

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

- Prosecution of violent and repeat violent offenders, while holistically prosecuting non-violent offenders, where appropriate
- Empower victims and witnesses to participate in the judicial process
- Provide continuous education and outreach programming to internal and external customers and residents of the County

FY 2021 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Reduced the jail population during the COVID 19 pandemic, decreasing the number of pretrial detainees held.
- Reviewed claims for sentence modifications of juveniles prosecuted as adults and sentenced to life in prison or a very lengthy incarceration period.
- Conducted independent investigations of allegations of public corruption and improper use of force to hold law enforcement and public officials accountable for violations of the law.
- Established strangulation as a felony first-degree assault via the Lt Richard J Collins III Act [HB917/ SB 606] allowing the State to prove that a crime was committed either in whole or in part based on race, gender, religion, etc.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AND INITIATIVES IN FY 2022

The office's top priorities in FY 2022 are:

- Increase the number of successful prosecutions of violent, repeat, and chronic offenders while holistically prosecuting non-violent offenders, where appropriate
- Strengthen internal Digital Discovery operations to reduce the number of dismissals and requests for continuances by stabilizing the discovery function
- Promote and expand diversion programming opportunities for the "Emerging Adults" population of non-violent and vulnerable offenders and first-time juvenile offenders to help them become productive members of our community to decrease their likelihood of re-offending to make the County safer for all

FY 2022 BUDGET SUMMARY

The FY 2022 proposed budget for the Office of the State's Attorney is \$21,848,000, a decrease of \$1,670,300 or 9% under the FY 2021 approved budget.

Expenditures by Fund Type

Fund Types	FY 2020 Actual		FY 2021 Budget		FY 2021 Estimate		FY 2022 Proposed	
	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total
General Fund	\$18,082,237	86.1%	\$20,661,900	87.9%	\$19,174,600	88.7%	\$19,602,600	89.7%
Grant Funds	2,922,920	13.9%	2,856,400	12.1%	2,437,300	11.3%	2,245,400	10.3%
Total	\$21,005,157	100.0%	\$23,518,300	100.0%	\$21,611,900	100.0%	\$21,848,000	100.0%

GENERAL FUND

The FY 2022 proposed budget for the Office of the State's Attorney is \$19,602,600, a decrease of \$1,059,300 or 5.1% under the FY 2021 approved budget.

Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
FY 2021 Approved Budget	\$20,661,900
Add: Operating — New contract for Use of Force, Conviction Integrity Case Review and On-Demand Language Line; Operating equipment and supplies to support new Assistant States Attorney	\$183,100
Increase Cost: Operating - Technology Cost Allocation — Increase in OIT charges based on anticipated countywide costs for technology	161,900
Add: Compensation Cash Match — Align County contribution as required for FY 2022 VOCA & VAWA grants	135,400
Add: Compensation - New Position — Assistant States Attorney for the Digital Discovery Unit	75,000
Decrease Cost: Operating — Net operating adjustment training, mileage reimbursement & other operating equipment to align with historical spending; the general office supply and vehicle repair budget decreases to support anticipated costs	(33,700)
Decrease Cost: Operating — Net adjustment in operating contracts to align with anticipated costs	(125,800)
Decrease Cost: Recovery Increase — Increase in recoverable salaries	(147,300)

Reconciliation from Prior Year *(continued)*

	Expenditures
Decrease Cost: Fringe Benefits — Adjustment in the fringe benefit rate from 31.7 % to 31.9% to align with anticipated costs as well as compensation adjustments	(244,000)
Decrease Cost: Compensation Increase in Salary Lapse and Staff Attrition — Net salary adjustments to align with anticipated salary requirements	(1,063,900)
FY 2022 Proposed Budget	\$19,602,600

GRANT FUNDS

The FY 2022 proposed grant budget for the Office of the State’s Attorney is \$2,245,400, a decrease of \$611,000 or 21.4% under the FY 2021 approved budget. Major sources of funds in the FY 2022 proposed budget include:

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

Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
FY 2021 Approved Budget	\$2,856,400
Add: New Grant — Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA	\$156,700
Reduce: Existing Program/Service — Vehicle Theft Prevention Program (VTPC)	(3,600)
Reduce: Existing Program/Service — Special United States Attorney (SAUSA)	(11,400)
Eliminate: Existing Program/Service — Office of Problem Solving Courts	(57,700)
Reduce: Existing Program/Service — Gun Violence Reduction Grant (GVRG)	(60,000)
Eliminate: Existing Program/Service — Human Trafficking Taskforce	(82,000)
Eliminate: Existing Program/Service — Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)	(88,000)
Reduce: Existing Program/Service — Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit (PGSI)	(127,000)
Reduce: Existing Program/Service — Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)	(338,000)
FY 2022 Proposed Budget	\$2,245,400

