

<b>1100 - General Fund</b>	<b>2005-06 Actual</b>	<b>2006-07 Actual</b>	<b>2007-08 Actual</b>	<b>2008-09 Request</b>	<b>2008-09 Adopted</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>
<b>Revenues</b>						
Other Gov't'l Agencies	\$1,881,808	\$1,989,985	\$1,539,556	\$2,071,200	\$2,071,200	\$531,644
Charges for Services	229,581	326,673	316,570	295,000	295,000	(21,570)
Other Revenues	18,384	95,950	92,028	105,500	105,500	13,472
<b>General Fund Support</b>	<b>1,379,544</b>	<b>1,641,084</b>	<b>2,340,958</b>	<b>2,261,021</b>	<b>2,211,495</b>	<b>(129,463)</b>
Total Revenues	\$3,509,318	\$4,053,692	\$4,289,112	\$4,732,721	\$4,683,195	\$394,083
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Salaries & Benefits	\$3,077,837	\$3,423,992	\$3,782,312	\$4,342,661	\$4,317,901	\$535,589
Supplies & Services	436,555	488,847	549,360	512,146	487,380	(61,980)
Other Charges	109,810	183,345	131,120	162,462	162,462	31,342
Fixed Assets	0	102,445	25,667	2,950	2,950	(22,717)
Expense Transfer	(114,884)	(144,937)	(199,347)	(287,498)	(287,498)	(88,151)
Total Expenditures	\$3,509,318	\$4,053,692	\$4,289,112	\$4,732,721	\$4,683,195	\$394,083
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Allocated Positions	50.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	0.00
Temporary (FTE)	0.17	1.00	0.70	1.32	1.32	0.62
<b>Total Staffing</b>	<b>50.17</b>	<b>55.00</b>	<b>54.70</b>	<b>55.32</b>	<b>55.32</b>	<b>0.62</b>

The District Attorney's Office includes the following budget units:

- 1100 204 Northern California Computer Crimes Task Force
- 1100 205 District Attorney
- 1100 208 Victim-Witness Program
- 1100 211 Child Abuse Services Team (CAST)
- 1100 220 State Board of Control
- 1100 252 DA Grant to Encourage Arrests

In addition, the following budget units, which are no longer in use, are included in the summary table for past years:

- 1100 212 Anti-Drug Abuse Enforcement Program, through FY 2005-06

**Purpose**

The District Attorney, under Government Code § 26500, is vested with exclusive discretionary responsibility to initiate and conduct, on behalf of the People, the prosecution of public offenses occurring within the boundaries of Humboldt County. The District Attorney, as the public prosecutor of both criminal and civil cases, ensures that justice is done and that the rights of all are safeguarded.

The District Attorney (DA) works with every component of the criminal justice system and the entire community to protect the innocent, to convict and appropriately punish the guilty, and to protect the rights of victims and witnesses.

**Mission**

To preserve and promote our legal system and the welfare of the community to assure a free and just society under law by seeking the truth, enforcing criminal and civil laws in a just and ethical manner and by encouraging and promoting crime prevention and community improvement.

**Major Budget Changes**

In budget unit 205, for FY 2008-09, federal Anti-Drug Abuse funding is expected to remain stable at \$156,606. However, in FY 2007-08 the program received a seventeen percent increase in the grant from \$74,385 to \$156,606. The Marijuana Suppression funds will be suspended for FY 2008-09. This will have a negative impact of \$30,000.

An increase in revenue from DA seizures is anticipated. This estimated increase is based on prior year actuals. This additional revenue has been applied to offset anticipated increased expert witness costs associated with high profile trials. In addition, to offset increases in salaries and benefits, utilities and Information Service charges the General Fund contribution has been increased.

### **Program Discussion**

The main focus of the programs under the Office of the District Attorney's purview is directed to the prosecution of criminal offenses. This is done by holding criminals accountable for their actions and seeking appropriate punishment. Within this budget grouping are specialized, grant funded, units that focus on specific crime types. These include the investigation and/or prosecution of: computer crimes (e.g. identity thefts), domestic violence, child abuse and moderate to high level drug manufacturers and dealers. Assisting the victims and witnesses of crime is a significant aspect of successful prosecutions. Three of the budget units deal exclusively with aiding victims. They include the core Victim Witness program, a program that deals with assisting victims of crime in filing claims, and a unit that deals exclusively with victims of domestic violence.

Additionally, the District Attorney has oversight of the Child Abuse Services Team (CAST). CAST is a multi-agency team that comes together with a focus on investigating cases of child abuse and neglect with the objective of successful prosecution

and at the same time protecting the victim from being re-victimized by the system.

