



Prince George's County Council SAO FY 26 Budget Presentation

Tuesday, April 15, 2025
2:30 p.m.

Presentation by Aisha N. Braveboy State's Attorney





STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FY26 BUDGET GOALS

- TO HIRE AND RETAIN ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, LEGAL ASSISTANTS AND VICTIM WITNESS COORDINATORS TO SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE SAO
- TO CONTINUE CRITICAL DIVERSION AND RE-ENTRY PROGRAMMING BY THE APPROPRIATION OF ADEQUATE FUNDING (GENERAL FUND AND GRANT)
- TO FULLY IMPLEMENT AND FUND THE ASA SALARY SCHEDULE
- TO CONTINUE TO MODERNIZE DIGITAL AND DEMONSTRATIVE EVIDENCE CAPABILITIES AND TO PROCURE OR IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL STORAGE SPACE EITHER VIA CONTRACTS OR EXPANSION OF COUNTY SERVERS

THESE ENHANCEMENTS ARE NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE SAFETY OF THE CITIZENS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY



UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING OF SALARY SCALE FOR ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEYS



UPDATE – IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING OF ASA SALARY SCALE

On November 19, 2024, the Council passed CB-096-2024, An Act Concerning the Classification Plan for Prince Georges County for the purpose of adding classes of work to the Classification Plan of the County.

Effective February 3, 2025, this law added the State's Attorney's Office's exempt positions of Assistant State's Attorneys I – VII and the State's Attorney Investigators to the County's Classification Plan.

It is anticipated that the additional funds needed to fully fund the salary scale for ASAs in FY25 will be approximately \$500,000 which includes additional FY25 merit increases and addressing any pay equity issues.

To fully fund these increases, an additional \$1,050,537.40 will be needed in FY26. This number will increase when merit increases and pay equity issues are resolved.



UPDATE – ASA SALARY SCALE MATRIX

NEW SALARY SCHEDULE SAO SCHEDULE OF PAY GRADES - EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MARYLAND

GRADE		MINIMUM		MAXIMUM
SAO1	HOURLY	40.3437		54.3798
	BIWEEKLY	3,227.50		4,350.38
	ANNUAL	83,915		113,110
SAO2	HOURLY	42.3557		67.1755
	BIWEEKLY	3,388.46		5,374.04
	ANNUAL	88,100		139,725
SAO3	HOURLY	46.3942		73.5577
	BIWEEKLY	3,711.54		5,884.62
	ANNUAL	96,500		153,000
SAO4	HOURLY	50.3221		79.9745
	BIWEEKLY	4,025.77		6,397.96
	ANNUAL	104,670		166,347
SAO5	HOURLY	54.4519		86.3750
	BIWEEKLY	4,356.15		6,910.00
	ANNUAL	113,260		179,660
SAO6	HOURLY	60.5048		95.9736
	BIWEEKLY	4,840.38		7,677.89
	ANNUAL	125,850		199,625
SAO7	HOURLY	66.5553		105.5721
	BIWEEKLY	5,324.42		8,445.77
	ANNUAL	138,435		219,590

The hourly rates for SAO1-SA07 are based on the results of an occupational study conducted by the Office of Human Resources Management and are effective July 1, 2024. For administrative purposes, the hourly rates are the controlling rates. Biweekly rates are the hourly rates multiplied by 80. Annual rates are the hourly rates multiplied by 2080 and rounded to the nearest dollar.



UNFUNDED MANDATES



INITIATIVES THAT DRIVE THE SAO NEED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

ANTIQUATED DATA AND CASE MANGEMENT SYSTEMS , ALONG WITH LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES THAT ARE ENACTED WITHOUT ACCOMPANYING STAFF INCREASES, CONTINUE TO DRIVE THE WORKLOAD FOR ADMINSTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF.

THESE SYSTEMS ARE LABOR INTENSIVE – REQUIRING STAFF TO INDIVIDUALLY SCAN SUBPOENAS, PLEADINGS AND FILINGS (WHICH ARRIVE 24 HOURS PER DAY 7 DAYS PER WEEK) AND DOWNLOAD EVIDENCE AND VIDEOS TO CDs and BLUE RAY DISKS.

