
Prosecuting Attorney

Mission Statement:

Safety, security, and justice for the community through competent, ethical advocacy. Effective representation of county interests.

Functions:

- The Prosecuting Attorney prosecutes felonies and misdemeanors within county jurisdiction.
- The Prosecuting Attorney provides legal counsel to the Board of County Commissioners, defends the county in civil actions and advises department heads and law enforcement agencies.
- The Prosecuting Attorney provides child support enforcement for the state and victim/witness services.

Criminal Division: (eight attorneys, including the elected Prosecuting Attorney)

Prosecutes crimes committed by juveniles and adults from initial review and filing through the appellate process. Provides advice and training in support of law enforcement agencies. Handles related matters such as probation violations, restoration of firearm rights, etc. Participates in diversion programs such as the drug courts and teen court. The highest priorities of this section are the prosecution of violent crime, sex offenses, traffic crimes impacting public safety, drug dealing, and property offenses.

Civil Division: (four attorneys, including the Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney)

Advises county personnel and provides opinions on legal issues and documentation. One position is for the Child Support Division which through a state contract enforces family financial support and related paternity actions and Interstate Compact cases for the D.S.H.S. Division of Child Support. One position is a land use and GMA deputy as well as code enforcement and one position is a Public Works roads deputy. The division has attorneys licensed in all federal and Washington courts and represents the county in all legal matters (except as assigned to outside insurance pool and employment law counsel.)

Administrative Division: (10.8 staff support equivalent)

Responsible for day to day operations essential to keeping the department running while providing all administrative and secretarial support to the three divisions. Included within this section is case management, personnel management and employee assistance, all financial matters (budget, grants, bills and payments) correspondence and office policy. This number includes the office manager, seven and one-half assistants who support the criminal and civil division, one and one-half assistants as staff for support enforcement, and .8 FTE victim-witness liaison. The victim/witness liaison works with the victim/witness legal secretary to lend support to victims in crimes against the person and assists victims of all crimes seeking restitution or crime victims fund compensation; additionally she acts as liaison with the Bounceback Check Diversion program and the Friendship Diversion Program.

Long Term Goals:

- Effective prosecution of crime to provide for the safety of the community, seek justice and hold offenders accountable.
- Enhanced victim/witness program and establishment of crime victim assistance and intervention programs.
- Support alternative justice measures (e.g., juvenile drug court, teen court, prevention work, substance abuse treatment, bad check diversion, and felony diversion) as possible without impairment of the primary mission of the office.
- Train and develop competent, professional deputy prosecutors and staff; cross-train as feasible.
- Establishment of more cost-effective autopsy procedures.
- Establishment of a dedicated county public records officer.

Short Term Objectives:

- More effective civil and criminal prosecution.
- Continue balancing workload assignments and responsibilities.
- More rapid review of referrals from law enforcement.
- Reduce time-lines to complete case prosecution.

Accomplishments in 2009:

- The experienced governmental civil attorney hired last year enabled us to bring litigation in-house that had previously been outsourced to private Seattle firms for savings to the County and taxpayers. This hiring resulted in the successful conclusion of several matters at the trial court and hearings level.
- This hiring also provided the opportunity to increase oversight of employment counsel's representation on various County employment related matters.
- Additionally, the civil division continued emphasis on increasing government accountability by providing more thorough and more frequent legal representation to the County organization as well as responded to an ever-increasing number of public records requests. The civil division also initiated review and purging of archived civil legal documents in compliance with Secretary of State retention schedule requirements in order to reduce the document storage needs of the office.
- In the criminal division, attorneys continued aggressive prosecution of caseloads and brought the average number of pending cases set for trial down by almost fifty cases at any given time. The office continued referring appropriate felonies and misdemeanors to the Friendship Diversion program for non-violent property offenders. A number of high profile cases were successfully completed.
- With stimulus funds, the Friendship Diversion program will be expanded to cases before filing, thus cutting back on the caseloads entering the courts. This expansion of the program is expected to be up and running before the end of September.
- We continued participation in other existing programs such as Drug Court and Teen Court without further reductions in service and continued supplying instructors to law enforcement for training.
- The process of drafting and implementing office policy continued.
- Support staff was realigned to place one senior legal assistant in each of the satellite offices to provide better overall service and leadership.

