

District Attorney
RECOMMENDED BUDGET • FY 2026-27

RECOMMENDED BUDGET

The District Attorney’s Office budget is recommended at \$19,484,342, which is an increase of \$821,061 (4.4%) when compared to the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget. Revenue is recommended at \$5,753,680, an increase of \$164,061 (2.94%) when compared to FY 2025-26. The General Fund provides 70.5% of the funding for the department, and total General Fund support is increased by \$657,000 (5.03%) when compared to the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget.

DEPARTMENT BUDGET SUMMARY

Description	FY 2024-25 Actual	Current Year Adopted	CAO Recommended	Difference from Adopted
Fines & Penalties	9,500	8,000	6,000	(2,000)
IG Rev - State	2,842,571	2,954,594	2,856,266	(98,328)
IG Rev - Federal	1,036,461	804,693	696,413	(108,280)
Service Charges	23,748	20,030	20,010	(20)
Miscellaneous Rev	156	180	500	320
Other Fin Sources	1,134,314	1,802,122	2,174,491	372,369
Total Revenue	5,046,751	5,589,619	5,753,680	164,061
Salaries & Benefits	13,940,621	16,062,366	16,827,345	764,979
Services & Supplies	2,432,951	2,797,140	2,941,501	144,361
Other Charges	440,318	9,850	6,000	(3,850)
Fixed Assets	101,658	87,125	4,396	(82,729)
Other Fin Uses	50,937	0	0	0
Intrafund Transfers	3,175	6,800	5,100	(1,700)
Intrafund Abatement	(300,545)	(300,000)	(300,000)	0
Total Appropriations	16,669,115	18,663,281	19,484,342	821,061
FUND 1000 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	11,622,364	13,073,662	13,730,662	657,000

MAJOR BUDGET CHANGES

Revenues

Fines and Penalties

(\$2,000) Decrease in Suspended Drivers License Penalties based on current year trends.

State Revenue

\$67,426 Increase in state funding due to new Opioid Remediation Program funding offset by a reduction in Office of Traffic Safety grant and Firearm Relinquishment Program funding.

\$21,320 Increase in Public Safety Sales Tax due to growing sales tax receipts in the statewide sales tax pool.

\$3,000 Increase due to increased allocation for vehicle theft enforcement code funding.

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(\$190,074) Decrease in CalOES funding due to the termination of the Child Abuse Treatment and the Unemployment Fraud Programs.

Federal Revenue

\$15,988 Increase due to an increase in FBI Task Force funding.

(\$124,268) Decrease in federal funding due to the termination of the Child Abuse Treatment Program.

Other Financing Sources

\$174,788 Increase in Operating Transfers In from the Federal Equitable Sharing special revenue fund.

\$101,382 Increase in Operating Transfers In from Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund for one-time expenses.

\$70,900 Increase in Operating Transfers In from the State Equitable Sharing special revenue fund.

\$32,316 Increase in Operating Transfers In from the District Attorney/Public Defender Subaccount.

\$19,637 Increase in Operating Transfers In from the Workers' Compensation Fraud special revenue fund.

(\$1,500) Decrease in Operating Transfers In from the Proposition 64 special revenue fund.

(\$6,776) Decrease in Operating Transfers In from the Automobile Fraud special revenue fund.

(\$18,378) Decrease in Operating Transfers In from the Real Estate Fraud special revenue fund.

Appropriations

Salaries and Benefits

\$608,082 Increase in Salaries and Benefits expenses primarily due to Board-approved compensation increases and employee step increases.

\$208,117 Increase in Health Insurance premiums.

\$183,649 Increase in Salaries and Benefits due to the addition of 1.0 FTE Associate Attorney for the Opioid Remediation Program mostly offset with revenue.

\$78,456 Increase in Salaries and Benefits due to the addition of 0.75 FTE Administrative Analyst I/II offset with a reduction in Temporary Employees and Cole Pro Media contract termination.

(\$149,672) Decrease in Temporary Employees to offset the addition of 0.75 FTE Administrative Analyst I/II and other minor cost increases.

