

**Priority:** Safety  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating  
**Related Programs:**

**Lead Agency:** Sheriff  
**Program Contact:** Brett Elliott

**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

The Civil Unit is the enforcement arm of the civil and probate court system. Notice and enforcement actions originate through the civil, probate, and family courts and are processed through the delivery and services made by this unit. Civil enforcement actions are mandated to the County Sheriff.

Per Executive budget cuts, the 18 deputy FTE originally requested in this offer have been cut by 4 FTE. The 4 enforcement FTE lost to the executive budget cuts are now requested in program offer 60064B. Reduction in MCSO's capacity to serve civil papers will have a direct impact on quality of life for many families and for public safety by delaying implementation of such things as restraining orders, child custody changes, and evictions.

**Program Description**

The Civil Unit is the ministerial arm of the Circuit Court. All court actions are initiated through a notification to the parties of a pending action, many delivered by the Civil Unit. Through the Civil Unit, court orders to seize and sell property, satisfy landlord/tenant actions, and enforce child custody disputes are enforced in an objective, fair, and equitable manner in compliance with Oregon statutes and Rules on Civil Procedure. Through the Probate Court, families, police officers and other interested parties seek involuntary commitment for allegedly mentally ill persons suffering from episodes so debilitating that they are a danger to themselves or others. The Civil Unit Deputy locates, transports, and provides security for the person and the court. When domestic violence threatens the family unit, Deputies in the Civil Unit serve domestic violence restraining orders to protect family members from violence and aggressive behavior.

The Civil Process Unit of the Multnomah County Sheriff's has experienced more cases of resistance in some areas of work as officers of the court. In particular, Sheriff's Evictions have evolved into barricaded subject situations requiring an immense dedication of resources and time- several meant calling out the Multnomah County Sheriff- Gresham Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team to surround the property or building and bring the event to conclusion. Persons subject to the Court's orders have threatened to kill uniformed staff, displayed firearms, discharged firearms, and fortified apartments and homes to prevent the court action. It is routine for persons to hide and avoid us within these homes at times but it is becoming evident the level of resistance has heightened and the numbers of persons arrested or placed on police mental holds is moving up.

**Program Justification**

A balanced public safety system provides citizens access to address their grievances in a safe, fair and equitable manner. The Civil Unit facilitates the enforcement actions of the court to hold offenders accountable and maintain order and equity to all citizens. Through service of domestic violence restraining orders the Civil Unit helps stabilize the family unit and provide a safe environment so that battered women and abused children can focus on recovery through counseling, court action, or other social service opportunities. As part of the Treatment Service Continuum allegedly mentally ill persons are provided access to the mental health system.

**Performance Measures**

| Measure Type | Primary Measure                                    | Previous Year Actual (FY06-07) | Current Year Purchased (FY07-08) | Current Year Estimate (FY07-08) | Next Year Offer (FY08-09) |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Output       | Number of individuals served through civil process | 19,772                         | 20,000                           | 19,772                          | 15,376                    |
| Outcome      | Percent successfully served documents              | 77.0%                          | 79.0%                            | 77.0%                           | 60.0%                     |
| Outcome      | Percent protective orders served                   | 78.0%                          | 80.0%                            | 78.0%                           | 61.0%                     |
| Outcome      | Number of evictions                                | 1,223                          | 1,253                            | 1,223                           | 951                       |

**Performance Measure - Description**

Projections for next offer year reflect Executive budget cuts to the original program offer.

**Legal/Contractual Obligation**

ORS 107.720-730, 206.010-070 and 180, 433.355, 93.530 and Chapter 23.  
Oregon Rules on Civil Procedure Rule 7

**Revenue/Expense Detail**

|                               | <b>Proposed General Fund</b> | <b>Proposed Other Funds</b> | <b>Proposed General Fund</b> | <b>Proposed Other Funds</b> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Program Expenses</b>       | 2008                         | 2008                        | 2009                         | 2009                        |
| Personnel                     | \$1,691,974                  | \$0                         | \$1,426,960                  | \$0                         |
| Contracts                     | \$1,035                      | \$0                         | \$1,035                      | \$0                         |
| Materials & Supplies          | \$32,126                     | \$0                         | \$32,126                     | \$0                         |
| Internal Services             | \$23,371                     | \$0                         | \$90,501                     | \$0                         |
| <b>Subtotal: Direct Exps:</b> | <b>\$1,748,506</b>           | <b>\$0</b>                  | <b>\$1,550,622</b>           | <b>\$0</b>                  |
| Administration                | \$113,894                    | \$0                         | \$135,683                    | \$0                         |
| Program Support               | \$253,363                    | \$0                         | \$254,758                    | \$0                         |
| <b>Subtotal: Other Exps:</b>  | <b>\$367,257</b>             | <b>\$0</b>                  | <b>\$390,441</b>             | <b>\$0</b>                  |
| <b>Total GF/non-GF:</b>       | <b>\$2,115,763</b>           | <b>\$0</b>                  | <b>\$1,941,063</b>           | <b>\$0</b>                  |
| <b>Program Total:</b>         | <b>\$2,115,763</b>           |                             | <b>\$1,941,063</b>           |                             |
| Program FTE                   | 18.00                        | 0.00                        | 14.00                        | 0.00                        |
| <b>Program Revenues</b>       |                              |                             |                              |                             |
| Fees, Permits & Charges       | \$76,000                     | \$0                         | \$87,000                     | \$0                         |
| Intergovernmental             | \$238,000                    | \$0                         | \$206,000                    | \$0                         |
| Program Revenue for Admin     | \$0                          | \$0                         | \$0                          | \$0                         |
| <b>Total Revenue:</b>         | <b>\$314,000</b>             | <b>\$0</b>                  | <b>\$293,000</b>             | <b>\$0</b>                  |

**Explanation of Revenues**

\$85,000-Civil Process Fees.  
\$203,000-Circuit Court Revenue.  
\$3,000-Reimbursements for State Extraditions.  
\$2,000-Extraditions Reimbursements from the DA's Office.

**Significant Program Changes**

Last year this program was: #60042, MCSO Civil Process