

Priority: Accountability
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:
Frameworks:

Lead Agency: County Attorney
Program Contact: Agnes Sowle

Executive Summary

This office reviews the legal aspects of County government operations, defends claims against the County, and assists with Federal State and County requirements. The County Attorney helps with risk managemnet, provides legal training, and strives to provdie clients with appropriate advice before legal issues become legal problems.

Program Description

The County Attorney's Office prepares and reviews legal documents including contracts, ordinances, resolutions, Board orders, Chair executive rules, bonds and others. It provides legal advice and counsel to the Board, the Chair, the Sheriff, the Auditor, the county departments, offices, advisory boards, commissons and committees. It prepares formal written opinions deemed necessary by the County Attorney regarding significant interpretations of federal and state laws, the Charter, ordinances and other documents. It represents the County and its elected officials and employees in all appropriate legal matters including defense of claims against the County and initiation of claims on the County's behalf.

Program Justification

The County Attorney's Office assists the County's accountability both externally and internally. It helps the County maintain the perception of trust and confidence by providing its elected officials and employees with legal information and advice to help them operate in compliance with the law. It protects the County from the financial consequences of accidental losses and preserves the County's assets and public service capabilities from loss, destruction and depletion. It also helps to restore the general fund by initiating collection actions when appropriate.

Performance Measures

Performance measures are not currently used by this office.

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

Not applicable.

Program Mandate: 2 Mandated Program with Funding/Service Level Choice

The office of the County Attorney is mandated by Ordinance (MCC 7.200)

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$0	\$1,982,836	\$0	\$2,100,921
Contracts	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$15,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$106,925	\$0	\$111,500
Internal Services	\$0	\$340,375	\$0	\$376,383
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$2,455,136	\$0	\$2,603,804
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$2,455,136	\$0	\$2,603,804
Program Total:	\$2,455,136		\$2,603,804	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,603,804
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,603,804

Explanation of Revenues

The County Attorney's office does not generate revenues.

Significant Program Changes

The County Attorney's office will undertake collection of ITAX. A few lawsuits for non-payment of 2003 taxes may be filed prior to the 2006 budget year, but the majority will begin after July 1. This collection effort will continue until tax owed for all three years is collected or determined to be uncollectable.