

Prince George's County Office of the State's Attorney

FY 2027
BUDGET PRESENTATION

Tuesday, April 28, 2026



Tara H. Jackson
State's Attorney

SAO LEADERSHIP

Tara Jackson
State's Attorney

Thea Zumwalt
Deputy State's Attorney

Jared McCarthy
Deputy State's Attorney

Michael Aubin
Deputy State's Attorney

Sakinda Skinner
Chief of Staff

Toni Perry
Budget Director

Amanda Crawford
Human Resources Director

India King-Hamilton
Office Manager

UNIT CHIEFS

Grand Jury Unit
Frank Denison, Chief

District Court Unit
LaShanta Harris, Chief

Firearm Enforcement & Narcotics Intelligence Unit
Steven Widman, Chief

Special Prosecutions & Public Integrity Unit
Joel Patterson, Chief

Major Crimes Unit
Jonathan Naylor, Chief

Special Victims & Family Violence Unit
Jessica Garth, Chief

Homicide Unit
Jonathan Church, Chief

Strategic Investigations Unit
Daniel Kim, Chief

Victim/Witness Coordinator Unit
Theresa Middleton, Chief

Youth Justice Unit
Dora Myles-Moore, Chief

Post Trial Procedure Unit
Thomas O’Gorman, Chief

Problem-Solving Court/Conviction & Sentencing Integrity
Unit
Sadia Noah-Hope, Chief

Demonstrative Evidence
Michael Hall, Chief

Investigators Unit
James Harper, Chief

PRIORITIES

Holding Violent and Repeat Gun Offenders Accountable

Aggressively prosecuting violent and repeat offenders by seeking enhanced penalties where the law allows.

Preventing Financial Crimes and Scams

Prioritizing the prosecution of financial crimes while focusing on educating our residents to recognize and avoid increasingly sophisticated scams.

Holding Youth Accountable

Ensuring that youth who engage in reckless and violent conduct are held accountable in ways that are firm, fair, and focused on rehabilitation and public safety. The goal is to teach accountability and responsibility through early intervention.

Preventing Business Crimes

Strengthening outreach to the business community to assess unique public safety concerns to improve neighborhood safety and countywide economic growth.

Increasing Accountability and Transparency

Building public trust and strengthening internal accountability through transparency and data-driven analysis.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Since June 18, 2025, the SAO has effectively transitioned 27 individuals to the County Government, ensuring no lapse in services to the public.
- From June 18, 2025, to present, the SAO has 44 new hires and 17 current vacancies (5 new hires in May)
- Launched first-ever Justice Data Dashboard
- Prioritized community engagements and partnerships with more than 200 community engagements
- Focused collaboration with PGPD and municipal law enforcement agencies
- Prioritized a commitment to second chance opportunities when appropriate:
 - Expungement Fairs
 - Hosted the largest Back on Track Program Graduation
 - District Court diversion programs
 - Circuit Court speciality courts
 - Juvenile Restoration Act/Second Look Act

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Launched R.I.S.E. Truancy Initiative
- Formalized Conviction Integrity referral process with Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project
- Hosted Inaugural Academy of Law and Public Policy Youth Council
- Since June 18, 2025, the SAO has secured convictions in 100% of our domestic violence homicides
- Substantially increased SAO grant spending, enabling us to hire additional Assistant State's Attorneys and support staff

DATA & CASE NUMBERS

- Circuit Court Units Indicted: 2,701
 - Homicides Indicted: 82
 - Abuse of a Minor Indicted: 57
 - Motor Vehicle Manslaughter Indicted: 15
 - Juvenile Cases Transferred to Juvenile Court: 60
- District Court Unit Filings (including CCBs): 18,503

**Data represents calendar year 2025*

View the Justice Data Dashboard at: sao.mypgc.us/datadashboard

WHO IS DOING THE WORK

- SAO is comprised of 227 authorized positions:
 - 194 full-time employees
 - 5 part-time employees
 - 28 grant-funded employees
- This includes:
 - 96 Assistant State's Attorneys, with 6 grant-funded Assistant State's Attorney positions
 - 18 Victim/Witness Coordinators positions
- The FY26 Budget was \$28.3 million: personnel 90%, operating 10% (predominantly the OIT chargeback)

HOW DOES THE SAO COMPARE

- Comparators

- Baltimore City: \$58.7 million, 418 FTE, Homicides 133
- **Prince George's County: \$28.3 million, 227 FTE, Homicides 82**
- Montgomery County: \$27.4 million, 170.25 FTE, Homicides 24
- Baltimore County: \$13.6 million (Fringe booked elsewhere), 149 FTE, Homicides 32

**FY26 Numbers, except homicides are calendar year*

SAO CHALLENGES

- Vacancies, Hiring, & Retention
- Outmoded technology intersecting with new legal requirements (Jailable Traffic & Video Discovery)
- PGPD and SAO are on two different evidence management systems
- Passage of SB 323: Juvenile Court – Jurisdiction, Detention, and Confinement (Youth Charging Reform Act)

VACANCIES, HIRING, & RETENTION

- The Braveboy Administration created the Office of the State's Attorney Salary Schedule with the passage of CB-96-2024 and CR-86-2024.
- SAO is working with OMB and OHRM to implement these scales, but full staffing may require a commitment of additional funds.
- SAO consistently loses attorneys to the Federal Government, other local State's Attorney offices, and the County's Office of Law, all of which offer higher salaries and easier workloads.
- Good trial attorneys must be competitively compensated.

IT INFRASTRUCTURE & DISCOVERY

- Axon
- Fuller Utilization of Microsoft 365 Premium Licenses/CoPilot/Azure OpenAI Gov Tenant
- Updated Hardware to Meet Increased Demand

SEPARATE SYSTEMS VS AXON

- PGPD is moving to Axon.
- The system PGPD moves to must also include the SAO.
- Axon will provide the SAO with a centralized system to store, manage, and deliver discovery.
- A license to PGPD's version of Axon will not solve the SAO's current and pressing issue related to storage, dissemination, and audit trails sufficient to represent in court.
- If the SAO doesn't secure a centralized discovery management system, office vacancy trends and case dismissals due to discovery violations will increase.

SB 323 - JUVENILE JURISDICTION

- SB 323 passed the General Assembly this year and will fundamentally change juvenile prosecutions across the State.
- More crimes will be handled at the juvenile level, requiring quicker provision of discovery by the police departments:
 - Essentially, all discovery must be to the SAO within 10 business days, no exceptions.
- The current team of 1 Chief, 1 Assistant Chief, and 6 Assistant State's Attorneys is insufficient.
 - Need to add two senior-level Assistant State's Attorneys for long-term stability in the unit (SAO4) and capacity to handle the increasing caseloads

Thank You!



Tara H. Jackson
State's Attorney