



Office of the District Attorney

2014 Budget Presentation

gwinnettcounty

2014 Budget Request – General Fund

General Fund	10,443,896
Personal Services	8,244,537
General Operating	513,032
Decision Packages	342,696
Priority #1 – Juvenile Court Reform	256,600
Priority #2 – Investigative Legal Coordinator	86,096

District Attorney
2014 Budget Request

CRIME VICTIM FUND	481,901
FEDERAL ASSET FORFEITURE FUND	215,533
HIDTA	369,811

Decision Packages

There are two decision packages being requested in the 2014 Budget for the Office of the District Attorney.

Priority #1 – Juvenile Court Reform

HB 242 – Juvenile Justice Reform Act requires the district attorney's office to assume duties now being performed by juvenile court employees. These duties include the investigation and preparation of documents which charge juveniles with criminal offenses.

Decision Packages – Continued

Priority #2 – Investigative Legal Coordinator

Support for law enforcement agencies' ongoing criminal investigations involving the need for data held by communication service providers such as phone companies and internet providers has become increasingly vital to solving and prosecuting crimes. Data includes cell tower phone tracking, text messages, email messages, GPS tracking, IP information, phone toll records and similar data.

The increase in the number of requests by law enforcement agencies has been enormous. There were 132 requests in 2008, there were 796 requests in 2012. This is an increase by six-fold in just five years. The statutory scheme and case law in this area is too complex for anyone other than an attorney to evaluate. The disclosure orders and applications are given a high level of scrutiny by defense attorneys. Currently the applications and orders are rotated among senior attorneys in this office. The workload has become too burdensome for the senior attorneys to handle along with their regular responsibilities. This is a newly developing area of law which is complex, but has become a basic tool in criminal case investigations.

Budget Increase or Reduction

There has been an increase to the requested Budget for 2014 in the General Fund and the Crime Victim Fund. The increase in the budget amount request is due to the escalating costs of training, supplies and products.

Service Reductions

The office has not made any service reductions for 2013, and has no plans for service reductions in 2014. Due to the nature of the services this office provides, a reduction in services would hinder timely prosecution of cases and jeopardize the safety of our community.