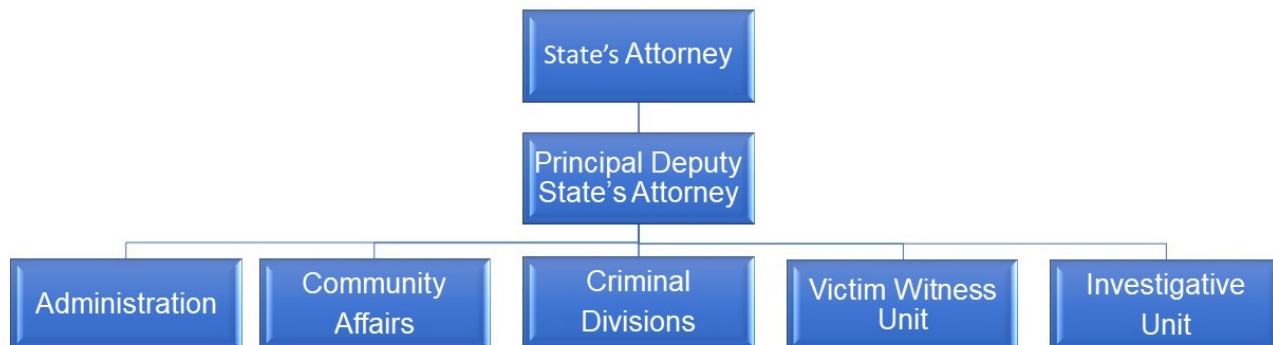


# Office of the State's Attorney



## 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 Symposium to address and update residents of Prince George's County as well as the Youth Justice Symposium.
- Launched the Human Trafficking Diversion Program in the District Court Unit as a method to continue 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 restriction to allow defendants over the age of 18, generally, to participate, thus, widening the eligibility pool.
- Initiated and developed the Prince George's County's strangulation protocol in collaboration with the State's Attorney's Office, law enforcement agencies, healthcare professionals and various social service organizations.

- Established 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 proposed budget for the Office of the State's Attorney is \$24,409,500, an increase of \$1,518,800 or 6.6% over the FY 2020 approved budget.

### Expenditures by Fund Type

| Fund Types   | FY 2019 Actual      |               | FY 2020 Budget      |               | FY 2020 Estimate    |               | FY 2021 Proposed    |               |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
|              | Amount              | % Total       | Amount              | % Total       | Amount              | % Total       | Amount              | % Total       |
| General Fund | \$18,231,200        | 90.7%         | \$20,212,900        | 88.3%         | \$19,749,000        | 88.9%         | \$21,712,400        | 89.0%         |
| Grant Funds  | 1,874,316           | 9.3%          | 2,677,800           | 11.7%         | 2,473,600           | 11.1%         | 2,697,100           | 11.0%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>\$20,105,516</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>\$22,890,700</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>\$22,222,600</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>\$24,409,500</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

### GENERAL FUND

The FY 2021 proposed General Fund budget for the Office of the State's Attorney is \$21,712,400, an increase of \$1,499,500 or 7.4% over the FY 2020 approved budget.

### Reconciliation from Prior Year

|   | Expenditures        |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>FY 2020 Approved Budget</b>  | <b>\$20,212,900</b> |
| <b>Increase Cost: Compensation - Mandated Salary Requirements</b>   | <b>\$608,000</b>    |
| <b>Increase Cost: Operating - Technology Cost Allocation</b> — Increase in charges based on the new methodology to support anticipated countywide costs | <b>387,100</b>      |

**Reconciliation from Prior Year** *(continued)*

|  | <b>Expenditures</b> |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Increase Cost: Fringe Benefits</b> — Increase in the fringe benefit rate from 31.5% to 31.7% and compensation adjustments | 245,300             |
| <b>Increase Cost: Operating</b> — Increase in the interpreter/translation fees contract to align with anticipated costs      | 124,000             |
| <b>Increase Cost: Compensation</b> — Salary adjustments for staff retention  | 75,900              |
| <b>Increase Cost: Recovery Reduction</b> — Decrease in recoverable salaries  | 50,000              |
| <b>Increase Cost: Operating</b> — Increase in scheduled vehicle maintenance costs  | 9,200               |
| <b>FY 2021 Proposed Budget</b>   | <b>\$21,712,400</b> |