STAFF AND BUDGET RESOURCES

Authorized Positions	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed	Change FY21-FY22
General Fund				
Full Time - Civilian	177	177	178	1
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	177	177	178	1
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	34	35	33	(2)
TOTAL				
Full Time - Civilian	177	177	178	1
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	177	177	178	1
Part Time	5	5	5	0
Limited Term	34	35	33	(2)

Positions By Classification	FY 2022		
	Full Time	Part Time	Limited Term
Administrative Aide	28	0	0
Administrative Assistant	3	0	0
Administrative Specialist	1	0	0
Assistant State's Attorney	91	0	12
Audio Visual Specialist	1	0	0
Budget Management Analyst	2	0	0
Community Developer	16	0	11
Community Development Aide	0	1	0
Deputy State's Attorney	2	0	0
Executive Administrative Aide	1	0	0
General Clerk	2	1	0
Information Technology Project Coordinator	3	0	0
Investigator	11	0	4
Law Clerk	1	1	1
Legal Assistant	13	2	5
Human Resources Analyst	1	0	0
Principal Deputy State's Attorney	1	0	0
State's Attorney	1	0	0
TOTAL	178	5	33

Expenditures by Category - General Fund

Category	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Proposed	Change FY21-FY22	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$12,402,445	\$14,128,800	\$12,893,500	\$13,275,300	\$(853,500)	-6.0%
Fringe Benefits	3,964,998	4,478,800	4,087,200	4,234,800	(244,000)	-5.4%
Operating	1,772,593	2,122,100	2,261,700	2,307,600	185,500	8.7%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
SubTotal	\$18,140,037	\$20,729,700	\$19,242,400	\$19,817,700	\$(912,000)	-4.4%
Recoveries	(57,800)	(67,800)	(67,800)	(215,100)	(147,300)	217.3%
Total	\$18,082,237	\$20,661,900	\$19,174,600	\$19,602,600	\$(1,059,300)	-5.1%

In FY 2022, compensation expenditures decrease 6.0% under the FY 2021 budget due to increased attrition and reduced funding for vacant positions. Funding is provided for a new Assistant State's Attorney position to support the Digital Discovery Unit. Compensation costs include funding for 173 out of 178 full time and three out of five part time positions. Fringe benefits decrease 5.4% under the FY 2021 budget to align with anticipated costs.

Operating expenditures increase 8.7% over the FY 2021 budget primarily due to an increase in the technology cost allocation charges based on countywide costs. Increased funding is also provided for use of force, conviction integrity case review and on-demand language line services.

Recoveries increase 217.3% over the FY 2021 budget to align with the anticipated funding available through the Drug Enforcement and Education Fund and the Circuit Court's Office of Problem Solving Courts.

GRANT FUNDS SUMMARY

Expenditures by Category - Grant Funds

Category	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Proposed	Change FY21-FY22	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$1,801,689	\$2,153,200	\$1,868,500	\$1,735,600	\$(417,600)	-19.4%
Fringe Benefits	206,384	216,100	213,300	260,300	44,200	20.5%
Operating	914,847	487,100	355,500	384,900	(237,600)	-48.8%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	—
SubTotal	\$2,922,920	\$2,856,400	\$2,437,300	\$2,380,800	\$(475,600)	-16.7%
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	\$2,922,920	\$2,856,400	\$2,437,300	\$2,380,800	\$(475,600)	-16.7%

The FY 2022 proposed grant budget is \$2,380,800, a decrease of \$475,600 or 16.7% under the FY 2021 approved budget. This decrease is primarily due to the elimination of the Human Trafficking task force, Office of Problem Solving Courts, and Project Safe Neighborhoods grant.