### **1100-204 Northern California Computer Crimes Task Force**

The Northern California Computer Crimes program is the Humboldt County District Attorney's component of a regional grant administered by the Marin County District Attorney's Office that focuses on investigations into computer crimes. The grant has enabled the District Attorney's Office to assemble a forensic computer lab that services Northern California from Marin County to Del Norte County. The program reimburses 80% of a full time investigator. This grant also provides for extensive investigator training. The assigned investigator is the only law enforcement agent in the Northern area capable of conducting forensic investigations of Macintosh computers.

The adopted budget for FY 2008-09 is \$67,500, which only covers eighty-percent of the District Attorney Investigator's salary and benefits. It does not cover Internet access, office supplies, vehicle usage, training or travel. These expenses will be paid from the Office's General Fund allocation.

**1100-205 District Attorney**

This is the main operational budget for the District Attorney's Office. This budget unit covers costs for the prosecution of the majority of the 11,084 investigations that were referred to the Office from law enforcement during 2007. During that time period, 863 felony cases, 5,388 misdemeanor and 1,114 infractions were filed and prosecuted by 14 Deputy District Attorney positions, which are included in a total staff of 48.0 FTE. The Office sent 304 criminals to prison. In addition to the traditional prosecution of cases, staff concluded forfeitures of \$304,323 worth of assets from drug cases and settled Check Enforcement Program actions that generated \$22,050 in victim fees and monies paid in 2007.

The District Attorney partnered with the Superior Court, Public Defender and many other service organizations to develop the Humboldt County Homeless Court program - the focus of which is to counteract the effect of criminal cases pushing homeless defendants further outside society and the STAR court – the focus is to provide a non-custodial alternative to dealing with non-violent mentally ill offenders.

Staff continues to work on increasing efficiency and the implementation of technology and organizational structures that increases productivity, accountability, communication and versatility. Some of the most recent improvements include the creation of a database to manage juvenile records and the development of a comprehensive case management system.

The adopted budget for budget unit 205 in FY 2008-09 is \$3,703,841. The total Office FY 2008-09 budget is \$4,683,195. This will be offset by revenue of \$979,000 from various sources including the District Attorney portion of Proposition 172 funding, and funding received from vehicle registrations to aid in prosecution of driving under the influence.

**1100-208 Victim-Witness**

This budget unit funds the core component of the county's Victim-Witness Assistance Center. This budget unit is federally funded, with the state providing the required match. The program's primary directive is to serve victims of crime. The most vulnerable populations are served:

- Victims of domestic violence,
- Child and adult sexual abuse/assault victims,
- Victims of drunk drivers,
- Elder abuse victims, and
- Families of homicide victims.

Services include crisis intervention, emergency assistance, information and referral, case status and disposition tracking, court escort and support, assistance with opening state Victim of Crime claims, domestic violence restraining order assistance and notification to victims of sexual assault of possible AIDS exposure.

The amount of funding available from existing sources has increased slightly for FY 2007-08. However, the rate of

increase has not been sufficient to keep up with expenditure increases. The adopted budget of \$181,514 is balanced due to a vacant position. If current funding trends continue, the program will need alternative methods of funding or be forced to decrease staffing and services.

**1100-211 Child Abuse Services Team**

The Child Abuse Services Team (CAST) is a multi-agency collaborative effort that seeks to reduce trauma to victims of child abuse, sexual assault and/or neglect, and to hold the defendant accountable.

A specially trained social worker conducts forensic interviews. A Mental Health clinician provides services for victims and their families. Prosecutors and investigative staff work closely with law enforcement agencies and a social worker to reduce trauma to the victim. The result is a better-prepared case for prosecution.

The adopted budget for FY 2008-09 of \$361,395 includes salaries and benefits for the prosecutor, a full time investigator and clerical support, as well as operational costs for the center. A \$10,000 developmental grant from the National Children's Alliance supports specialized training and subsidizes monthly Advisory Board Meetings, and \$10,000 is to be transferred from seized funds. Additional Child Abuse Vertical Prosecution grant revenue of \$61,395 was added to the budget to support a new Victim Witness Program Specialist position. The remaining \$280,000 is reimbursed from the Department of Health & Human Services.

**1100-220 State Board of Control**

The county has entered into an agreement with the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board for the purpose of verifying and submitting claims for unreimbursed financial losses of local crime victims. By verifying claims locally, this program expedites reimbursement to victims and health care providers. The program also provides emergency funding for funeral and burial costs and relocation costs to victims of domestic violence.

A request for funding has been made for \$136,891 from the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board. The budget covers the reimbursement costs to the main Victim Witness budget unit 208 for administrative oversight, costs of a Victim Witness Program Specialist who is responsible for processing victim of crime claims, an Office Assistant who provides clerical support, and operating expenses.

**1100-252 Grant to Encourage Arrests**

The Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies has been developed with funding from the federal government under the Violence Against Women Act. The objective of the program is to work with local law enforcement agencies to develop uniform policies and procedures for dealing with domestic violence cases and to utilize victim advocates assuring victim participation and safety.