**GRANT FUNDS**

The FY 2021 proposed grant budget for the Office of the State’s Attorney is \$2,697,100, an increase of \$19,300 or 0.7% over the FY 2020 approved budget. Major sources of funds in the FY 2021 proposed budget include:

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

**Reconciliation from Prior Year**

|   | <b>Expenditures</b> |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>FY 2020 Approved Budget</b>  | <b>\$2,677,800</b>  |
| <b>Add: New Program</b> — Conviction and Sentencing Integrity                     | \$131,000           |
| <b>Add: New Program</b> — Special United States Attorney (SAUSA)                  | 105,500             |
| <b>Add: New Program</b> — Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prosecution (VAWA) | 90,000              |
| <b>Add: New Program</b> — Human Trafficking Taskforce                             | 82,000              |
| <b>Add: New Program</b> — Gun Violence Initiative (GVRG)                          | 39,900              |
| <b>Enhance: Existing Program</b> — Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)               | 11,800              |
| <b>Reduce: Existing Program</b> — Vehicle Theft Prevention (VTPC)                 | (22,700)            |
| <b>Eliminate: Existing Program</b> — Paralegal Support (GVRG)                     | (39,900)            |
| <b>Eliminate: Existing Program</b> — Stop the Violence against Women              | (95,000)            |
| <b>Eliminate: Existing Program</b> — State Grant                                  | (125,000)           |
| <b>Eliminate: Existing Program</b> — Juvenile Diversion Program                   | (158,300)           |
| <b>FY 2021 Proposed Budget</b>  | <b>\$2,697,100</b>  |

**STAFF AND BUDGET RESOURCES**

| Authorized Positions       | FY 2019 Budget | FY 2020 Budget | FY 2021 Proposed | Change FY20-FY21 | Positions By Classification                | FY 2021    |           |              |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--|------------|-----------|--------------|
|                            |                |                |                  |                  |  | Full Time  | Part Time | Limited Term |
| <b>General Fund</b>        |                |                |                  |                  |  |            |           |              |
| Full Time - Civilian       | 177            | 177            | 177              | 0                | Administrative Aide                        | 30         | 0         | 0            |
| Full Time - Sworn          | 0              | 0              | 0                | 0                | Administrative Assistant                   | 3          | 0         | 0            |
| Subtotal - FT              | 177            | 177            | 177              | 0                | Administrative Specialist                  | 1          | 0         | 0            |
| Part Time                  | 5              | 5              | 5                | 0                | Assistant State's Attorney                 | 90         | 0         | 13           |
| Limited Term               | 0              | 0              | 0                | 0                | Audio Visual Specialist                    | 1          | 0         | 0            |
|                            |                |                |                  |                  | Budget Management Analyst                  | 2          | 0         | 0            |
| <b>Grant Program Funds</b> |                |                |                  |                  | Community Developer                        | 16         | 0         | 11           |
| Full Time - Civilian       | 0              | 0              | 0                | 0                | Community Development Aide                 | 0          | 1         | 1            |
| Full Time - Sworn          | 0              | 0              | 0                | 0                | Deputy State's Attorney                    | 2          | 0         | 0            |
| Subtotal - FT              | 0              | 0              | 0                | 0                | Executive Administrative Aide              | 1          | 0         | 0            |
| Part Time                  | 0              | 0              | 0                | 0                | General Clerk                              | 2          | 2         | 0            |
| Limited Term               | 32             | 34             | 35               | 1                | Information Technology Project Coordinator | 3          | 0         | 0            |
|                            |                |                |                  |                  | Investigator                               | 10         | 0         | 4            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               |                |                |                  |                  | Law Clerk                                  | 1          | 2         | 0            |
| Full Time - Civilian       | 177            | 177            | 177              | 0                | Legal Assistant                            | 12         | 0         | 6            |
| Full Time - Sworn          | 0              | 0              | 0                | 0                | Personnel Analyst                          | 1          | 0         | 0            |
| Subtotal - FT              | 177            | 177            | 177              | 0                | Principal Deputy State's Attorney          | 1          | 0         | 0            |
| Part Time                  | 5              | 5              | 5                | 0                | State's Attorney                           | 1          | 0         | 0            |
| Limited Term               | 32             | 34             | 35               | 1                | <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>177</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>35</b>    |