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\$16,263	Increase in CalPERS employer's contribution, primarily due to increases to the County's unfunded accrued liability payment.
\$13,598	Increase in Retiree Health Program charges.
(\$79,567)	Decrease in Salaries and Benefits due to the deletion of 1.0 FTE Limited Term Victim Witness Program Specialist due to the termination of the federally- and state-funded Child Abuse Program.
(\$113,947)	Decrease in Workers' Compensation premium charges as the Department's share of overall County claims incurred and payroll has decreased from prior years, decreasing their Workers' Compensation insurance premium expense.

Services and Supplies

\$314,893	Increase in Computer System and Software Maintenance primarily due to the Peregrine and Closure contracts (offset with special revenue) and standard annual contract increases for existing systems.
\$89,708	Increase in General Liability insurance premium expense as the Department's share of overall County claims incurred and payroll has increased from prior years, increasing their Liability insurance premium expense.
\$23,000	Increase in Vehicle Equipment due to vehicle outfitting for two anticipated vehicle replacements.
\$12,810	Increase in Rent and Lease: Buildings and Improvements due to annual contracted lease increases.
(\$13,760)	Decrease in Law Enforcement Equipment due primarily to an adjustment to the annual body worn camera costs.
(\$16,804)	Decrease in anticipated fuel costs based on prior year actuals.
(\$30,231)	Decrease in training and travel-related costs based on prior year actuals.
(\$35,810)	Decrease in Fleet mileage costs based on prior year actuals and Fleet estimates.
(\$40,042)	Decrease in Professional and Specialized Services primarily due to the termination of the Cole Pro Media contract.
(\$160,440)	Decrease in Psychiatric Medical Services due to closing the Hope Counseling contract following the termination of funding for the Child Abuse Treatment Program.
\$1,037	Increase due to adjustments across multiple objects to align the budget to actual costs.

Other Charge

(\$3,850)	Decrease in Interfund Transfers to Fleet due to decreasing anticipated Fleet repair orders.
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Fixed Assets

(\$82,729) Decrease in Fixed Assets due to one-time fixed asset purchases completed in FY 2025-26.

Intrafund Transfers

(\$1,700) Decrease in Intrafund Transfers due to decreased facilities maintenance charges.

MISSION

The District Attorney's Office is dedicated to objectively and effectively investigating and prosecuting matters under the Law while recognizing the dignity of all individuals to achieve justice and minimize trauma to victims.

PROGRAM SUMMARIES

Administration

Administration of operating the office is funded through a combination of the County's General Fund and other state funding sources, such as state-mandated fines and fees, a portion of the Public Safety Sales Tax revenue, state legislation funding, and Asset Forfeiture disbursements.

Core & Special Victims Unit Prosecutions

The main functions of this unit are to work with and advise law enforcement in their investigation of cases, to review search warrants, to participate and advise with sex assault and child abuse multi-disciplinary interviews, to review adult and juvenile reports and evidence for potential charges to determine if we can sufficiently prove the case beyond a reasonable doubt, to consult with victims and protect their Marsy's Law rights, to handle bail hearings, to evaluate when some offenders may be eligible for pre-filing or post filing diversion (including misdemeanor diversion, vet court diversion, Prop 36 Court, Mental Health Diversion, and Behavioral Health Court), to handle all stages of a criminal prosecution including the filing of legal briefs, conducting hearings, court trials and jury trials, handling sentencing hearings, appeals, and post-conviction motions. This unit is responsible for handling a variety of cases from investigation stage to the conclusion of prosecution and post-conviction, including murder, sex assault, child abuse, illegal possession of a firearm, domestic violence, kidnapping, robbery, elder abuse, burglaries, identity theft, restraining order violations, assault with a deadly weapon, driving under the influence, possession for sale of drugs, marijuana cultivation, organized retail theft, officer involved shootings, critical incidents, cold case homicide, major fraud, public corruption, incompetent to stand trial cases, Murphy and LPS conservatorship cases, asset forfeiture, and sex registrant violators.

The majority of costs related to operating this unit are supported by the General Fund. Partial offset is provided by other funding sources such as the AB109 Realignment Fund, which is comprised of California's state sales tax and vehicle license fees allocated to counties to support public safety initiatives, the Violence Against Women Vertical Prosecution (VV) Program (to improve the criminal justice system's processing of violent crimes against women), and the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Vertical Prosecution Grant Program, which focuses on prosecuting felony/fatal DUI crimes. Additionally, Fiscal Year 2026-27 will be the first year of participation in the Opioid Remediation Program as administered by El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSa).

