

**COUNTY OF MADERA
BUDGET UNIT DETAIL
BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-21**

Department: **PUBLIC DEFENDER
(03600)**
Function: **Public Protection**
Activity: **Judicial**
Fund: **General**

	BOARD APPROVED <u>2019-20</u>	CAO BASELINE <u>2020-21</u>	DEPARTMENT REQUEST <u>2020-21</u>	CAO RECOMMENDED <u>2020-21</u>
<u>ESTIMATED REVENUES:</u>				
CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES				
660600 Legal Services	608,532	608,532	690,000	690,000
TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	608,532	608,532	690,000	690,000
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE				
673914 Misc Reimbursement - Legal Fees	28,905	28,905	35,000	35,000
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	28,905	28,905	35,000	35,000
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
680200 OPERATING TRANSFERS IN	320,000	534,198	525,000	525,000
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	320,000	534,198	525,000	525,000
<u>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES</u>	<u>957,437</u>	<u>1,171,635</u>	<u>1,250,000</u>	<u>1,250,000</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>				
SERVICES & SUPPLIES				
721400 Prof. & Specialized Services-Contracts	3,305,964	3,520,162	3,415,964	3,415,964
721433 Prof. & Specialized Services-Outside Attorneys	320,000	320,000	320,000	320,000
721434 Prof. & Specialized Services-Capital Cases	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
TOTAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES	3,725,964	3,940,162	3,835,964	3,835,964
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>3,725,964</u>	<u>3,940,162</u>	<u>3,835,964</u>	<u>3,835,964</u>
<u>NET COUNTY COST (EXP - REV)</u>	<u>2,768,527</u>	<u>2,768,527</u>	<u>2,585,964</u>	<u>2,585,964</u>

PUBLIC DEFENDER

COMMENTS

This Office provides legal defense to indigent defendants in criminal cases. Until 1971, this service was provided solely by private attorneys appointed by the Courts. In 1972, the County established a Public Defender's Office that was operated and staffed by County employees. On September 1, 1977, the Board of Supervisors entered into a contract with a local attorney to perform all the services of this office, which eventually resulted in contracting for three levels of Public Defender services to provide for "Conflict of Interest" cases and circumstances where there are multiple defendants. On May 10, 1994, the County approved a proposal for Public Defender services by a local law firm, which provided and coordinated, through sub-contracts, all levels of indigent defense in criminal cases. Since May 2002, the Board of Supervisors has extended the contract for these services for multiple four-year periods, as well as various amendments to address additional attorneys, contract rate adjustments, and payment of ancillary services. The most recent extension will end June 30, 2017 and a new four-year agreement will be presented for approval prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

ESTIMATED REVENUES

- 660600** **Legal Services** (\$690,000) is recommended increased by \$81,468 based on the projected revenues to be received for Court Appointed Dependency Counsel Services.
- 673000** **Intrafund Revenues** (\$35,000) is recommended increased \$6,095 based on actual revenues received in the prior year.
- 680200** **Operating Transfers In** (\$525,000) is recommended decreased \$9,198 from the prior year based on available realignment revenues.

SERVICES & SUPPLIES

- 721400** **Professional & Specialized Services - Contracts** (\$3,415,964) is recommended based on the fourth year cost of a four year funding agreement.
- 721433** **Professional & Specialized Services - Outside Attorneys** (\$320,000) is recommended unchanged based on projected actual cost of outside attorneys. This amount represents the cost to retain attorneys for Public Defender cases when conflict of interest or multiple defendant cases occur with the contract attorneys.

SERVICES & SUPPLIES (continued)

721434 **Professional & Specialized Services - Capital Cases** (\$100,000) is recommended unchanged, based on the number of special circumstance cases assigned to outside public defense attorneys during the 2017-18 and 2018-19 fiscal years; these cases are currently pending trial. This amount represents the estimated cost to provide legal defense for “Special Circumstance Cases,” previously referred to as “Capital Cases,” which are anticipated to go to trial during the 2018-19 fiscal year. When outside attorneys are assigned by Superior Court as a Public Defender, services for these cases are provided through a flat-fee, per case basis with three classifications varying in degree and complexity; investigation and ancillary costs are in addition to the fees listed below:

Category 1 - \$35,000 for a relatively non-complex case with one defendant and one victim.

Category 2 - \$55,000 for a more difficult case with multiple victims or defendants, special circumstances, or complex factual or legal issues.

Category 3 - \$70,000 for the most complex case with multiple victims/defendants, high publicity/notoriety, or very complex factual or legal issues.