**Expenditures by Category - General Fund**

| Category        | FY 2019<br>Actual   | FY 2020<br>Budget   | FY 2020<br>Estimate | FY 2021<br>Proposed | Change FY20-FY21   |             |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|
|                 |                     |                     |                     |                     | Amount (\$)        | Percent (%) |
| Compensation    | \$12,827,695        | \$14,242,500        | \$13,988,300        | \$14,926,400        | \$683,900          | 4.8%        |
| Fringe Benefits | 3,999,766           | 4,486,400           | 4,277,500           | 4,731,700           | 245,300            | 5.5%        |
| Operating       | 1,601,480           | 1,601,800           | 1,601,000           | 2,122,100           | 520,300            | 32.5%       |
| Capital Outlay  | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                   | —                  |             |
| <b>SubTotal</b> | <b>\$18,428,941</b> | <b>\$20,330,700</b> | <b>\$19,866,800</b> | <b>\$21,780,200</b> | <b>\$1,449,500</b> | <b>7.1%</b> |
| Recoveries      | (197,741)           | (117,800)           | (117,800)           | (67,800)            | 50,000             | -42.4%      |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>\$18,231,200</b> | <b>\$20,212,900</b> | <b>\$19,749,000</b> | <b>\$21,712,400</b> | <b>\$1,499,500</b> | <b>7.4%</b> |

In FY 2021, compensation expenditures increase 4.8% over the FY 2020 budget due to anticipated cost of living and merit adjustments as well as funding for salary adjustments for employee retention. Compensation costs includes funding for 172 out of 177 full time positions and five part time employees. Fringe benefits increase 5.5% over the FY 2020 budget due to compensation adjustments and an increase in the fringe benefit rate.

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

| Category        | FY 2019<br>Actual  | FY 2020<br>Budget  | FY 2020<br>Estimate | FY 2021<br>Proposed | Change FY20-FY21 |             |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------|
|                 |                    |                    |                     |                     | Amount (\$)      | Percent (%) |
| Compensation    | \$1,426,333        | \$1,884,900        | \$2,061,400         | \$1,977,400         | \$92,500         | 4.9%        |
| Fringe Benefits | 74,461             | 310,000            | 200,900             | 233,400             | (76,600)         | -24.7%      |
| Operating       | 373,522            | 482,900            | 211,300             | 486,300             | 3,400            | 0.7%        |
| Capital Outlay  | —                  | —                  | —                   | —                   | —                |             |
| <b>SubTotal</b> | <b>\$1,874,316</b> | <b>\$2,677,800</b> | <b>\$2,473,600</b>  | <b>\$2,697,100</b>  | <b>\$19,300</b>  | <b>0.7%</b> |
| Recoveries      | —                  | —                  | —                   | —                   | —                |             |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>\$1,874,316</b> | <b>\$2,677,800</b> | <b>\$2,473,600</b>  | <b>\$2,697,100</b>  | <b>\$19,300</b>  | <b>0.7%</b> |

