

Office of the Public Defender

FY 2013 Revised
FY 2014 Budget

Staff Presentation
February 28, 2013

Public Defender

- Created in 1941 by Chapter 1007 of the Public Laws
 - ❖ Office & its functions defined by RIGL12-15
 - ❖ RIGL 14-1 authorizes referral of juvenile cases to the Office
 - ❖ RIGL 40-11 authorizes referral of dependency, neglect and termination of parental rights cases
 - ❖ Offices located in five Judicial Complexes
 - ✓ Providence (2), Kent, Washington, and Newport

Public Defender

- Statutory mandates
 - ❖ Legal representation to adults and juveniles without financial resources to obtain private counsel
 - ❖ Representation services include
 - ✓ Indigent adult and juvenile criminal felony and misdemeanor offenses
 - ✓ Termination of parental rights and dependency and neglect cases
 - ✓ Appellate representation in the Supreme Court

Public Defender

➤ Conflict of Interests

- ❖ When interests of a client is adverse to that of another client
- ❖ Client(s) can be referred to the Judicial Indigents Defense program
 - ✓ The Judiciary assigns private attorneys to provide representation services
 - ✓ Each court maintains a list of qualified attorneys

Expenditures by Source

(in Millions)	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2013 Gov. Rev.	FY 2014 Governor	Change to Enacted
General Revenues	\$10.8	\$10.8	\$11.0	\$0.2
Federal Funds	0.4	0.3	0.3	(0.1)
Total	\$11.2	\$11.0	\$11.3	\$0.1
<i>FTEs</i>	<i>93.0</i>	<i>93.0</i>	<i>93.0</i>	-

Salaries and Benefits

- Governor recommends \$9.9 million from all funds for 93.0 full-time positions for FY 2014
 - ❖ FTEs consistent with enacted and request
- Governor includes \$9.7 million for FY 2013 Revised
 - ❖ As of February 25, the Office has 91.0 filled positions
 - ❖ FY 2012 averaged 90.0 filled positions

Salaries and Benefits

Full-Time Equivalent Positions

Full-Time Positions	FTEs	Chg. To Enacted
Enacted Authorized	93.0	-
FY 2013 Rev. Req.	93.0	-
FY 2014 Request	93.0	-
FY 2014 Governor	93.0	-
FY 2012 Average Filled	90.0	(3.0)
Filled as of February 25	91.0	(2.0)

Salaries and Benefits

- Governor includes \$9.8 million from general revenues for salaries and benefits for FY 2014
 - ❖ \$0.2 million more than enacted, \$0.1 million less than requested
 - ✓ \$36,579 from additional turnover savings
 - ✓ \$61,867 from statewide benefit savings
- Governor recommends \$9.6 million from general revenues for FY 2013
 - ✓ \$62,501 less than enacted from statewide benefit savings

Salaries and Benefits

General Revenue Target Reduction

- Office proposed 9.0 fewer positions for FY 2014 to meet the Budget Office target
 - ❖ \$0.8 million general revenue reduction
 - ✓ The Office believes it would hinder ability to absorb additional cases
 - ❖ This proposal was not recommended by the Governor

Salaries and Benefits

Federal Funds

- Governor includes \$0.1 million from federal funds for salaries and benefits for FY 2013 and 2014
 - ❖ \$0.1 million less than enacted, consistent with Office's request
 - ✓ Expiration of federal grants
 - ✓ Community Partnership/Outreach program

Other Operations

- Governor recommends \$1.4 million from all funds for all other operating expenses
 - ❖ \$1.2 million from general revenues, \$0.2 million from federal funds
 - ✓ Rent and parking expenses
 - ✓ Upgrade Office software operating system
 - ✓ Court overhead charges for office space and utilities
 - ❖ \$0.1 million more than enacted from all funds
 - ✓ \$47,930 for Intake Interviewers
 - ✓ \$35,000 for Case management services

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