

Commonwealth's Attorney

DESCRIPTION

The Commonwealth's Attorney is an elected Constitutional Officer serving a four-year term of office. This Office is responsible for providing Hanover County and the Commonwealth of Virginia with legal representation in the prosecution of criminal and traffic violations in the Circuit, General District, and Juvenile and Domestic Relations

Courts. The Commonwealth's Attorney is also charged with prosecuting asset forfeiture matters, and collecting delinquent fines and court costs. Legal advice is provided to all local and state law-enforcement agencies and their officers investigating matters in Hanover County.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	FY10 Actual	FY11 Budget	FY12 Budget	FY11 to FY12	FY13 Plan
Expenditures					
Personnel	\$ 1,434,406	\$ 1,506,734	\$ 1,490,412	(1.1%)	\$ 1,512,537
Operating	60,055	73,332	\$ 65,822	(10.2%)	65,822
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,494,461	\$ 1,580,066	\$ 1,556,234	(1.5%)	\$ 1,578,359
Revenues					
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 885,509	\$ 863,900	\$ 886,954	2.7%	\$ 903,000
Other Revenue	1,476	-	-	0.0%	-
General Fund Revenue	607,475	716,166	669,280	(6.5%)	675,359
Total Revenue	\$ 1,494,461	\$ 1,580,066	\$ 1,556,234	(1.5%)	\$ 1,578,359
Generated Revenue Percent	59.4%	54.7%	57.0%		57.2%
General Fund Percent	40.6%	45.3%	43.0%		42.8%
Full-time Positions	18	18	18	0.0%	18
Part-time Positions	4	4	4	0.0%	4
Full-time Equivalents	19.5	19.5	19.5	0.0%	19.5

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The services of the Commonwealth's Attorney are needed almost in direct proportion to law enforcement personnel deployed arresting and/or charging people with crimes, traffic violations, as well as referral needs for legal counsel. The local funding decrease can be attributed to

removal of local funding for an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney position that no longer has a State Compensation Board match, as well as cost savings created by the Office in the area of legal books and subscriptions.

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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Augment successful prosecution of all matters in courts through the increased use of technology;
- Seek appropriate punishment to deter criminal activity;
- Aggressively prosecute crimes victimizing children, including internet predators and cases involving sexual assault;
- Provide extensive training and advice to local law-enforcement departments, including annual legal legislative updates, academy instruction, and in-service training;
- Participate with County departments, schools, citizens groups and other organizations to conduct education on issues related to public safety and courts;
- Supervise and monitor the aggressive collection of delinquent fines and court costs for all courts;
- Maximize funding, technology, and programs designed to increase professionalism, job performance, and efficiency;
- Continue the office's ability to respond quickly to law enforcement, while maintaining our current ratio of attorneys to law enforcement at 1:37; and
- Continue cooperation between office and law enforcement agencies.

SERVICE LEVELS

	FY10 <u>Actual</u>	FY11 <u>Budget</u>	FY11 <u>Forecast</u>	FY12 <u>Budget</u>
Per capita cost of operating department	\$14.97	\$15.65	\$15.65	\$15.12
Population served per attorney	13,250	13,500	13,500	12,500
Law enforcement served per attorney	35	37	37	37