The FY 2021 proposed grant budget is \$2,697,100, an increase 0.7% 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<br>Division & Grant Program                     | FY 2020  |          |           | FY 2021  |          |           |
|--|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
|  | FT       | PT       | LTGF      | FT       | PT       | LTGF      |
| <b>SAO Prosecution</b>   |          |          |           |          |          |           |
| Bilingual Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)                           | —        | —        | 3         | —        | —        | —         |
| Human Trafficking Grant  | —        | —        | 2         | —        | —        | 2         |
| Paralegal Support (GVRG)   | —        | —        | 1         | —        | —        | 1         |
| Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit (PGSI) | —        | —        | 21        | —        | —        | 22        |
| Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)                                 | —        | —        | 1         | —        | —        | 1         |
| SAFE Program (VOCA)  | —        | —        | 3         | —        | —        | —         |
| Stop the Violence Against Women (VAWA)                           | —        | —        | 2         | —        | —        | 2         |
| Special United States Attorney                                   | —        | —        | —         | —        | —        | 2         |
| Vehicle Theft Prevention Program (VTPC)                          | —        | —        | 1         | —        | —        | 1         |
| Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)                                     | —        | —        | —         | —        | —        | 4         |
| <b>Total SAO Prosecution</b>                                     | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>35</b> |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>35</b> |

In FY 2021, funding is provided for 35 limited term grant funded (LTGF) positions. The staffing level increases by one position to support the Special United States Attorney grant.

## Grant Funds by Division

| Grant Name  | FY 2019 Actual     | FY 2020 Budget     | FY 2020 Estimate   | FY 2021 Proposed   | Change FY20-FY21 |             |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
|   |                    |                    |                    |                    | Amount (\$)      | Percent (%) |
| <b>SAO Prosecution</b>  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                  |             |
| 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             | —                  | —                |             |
| Paralegal Support (GVRG)  | —                  | 39,900             | 23,200             | 39,900             | —                | 0.0%        |
| Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit (PGSI)    | 1,353,337          | 1,272,900          | 1,185,800          | 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                    | —                  | —                  | 90,000             | 90,000             | 90,000           |             |
| Special United State's Attorney (SAUSA)                             | —                  | —                  | 52,000             | 105,500            | 105,500          |             |
| State Grant   | —                  | 125,000            | —                  | —                  | (125,000)        | -100.0%     |
| Stop the Violence Against Women (VAWA)                              | 94,432             | 95,000             | —                  | —                  | (95,000)         | -100.0%     |
| Vehicle Theft Prevention Program (VTPC)                             | 76,389             | 112,700            | 90,000             | 90,000             | (22,700)         | -20.1%      |
| Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)  | 25,532             | 797,800            | 628,400            | 797,800            | —                | 0.0%        |
| <b>Total SAO Prosecution</b>  | <b>\$1,874,316</b> | <b>\$2,677,800</b> | <b>\$2,473,600</b> | <b>\$2,697,100</b> | <b>\$19,300</b>  | <b>0.7%</b> |
| <b>Subtotal</b>   | <b>\$1,874,316</b> | <b>\$2,677,800</b> | <b>\$2,473,600</b> | <b>\$2,697,100</b> | <b>\$19,300</b>  | <b>0.7%</b> |
| Total Transfer from General Fund - (County Contribution/Cash Match) | —                  | —                  | —                  | —                  | —                |             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$1,874,316</b> | <b>\$2,677,800</b> | <b>\$2,473,600</b> | <b>\$2,697,100</b> | <b>\$19,300</b>  | <b>0.7%</b> |

## Grant Descriptions

### **CONVICTION AND SENTENCING INTEGRITY -- \$131,000**

The Department of justice provides funding for an investigator that will assist with the review of post-conviction 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.

### **PARALEGAL SUPPORT - GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION GRANT (GVRG) -- \$39,900**

The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention 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 UNIT -- \$1,272,900**

The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention 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 Control and Prevention 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.

### **SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROSECUTION -- \$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 Control and Prevention provides funding in support of investigations and prosecutions of violent crime in Prince George's County.

### **VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM (VTPC) -- \$90,000**

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 pre-trial 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 Control and Prevention 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.