,600 or 6.7% over the FY 2020 approved budget. Major sources of funds in the FY 2021 approved budget include:

- Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit
- Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)
- Conviction and Sentencing Integrity Grant

Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
FY 2020 Approved Budget	\$2,677,800
Add: New Program — Conviction and Sentencing Integrity	\$131,000
Add: New Program — Special United States Attorney (SAUSA)	105,500
Add: New Program — Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prosecution (VAWA)	90,000
Add: New Program — Human Trafficking Taskforce	82,000
Enhance: Existing Program — Paralegal Support - Gun Violence Reduction Grant (GVRG)	60,000
Add: New Program — Office of Problem Solving Courts	57,700
Enhance: Existing Program — Vehicle Theft Prevention (VTPC)	18,900
Enhance: Existing Program — Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)	11,800
Eliminate: Existing Program — Stop the Violence Against Women	(95,000)
Eliminate: Existing Program — State Grant	(125,000)
Eliminate: Existing Program — Juvenile Diversion Program	(158,300)
FY 2021 Approved Budget	\$2,856,400

STAFF AND BUDGET RESOURCES

Authorized Positions	FY 2019 Budget	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2021 Approved	Change FY20-FY21
General Fund				
Full Time - Civilian	177	177	177	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	177	177	177	0
Part Time	5	5	5	0
Limited Term	0	0	0	0
Grant Program Funds				
Full Time - Civilian	0	0	0	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	0	0	0	0
Part Time	0	0	0	0
Limited Term	32	34	35	1
TOTAL				
Full Time - Civilian	177	177	177	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	177	177	177	0
Part Time	5	5	5	0
Limited Term	32	34	35	1

	FY 2021		
Positions By Classification	Full Time	Part Time	Limited Term
Administrative Aide	30	0	0
Administrative Assistant	3	0	0
Administrative Specialist	1	0	0
Assistant State's Attorney	90	0	13
Audio Visual Specialist	1	0	0
Budget Management Analyst	2	0	0
Community Developer	16	0	10
Community Development Aide	0	1	1
Deputy State's Attorney	2	0	0
Executive Administrative Aide	1	0	0
General Clerk	2	2	0
Information Technology Project Coordinator	3	0	0
Investigator	10	0	4
Law Clerk	1	2	0
Legal Assistant	12	0	7
Personnel Analyst	1	0	0
Principal Deputy State's Attorney	1	0	0
State's Attorney	1	0	0
TOTAL	177	5	35

Expenditures by Category - General Fund

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020 FY 2020		Change FY20-FY21	
Category	Actual	Budget	Estimate	FY 2021 — Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$12,827,695	\$14,242,500	\$13,988,300	\$14,128,800	\$(113,700)	-0.8%
Fringe Benefits	3,999,766	4,486,400	4,277,500	4,478,800	(7,600)	-0.2%
Operating	1,601,480	1,601,800	1,601,000	2,122,100	520,300	32.5%
Capital Outlay	—			—	—	0.0%
SubTotal	\$18,428,941	\$20,330,700	\$19,866,800	\$20,729,700	\$399,000	2.0 %
Recoveries	(197,741)	(117,800)	(117,800)	(67,800)	50,000	-42.4%
Total	\$18,231,200	\$20,212,900	\$19,749,000	\$20,661,900	\$449,000	2.2%

In FY 2021, compensation expenditures decrease 0.8% under the FY 2020 budget due to increased attrition and reduced funding for vacant positions. Compensation costs include funding for 172 out of 177 full time and five part time positions. Fringe benefits decrease 0.2% under the FY 2020 budget to align with compensation adjustments.

Operating expenditures increase 32.5% over the FY 2020 budget primarily due to an increase in the technology cost allocation charges based on the new methodology to support anticipated countywide costs. Increased funding is also provided for translation/interpretation services.

Recoveries decrease 42.4% under the FY 2020 budget to align with the anticipated funding available through the Drug Enforcement and Education Fund.

GRANT FUNDS SUMMARY

Expenditures by Category - Grant Funds

	FY 2019	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Estimate	FY 2021 —	Change FY20-FY21	
Category	Actual			Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$1,426,333	\$1,884,900	\$2,148,400	\$2,153,200	\$268,300	14.2%
Fringe Benefits	74,461	310,000	221,000	216,100	(93,900)	-30.3%
Operating	373,522	482,900	316,300	487,100	4,200	0.9%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
SubTotal	\$1,874,316	\$2,677,800	\$2,685,700	\$2,856,400	\$178,600	6.7%
Recoveries						
Total	\$1,874,316	\$2,677,800	\$2,685,700	\$2,856,400	\$178,600	6.7 %

The FY 2021 approved grant budget is \$2,856,400, an increase 6.7% over the FY 2020 approved budget. This increase is primarily due to the Conviction and Sentencing grant.