Workload Indicators:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Estimate
Felonies				
Filed	589	554	5/31 205	550
Hearings	10,089	9317	5/31 3929	9,000
Trials	63	70	5/31 13	40
Juvenile				
Offenses Filed	326	404	134	350
Offenses Referred	552	634	267	500
Hearings	10,087	3,940	5/31 1,612	3,500
Juvenile Truancy By school year (July / June)				
Hearings				
First Appearances				
Contempts				
Reviews				
District Court Crimes Filed and Citations	1,771	1,644	692	1,385*
Civil				
Public Record Requests	34	128	110	225
Legal Action Requests-excluding Road Dept, Parks and Maintenance	369	423	224	450
Legal Action Requests-including Road Dept, Parks and Maintenance	25	56	24	56
Forfeitures	12	20	8	20
Support Enforcement Cases (July-June)	308		433	475
Contempts			76	90
Modifications			87	95
Paternity			209	220
Other			61	70
Total Hearings			422	450

Staffing Level:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Full Time Equivalents	19.80	21.80	22.80	21.36

Prosecuting Attorney Operations Budget

Revenues:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	48,697	62,252	37,208	106,074
Charges for Goods and Services	57,712	14,864	4693	31,475
Fines and Forfeits	122	628	412	600
Miscellaneous Revenues	2,050	502	120	50
Nonrevenues	0	0	0	0
Other Financing Sources	229,228	378,000	150,000	150,000
General Tax Support	1,010,445	1,052,690	676,886	1,353,576
TOTAL	\$1,348,254	\$456,246	\$819,319	\$1,641,775

Expenditures:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Salaries and Wages	952,867	1,080,237	580,472	1,215,103
Personnel Benefits	266,075	312,026	176,284	338,597
Supplies	36,427	55,524	10,182	31,775
Other Services and Charges	61,813	52,029	34,642	53,200
Intergovernmental Services	0	0	0	0
Interfund Payments for Services	1,072	3,480	416	3,100
Capital Outlay	30,000	5,640	17,323	0
TOTAL	\$1,348,254	\$1,508,936	\$819,319	\$1,641,775

Family Services/Child Support Budget

Revenues:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	212,332	278,956	128,139	253,100
Charges for Goods and Services	0	0	0	0
Fines and Forfeits	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	0	0	0	0
Nonrevenues	0	0	0	0
Other Financing Sources	0	0	0	0
General Tax Support	-30,141	-73,472	-31,045	-25,776
TOTAL	\$182,191	\$205,484	\$97,094	\$227,324

Expenditures:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Salaries and Wages	112,676	127,331	60,367	138,196
Personnel Benefits	35,713	43,193	20,680	46,157
Supplies	5,455	3,124	1,328	4,150
Other Services and Charges	27,057	28,843	13,732	29,321
Intergovernmental Services	68	30	189	300
Interfund Payments for Services	1,222	2,962	797	3,100
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	6,100
TOTAL	\$182,191	\$205,484	\$97,094	\$227,324

Coroner Budget

Revenues:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Intergovernmental Revenues	25,271	35,083	22,850	45,250
General Tax Support	81,425	69,452	25,395	73,411
TOTAL	\$106,696	\$104,535	\$48,245	\$118,661

Expenditures:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Other Services and Charges	106,696	104,535	48,245	118,661
TOTAL	\$106,696	\$104,535	\$48,245	\$118,661

Local Crime Victim Compensation Budget

Revenues:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	247,694	193,129	224,099	196,860
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	0	0	0	44,226
Charges for Goods and Services	52,360	76,366	62,225	51,000
Fines and Forfeits	9	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	0	0	0	0
Nonrevenues	101	0	0	0
Other Financing Sources	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$300,155	\$269,495	\$286,324	\$292,086

Expenditures:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Salaries and Wages	45,741	39,555	21,343	45,185
Personnel Benefits	13,831	14,144	7,663	14,824
Supplies	917	434	0	600
Other Services and Charges	684	1,002	0	1,200
Intergovernmental Services	0	0	0	0
Interfund Payments for Services	13,328	22,786	12,019	44,278
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balance	225,654	191,574	245,299	185,999
TOTAL	\$300,155	\$269,495	\$286,324	\$292,086

Agency Structure:

Prosecuting Attorney

Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Administration/Support

Manager- Administration/Support

Administrative Specialist
III
Coroner, Dept Records

Sr. Legal Assistant
Juvenile am/Fam Support
pm
Juvenile VW Support

Sr. Legal Assistant
Superior Court

Sr. Legal Assistant
District Court, Dist Ct. VW

Legal Assistant
Superior Court

Legal Secretary
Civil

Legal Secretary
Superior Court

Legal Secretary
Superior Court

Legal Assistant
Family Support

Victim/Witness Assistant
Superior Court

Criminal Division

Chief Criminal Deputy
Prosecuting Attorney
(not currently funded)

Deputy Prosecutor III
Juvenile

Deputy Prosecutor III
Superior Court

Deputy Prosecutor II
Superior Court

Deputy Prosecutor II
Superior Court

Deputy Prosecutor II
Superior Court

Deputy Prosecutor I
District Court

Deputy Prosecutor I
Appeals

Civil Division

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Deputy Prosecutor III
Roads

Deputy Prosecutor II
Family Support