The adopted budget for FY 2008-09 budget is \$232,054. No reduction or increase in the funding level is anticipated. The

Office will continue to administer the two-year grant from the federal government that was secured in FY 2006-07 for an additional year. This budget unit will continue to fund three advocates and a part-time investigator who will work with local law enforcement agencies to meet the main objective of the program - development of uniform policies and procedures in dealing with cases of domestic violence.

**2007-08 Accomplishments**

1. Increased prosecution of drug related crimes by 60.8%.
2. Increased seizure/forfeitures of drug money.
3. Produced 256 State Prison Commitments for serious felony offenses.
4. Increased restitution to victims under the Check Enforcement Program.
5. Decreased property crimes by 9.7% and 4.9% decrease in Larceny.
6. Hosted DUI Field Sobriety Training for prosecutors and law enforcement throughout state in Eureka, California through partnership with California District Attorney Association's Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor which was provided to prosecution and law enforcement agencies at no cost and negotiated additional training

for prosecutors and law enforcement in the area of DUI and drug recognition for 2008.

7. Continued efforts to collaborate with county governmental and non-governmental agencies to improve conditions and services for crime victims, the mentally ill, homeless, dependent adults, children and those suffering from drug addiction.
8. Hosted United States Attorney General presentation to Humboldt County Law Enforcement Chiefs Association in effort to coordinate efforts in the prosecution of felons in possession of firearms and other serious crimes.
9. Entered into Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Attorney's Office to designate Humboldt County Deputy District Attorney as federal prosecutor for local federal cases with reimbursement of salary costs to Humboldt County.
10. Established Environmental/Consumer Protection Unit.

**2008-09 Objectives**

1. To increase this Office's responsiveness and accountability by participation in crime prevention measures, community outreach efforts, community safety, staff participation on various committees, taskforces and special interest groups.

2. To establish and implement an Insurance Fraud Investigative Unit.
3. To increase protection of children, dependents adults and the elderly through increased enforcement of both criminal and civil laws.
4. To increase protection and enforcement of environmental and consumer laws and regulations.

**Goals**

1. Reduce crime through identification, prosecution and prevention of crime.
2. Increase public safety through prosecution and imprisonment of violent offenders.
3. Improve investigations of serious felony cases throughout Humboldt County.
4. Expand role of District Attorney’s Office in the identification, investigation and prosecution of crimes

throughout Humboldt County and within cities of Humboldt County.

5. Expand the role of the District Attorney Investigators in the identification and investigation of crimes throughout Humboldt County and within the cities of Humboldt County.
6. Develop meaningful, safe, non-custodial alternatives to address mental illness, drug addiction, homelessness and poverty.
7. Balance the needs of law-abiding medical marijuana patients and their caretakers with community need to control ancillary criminal and social issues associated with lawful marijuana production, distribution and possession.
8. Make Humboldt County a training center for prosecutors and law enforcement throughout the state and, especially in Northern California.
9. Develop a Community Prosecution Unit to assist communities in addressing their unique concerns.

**Performance Measures**

1. <i>Description of Performance Measure:</i> Number of Cases referred for Prosecution.				
<i>FY 2004-05 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2005-06 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2006-07 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2007-08 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2008-09 Projected</i>
10,273	10,328	10,454	11,084	11,500
<i>Describe why this measure is important and/or what it tells us about the performance of this department:</i> Increases in the number of cases referred for prosecution indicate increased coordination and communication between law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office.				
2. <i>Description of Performance Measure:</i> Number of computer/Identity theft cases investigated.				
<i>FY 2004-05 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2005-06 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2006-07 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2007-08 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2008-09 Projected</i>
61	66	68	64	65
<i>Describe why this measure is important and/or what it tells us about the performance of this department:</i> Identity theft is a growing problem. The Office is using its newly-developed Check Enforcement Program to hold offenders accountable through restitution.				
3. <i>Description of Performance Measure:</i> Number of ongoing victim cases served by the Victim Witness Program.				
<i>FY 2004-05 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2005-06 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2006-07 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2007-08 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2008-09 Projected</i>
924	1100	1200	1148	1150
<i>Describe why this measure is important and/or what it tells us about the performance of this department:</i> It is important to support victims of crime through the criminal justice process by ensuring that they are provided direct services or referrals.				
4. <i>Description of Performance Measure:</i> Dollar amount of drug-related assets seized through cooperative efforts with the community.				
<i>FY 2004-05 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2005-06 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2006-07 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2007-08 Actual</i>	<i>FY 2008-09 Projected</i>
\$446,000	\$224,025	\$300,000	\$502,835	\$550,000
<i>Describe why this measure is important and/or what it tells us about the performance of this department:</i> Increase in the amount of funds seized indicate increased coordination and communication between law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office.				

**Organization Chart:**