Staff Summary by Division - Grant Funds

Staff Summary by	F	Y 2020		F۱	/ 2021	
Division & Grant Program	FT	PT	LTGF	FT	РТ	LTGF
SAO Prosecution						
Conviction and Sentencing Grant		_	_	_		1
Human Trafficking Grant	_	—	2	—		1
Office of Problem Solving Courts		—	—	—		1
Paralegal Support - Gun Violence Reduction Initiative (GVRG)	—	—	1	—	—	1
Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit (PGSI)	_	_	21	—	—	19
Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)		—	1	_	_	1
Stop the Violence Against Women (VAWA)	_	_	2	_	—	2
Special United States Attorney		_	_	_	_	2
Vehicle Theft Prevention Program (VTPC)	_	_	1	_	—	1
Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)	_	_	6	_	_	6
Total SAO Prosecution	—	_	34	_		35
Total	—	—	34	—	—	35

In FY 2021, funding is provided for 35 limited term grant funded (LTGF) positions. The staffing level increases by one position.

Grant Funds by Division

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021 —	Change FY2	20-FY21
Grant Name	Actual	Budget	Estimate	Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
SAO Prosecution Bilingual Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)	\$143,959	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	
Conviction and Integrity	_		97,500	131,000	131,000	
Human Trafficking Taskforce		_	152,200	82,000	82,000	
JDDP Fellowship - American University	_	_	13,000	_	_	
Juvenile Diversion Program		158,300	_	_	(158,300)	-100.0%
Office of Problem Solving Courts		_	53,500	57,700	57,700	
Paralegal Support - Gun Violence Reduction Grant (GVRG)		39,900	23,200	99,900	60,000	150.4%
Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit (PGSI)	1,353,337	1,272,900	1,397,900	1,272,900	_	0.0%
Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)	180,667	76,200	88,000	88,000	11,800	15.5%
Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prosecution	94,432	95,000	90,000	90,000	(5,000)	-5.3%
Special United State's Attorney (SAUSA)		_	52,000	105,500	105,500	
State Grant	_	125,000	_	_	(125,000)	-100.0%
Vehicle Theft Prevention Program (VTPC)	76,389	112,700	90,000	131,600	18,900	16.8%
Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)	25,532	797,800	628,400	797,800	—	0.0%
Total SAO Prosecution	\$1,874,316	\$2,677,800	\$2,685,700	\$2,856,400	\$178,600	6.7%
Subtotal	\$1,874,316	\$2,677,800	\$2,685,700	\$2,856,400	\$178,600	6.7%
Total Transfer from General Fund - (County Contribution/Cash Match)	_	_	_	_	_	
Total	\$1,874,316	\$2,677,800	\$2,685,700	\$2,856,400	\$178,600	6.7 %

Grant Descriptions

CONVICTION AND SENTENCING INTEGRITY -- \$131,000

The Department of Justice provides funding for an investigator that will assist with the review of postconviction claims of innocence and act to review and reverse wrongful convictions when appropriate.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASKFORCE -- \$82,000

The Department of Justice provides funding for an assistant state's attorney to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases.

OFFICE OF PROLBLEM SOLVING COURTS -- \$57,700

The Maryland Judiciary provides funding to support direct client services focused on program development in substance abuse cases.

PARALEGAL SUPPORT - GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION GRANT (GVRG) -- \$99,900

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victims Services provides funding to support the agency's effort to reduce gun violence in the County by funding a paralegal/data analysis position. The paralegal will assist with case preparation, legal research and communication with witnesses and maintain the case management system that provides statistics for internal and external purposes.

PRINCE GEORGE'S STRATEGIC INVESTIGATION AND CHARGING UNIT -- \$1,272,900

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services provides funding for the existing Strategic Investigation Unit which aims to prosecute and imprison violent, repeat and chronic offenders to the fullest extent of the law.

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS (PSN) -- \$88,000

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services provides funding for the agency's focus on increased efforts to reduce gun related crimes. This funding will support an additional Assistant State's Attorney (ASA) focused only on gun related cases and will increase our ability to perform a more thorough review of all matters of violations of Maryland law, witness testimony screening and evaluation of material evidence in order to determine if sufficient evidence exists to continue with prosecution or charging individuals by information or Grand Jury indictment.

STOP THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (VAWA) -- \$90,000

The Department of Justice provides funding to increase prosecution of cases resulting from domestic violence.

SPECIAL UNITED STATES ATTORNEY (SAUSA) -- \$105,500

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services provides funding in support of investigations and prosecutions of violent crime in Prince George's County.

VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM (VTPC) -- \$131,600

The Maryland State Department of State Police Vehicle Theft Prevention Council provides support to the agency's effort to focus on auto theft cases from the initial apprehension of suspects by police, through pretrial preparation, victim contact and screening cases for the Circuit Court, to trial and sentencing.

VICTIM ADVOCACY GRANT -- \$797,800

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services provides funding to assist in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to aid domestic violence victims in Prince George's County, Maryland. The program focuses on providing Supportive Assistance and Financial Empowerment (SAFE) solutions to battered women and their children. Victims will be linked to supportive resources including clinical services, preparation for testimony and be advised of their rights and potential outcomes of the case(s) being prosecuted.