Core Investigations

In most instances, crimes are reported to the County of El Dorado Sheriff's Department, Placerville Police Department, South Lake Tahoe Police Department, or the California Highway Patrol.

District Attorney Investigators and Investigative Assistants assist the Prosecutors in preparing cases for trial by conducting interviews, interrogations, processing evidence, and preparing reports. District Attorney Investigators also initiate investigations of public corruption, parental child abductions, welfare fraud, insurance fraud, consumer fraud, real estate fraud, cold case homicides, officer-involved shootings, and critical incidents.

While the majority of costs related to operating the Core Investigations Unit are supported by the General Fund, grant programs support a portion of regulatory assignments such as Federal Funds from the DEA and FBI Task Force, the Office of Traffic Safety Vertical Prosecution Grant Program, which includes an investigative initiative, and a recent source of funding from the California Judicial Council to support the Firearm Relinquishment Program, administered by the Superior Court of El Dorado County.

Support Staff

The office utilizes a team of support staff composed of Legal Secretaries and Paralegals to assist various areas of both the prosecution and investigation of crimes. These costs are primarily funded by General Fund dollars.

Innovation and Efficiency Unit

Due to the increase in cybercrimes and new requirements set forth by California State Laws, the office has adapted to promoting Innovation and Efficiency. This includes enhancing skills to increase workload productivity, utilizing artificial intelligence for investigative efficiency, and increasing openness and transparency through data sharing. Further included in this unit is an internal Information Technologies (IT) Division. The General Fund fully funds the Innovation and Efficiency Unit.

Fraud Crime: Investigations & Prosecution

The Fraud Crime focus of the office includes several grant-funded programs that support both the prosecution and investigation efforts of each fraud crime type.

The California Department of Insurance administers both the Automobile and Workers' Compensation Fraud Programs, in which a team of attorneys and investigators processes auto insurance fraud and perjury cases and complex schemes involving car dealership fraud and conspiracy to defraud multiple customers relating to the sales, transfers, and loan payoffs concerning the purchase of new and used vehicles. Workers' Compensation Fraud cases include claimant, premium, uninsured employer, and medical provider fraud.

Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with HHS, funds are provided for combating Welfare Fraud; specifically, to pursue the prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of fraud perpetrated in the course of public assistance benefit issuance.

This unit also investigates consumer and environmental fraud, which is funded in part by Special Revenue Accounts, collecting funds from civil case resolutions concerning environmental or consumer fraud.

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Lastly, this unit works to bring justice to crimes related to Real Estate Fraud. The funding for Real Estate Fraud is ongoing. Historically, as the real estate instruments specified under GC 27388 are recorded, a \$2.00 fee is assessed, with 90% of the fee being deposited into a Special Revenue Account for use by the District Attorney's office for the investigation and prosecution of Real Estate Fraud.

Victim Witness Unit

It is the mission of the office to minimize trauma to victims of all types of crimes. The Victim Witness Unit is comprised of one Program Manager, one Victim Witness Program Coordinator, and six Victim Witness Program Specialists. The team collectively works to provide crisis intervention, emergency assistance, resource referral and assistance, direct counseling and therapy (through contracted providers), claim assistance, property return, orientation, court escort, case status/disposition, Marsy's Law victim's rights compliance, and notifications to victims and families.

A summary of active programs within the unit, each funded by the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), is provided below:

- Child Advocacy Center (KC) Program - To provide direct victim services to child abuse victims/survivors and their families through a multidisciplinary team approach.
- Unserved Underserved Advocacy (UV) Program - To increase access to culturally appropriate victim services for unserved/underserved victims/survivors of crime.
- Violence Against Women Vertical Prosecution (VV) Program - To improve the criminal justice system's processing of violent crimes against women through a coordinated, multidisciplinary, prosecutorial response, including specialized units with a highly qualified prosecutor and victim advocate.
- Victim/Witness Assistance (VW) Program - To maintain Centers in each of California's 58 counties to provide comprehensive services to victims/survivors and witnesses of all types of violent crime, pursuant to California Penal Code 13835.

During Fiscal Year 2025-26, the office lost funding for the Child Abuse Treatment (AT) Program due to a highly competitive application process and funding geared more towards assisting non-profits and community-based organizations rather than local government agencies.

