

Alternate Public Defender

RECOMMENDED BUDGET • FY 2023-24

MISSION

The purpose of the Office of the Alternate Public Defender is to provide legal representation to indigent persons charged with crimes whom the Public Defender’s Office is unable to represent due to a conflict of interest or unavailability, in court proceedings in the Superior Court.

DEPARTMENT BUDGET SUMMARY

Description	FY 2021-22 Actual	Current Year Adopted	CAO Recommended	Difference from Adopted
Miscellaneous Rev	56	14,300	0	(14,300)
Other Fin Sources	7,287	0	0	0
Total Revenue	7,344	14,300	0	(14,300)
Salaries & Benefits	583,973	876,382	1,140,120	263,738
Services & Supplies	1,118,011	1,817,137	784,737	(1,032,400)
Other Charges	1,192	0	0	0
Fixed Assets	7,287	0	0	0
Other Fin Uses	256,082	0	0	0
Intrafund Transfers	4,302	2,887	0	(2,887)
Total Appropriations	1,970,847	2,696,406	1,924,857	(771,549)
FUND 1000 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	1,963,503	2,682,106	1,924,857	(757,249)

MAJOR BUDGET CHANGES

Revenues

Miscellaneous Revenue

(\$14,300) Decrease in Miscellaneous Revenue due to funding from the Board of State and Community Corrections for a Public Defense Pilot Program expiring.

Appropriations

Salaries and Benefits

\$192,293 Increase due to the addition of 1.0 FTE Deputy Public Defender IV in FY 2022-23 that was not budgeted for in that fiscal year.

\$71,445 Increase in Salaries and Benefits costs due to Board-approved compensation increases.

Services and Supplies

(\$864,300) Decrease in Professional & Specialized Services due to costs anticipated for Indigent Defense legal costs being unrealized.

(\$138,000) Decrease in Legal Services costs due to contracts with outside Counsel expiring in the early fall. The full year of savings from the elimination of these contracts will be realized in FY 2024-25

Alternate Public Defender

RECOMMENDED BUDGET • FY 2023-24

(\$30,100) Decrease due to adjustments in multiple objects to align with actual costs.

Intrafund Transfers

(\$2,887) Decrease in Mail Intrafund Transfer due to a change in budgeting methodology wherein the charges will instead be reflected in the Countywide Cost Allocation Plan.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

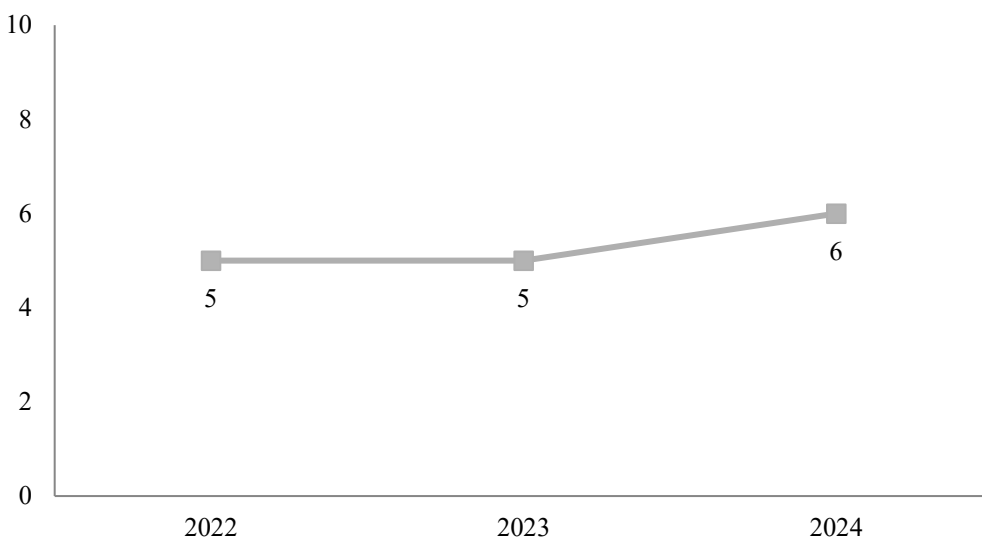
Alternate Public Defender

The Office of the Alternate Public Defender serves as indigent conflict counsel for those cases where either the Judge or the County Public Defender has determined a conflict exists. Conflicts can exist for a number of reasons. Examples include a case where the Public Defender may already be defending a client on a different case or where a client is linked to circumstances in a different client's case. The Alternate Public Defender may also be assigned by Judges to cases where there are multiple defendants or where special circumstances exist such as the death penalty, which requires, by law, a minimum of two attorneys, one of whom would come from the Alternate Public Defender's Office.

The Office was created in March 2021; before that, all services were provided through contracts. The Office currently serves the West Slope with County employees. For the first two years, the Office provided services in the Tahoe Basin through contracts with two attorneys that will provide these services for the County in the Basin until September 2023. In February 2023, the Board of Supervisors approved the addition of a Deputy Public Defender to serve clients in the Tahoe area.

STAFFING TREND

The Office of the Alternate Public Defender was established in FY 2021-22 with 5.0 FTEs. The recommended allocation for FY 2023-24 is 6.0 FTEs, with the addition of the 1.0 FTE Deputy Public Defender I-IV in South Lake Tahoe.



Alternate Public Defender

RECOMMENDED BUDGET • FY 2022-23

RECOMMENDED BUDGET

This Budget is recommended at \$1,924,857, which is a decrease of \$771,549 (28.6%) when compared to the FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget. The General Fund provides 100% of the Department and total General Fund support is reduced by 28.2% when compared to the FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget.

Sources & Uses of Funds

Indigent Defense is a mandated service, funded entirely from discretionary General Fund revenue.