Staff Summary by Division - Grant Funds

Staff Summary by Division & Grant Program	FY 2021			FY 2022		
	FT	PT	LTGF	FT	PT	LTGF
SAO Prosecution						
Combat Human Trafficking Grant	—	—	1	—	—	1
Conviction and Sentencing Grant	—	—	1	—	—	1
Gun Violence Reduction Initiative (GVRG)	—	—	1	—	—	1
Maryland Crime Intelligence Network (MCIN)	—	—	—	—	—	1
Office of Problem Solving Courts	—	—	1	—	—	1
Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit (PGSI)	—	—	19	—	—	17
Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)	—	—	1	—	—	—
Special United States Attorney (SAUSA)	—	—	2	—	—	1
Stop the Violence Against Women (VAWA)	—	—	2	—	—	2
Vehicle Theft Prevention Program (VTPC)	—	—	1	—	—	2
Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)	—	—	6	—	—	6
Total SAO Prosecution	—	—	35	—	—	33
Total	—	—	35	—	—	33

In FY 2022, funding is provided for 33 limited term grant funded (LTGF) positions. The staffing level decreases by two positions to support anticipated costs.

Grant Funds by Division

Grant Name	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Proposed	Change FY21-FY22	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
SAO Prosecution						
Conviction and Integrity Unit (CSIU)	\$—	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$—	0.0%
FY 17/18 JAG Local	14,275	—	—	—	—	
FY19 Vehicle Theft	(553)	—	—	—	—	
FY 20 Paralegal Support (GVRG)	18,168	—	—	—	—	
Gun Violence Reduction Grant (GVRG)	—	99,900	39,900	39,900	(60,000)	-60.1%
Human Trafficking Taskforce	139,676	82,000	62,700	—	(82,000)	-100.0%
Maryland Crime Intelligence Network (MCIN)	—	—	81,700	—	—	
Office of Problem Solving Courts	—	57,700	57,200	—	(57,700)	-100.0%
Prince George's Strategic Investigation and Charging Unit (PGSI)	1,596,794	1,272,900	1,145,900	1,145,900	(127,000)	-10.0%
Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)	75,835	88,000	—	—	(88,000)	-100.0%
Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA	—	—	156,700	156,700	156,700	
Special United State's Attorney (SAUSA)	—	105,500	84,400	94,100	(11,400)	-10.8%
Stop the Violence Against Women (VAWA)	97,505	90,000	90,000	90,000	—	0.0%
Vehicle Theft Prevention Program (VTPC)	71,611	131,600	128,000	128,000	(3,600)	-2.7%
Victim Advocacy Grant (VOCA)	909,609	797,800	459,800	459,800	(338,000)	-42.4%
Total SAO Prosecution	\$2,922,920	\$2,856,400	\$2,437,300	\$2,245,400	\$(611,000)	-21.4%
Subtotal	\$2,922,920	\$2,856,400	\$2,437,300	\$2,245,400	\$(611,000)	-21.4%
Total Transfer from General Fund - (County Contribution/Cash Match)	—	—	—	135,400	—	
Total	\$2,922,920	\$2,856,400	\$2,437,300	\$2,380,800	\$(475,600)	-16.7%

Grant Descriptions

CONVICTION AND SENTENCING INTEGRITY (CSIU) -- \$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. Funds also support a Memorandum of Understanding with the Innocence Project to assist with the investigation of innocence claims from Prince George's County.

GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION GRANT (GVRG) -- \$39,900

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 legal assistant position. The position assists the Guns and Drugs Unit with diversion screening and program eligibility for first-time gun offenders charged with wear, carry and transport charges.

PRINCE GEORGE'S STRATEGIC INVESTIGATION AND CHARGING UNIT -- \$1,145,900

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.

PROSECUTING COLD CASES USING DNA--\$156,700

The Department of Justice provides funding to support the prosecution of violent crime cold cases where DNA from a suspect has been identified to reduce the number of violent crime cold cases awaiting prosecution. Funding supports operating expenses.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY (SAUSA) -- \$94,100

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services provides funding in support of the investigation and prosecution of violent crime in Prince George's County through an assistant state's attorney (ASA) cross-designated as an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office (USAO). This position will work to address violent repeat offenders and criminal organizations involved in illegal drugs and firearms trafficking.

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

The Department of Justice provides funding to support the prosecution of cases resulting from domestic violence and sexual assault. Funding supports two limited term grant funded positions; one district court assistant state's attorney and a part-time victim witness advocate.

VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM (VTPC) -- \$128,000

The Maryland 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. Funding supports two limited term grant funded positions; an assistant state's attorney and a part-time legal assistant.

VICTIM ADVOCACY GRANT -- \$459,800

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 individuals and victims of crime. Victims are linked with advocates/coordinators that advise them of their rights and provide supportive assistance throughout the legal process.