BUDGET SUMMARY BY PROGRAM

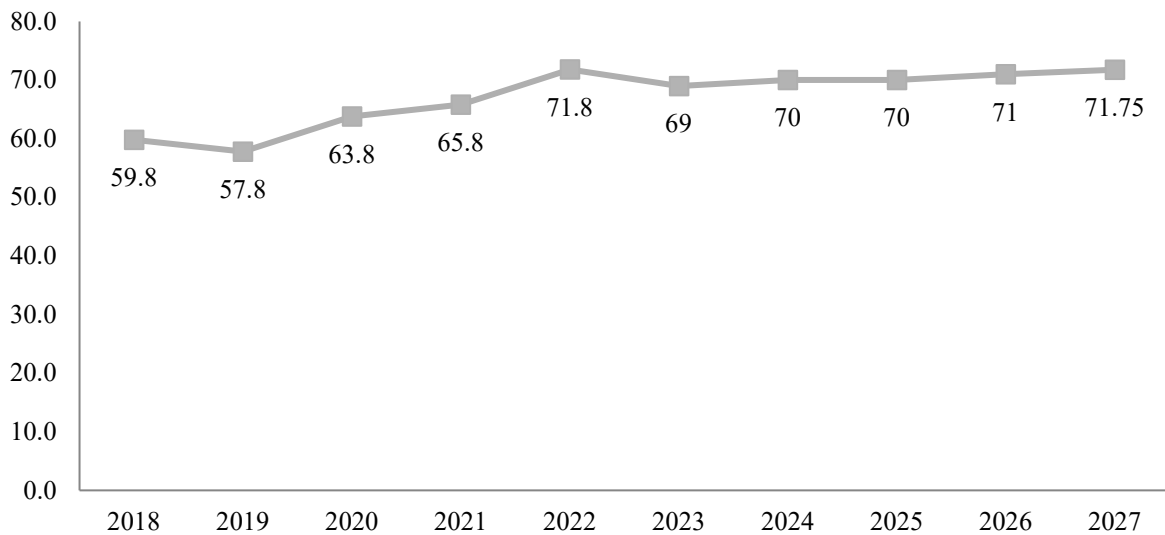
	Appropriations	Revenues	Net County Cost	Staffing
Administration	2,002,251	2,198,400	(196,149)	2.75
Prosecution	8,227,904	1,430,568	6,797,336	24.65
Investigations	5,151,371	227,796	4,923,575	18.17
Victim Witness Unit	1,410,742	1,020,721	390,021	9.75
IT	976,174	-	976,174	4.00
Support Services	708,987	-	708,987	8.00
Fraud Crime: Investigations & Prosecution	1,006,913	876,195	130,718	4.43
Total	19,484,342	5,753,680	13,730,662	71.75

STAFFING TREND

Staffing for the District Attorney’s Office over the last decade has increased by 11.95 FTE, primarily due to changes in state law and mandated requirements for investigations. The recommended staff allocation for FY 2026-27 is 71.75 FTEs. In the FY 2026-27 Recommended Budget, 1.0 FTE Associate Attorney and 0.75 FTE Administrative Analyst I/II are being added, and 1.0 FTE Limited Term Victim Witness Program Specialist is being deleted.

During FY 2025-26, three vacant Deputy Attorney allocations were alternately filled with an Associate Attorney, three vacant Sr. Attorneys were alternately filled with Deputy Attorneys, and one vacant Lieutenant (District Attorney) was alternately filled with a Supervising Investigator (District Attorney). The Recommended Budget includes carrying over these underfills to allow for flexibility in the recruitment for these positions that are typically difficult to recruit for.

During FY 2025-26, one vacant Limited Term Associate Attorney was alternately filled with a Limited Term Deputy Attorney. The Recommended Budget revises the allocation to match the current classification of the allocation.



SOURCES & USES OF FUNDS

The District Attorney’s Office is primarily funded through discretionary General Fund revenue; however, several State and Federal grants provide funding for various programs within the office. The Office also receives a portion of the Public Safety Sales Tax (\$1,565,382), and revenue transfers in from special revenue funds for Workers’ Compensation Fraud, Automobile Fraud, Real Estate Fraud, Prop 64, and Environmental Crimes programs (\$882,695). The Department is drawing down \$685,288 in Public Safety Realignment funds.