THOUGH THE SAO HAS BEEN SUCESSFUL IN OBTAINING GRANT FUNDING TO UPGRADE AND INSTALL STATE OF THE ART SYSTEMS IN FY25, THEY ARE NOT IN PLACE AT THIS TIME AND THE STAFF TIME SAVINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THEM WILL NOT BE REALIZED UNTIL THE THIRD OR FOURTH QUARTER OF FY26, IF THEN.



FY26 BUDGET – UNFUNDED MANDATES

Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) - In October 2022, Prince George's County became the latest jurisdiction to implement the MDEC case management system. MDEC modernizes court processes and makes case filing more convenient for attorneys and litigants. With the implementation of MDEC, electronic filing is now mandatory for attorneys representing clients in civil and criminal cases in the Circuit Court for Prince George's County and in the District Court in Prince George's County, as well as for any appellate filings that originate in Prince George's County. This system has increased the workloads of support staff throughout the office including Legal Assistants.

HB 853 passed during the 2025 General Assembly session and with the Governor's anticipated signature, will become law as of October 1, 2025. As of October 1, 2025, 140 people sentenced in Prince George's County will be entitled to hearings to reduce their sentences. This legislation will increase the workload for Conviction and Sentencing Integrity (CSI) Unit, including the need for administrative support, and a full-time in-person Victim Witness Coordinator.

Under § 15-302 of the Criminal Procedure Article requires the establishment and implementation of uniform reporting procedures for State's Attorneys and professional staffs of State's Attorneys to maintain and provide statistical data and information relating to prosecutorial functions. At a minimum, the charges at time of arrest, final disposition of charges, whether a plea offer was made, if case was dismissed and justification, and demographic information on defendants and victims.

Expanded usage of the Unified Digital Evidence System (UDE) and municipal digital evidence systems by state, county and municipal police departments. Increased public demand for such evidence in trial.



FY26 BUDGET – DECISION PACKAGE RECONSIDERATION – TEMPORARY STAFFING

SAO DECISION PACKAGE RECONSIDERATION – TEMPORARY STAFFING



FY26 BUDGET – DECISION PACKAGE RECONSIDERATION – TEMPORARY STAFFING

Over the last two (2) budget cycles – FY24 and FY25 – the SAO has requested the following support staff positions:

FY24 (7 staff)

2 Community Developers (Victim Witness Coordinators)

1 Investigator

4 Administrative Aides

FY25 (9 staff)

Five (5) Community Developers (working title: Victim Witness Coordinator)

- **District Court - 3 (including 1 bi-lingual)**
- **Circuit Court - 1**
- **Domestic Violence Intake Unit - 1**

Four (4) Legal Assistants assigned to the following critical Units:

- **Homicide/Special Investigations Unit**
- **Major Crimes Unit**
- **Grand Jury**
- **Youth Justice Unit**



FY26 BUDGET – DECISION PACKAGE RECONSIDERATION – TEMPORARY STAFFING

The request is for eight (8) administrative assistants (4 more than we are paying for in FY25) and four (4) Community Developers (Victim Witness Coordinators). All staff are obtained from vendors on the County's supply schedule. Each temporary position is projected to use 2,000 hours per year (2080 minus 80 hours to account for holidays when the office is closed and days when the position is unfilled). The total request is for \$977,200.

While the number and classification of positions requested is based upon an assessment of the critical support needs of the Units and Divisions in the SAO, *this request has been broken down per position so that, if necessary, partial funding can be approved.* If the entire request cannot be funded, it is requested that at a minimum funding for the four (4) administrative aide positions currently in use be fully funded at \$253,520 (4 X 2000 x \$31.69).



FY26 BUDGET – DECISION PACKAGE RECONSIDERATION – TEMPORARY STAFFING

Position	Hourly rate	Hours in FY26	Total
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
Administrative Aide	\$31.69	2000	\$63,380
VWC / Community Developer (requires degree)	\$58.77	2000	\$117,540
VWC / Community Developer (requires degree)	\$58.77	2000	\$117,540
VWC / Community Developer (requires degree)	\$58.77	2000	\$117,540
VWC / Community Developer (requires degree)	\$58.77	2000	\$117,540
TOTAL		16,000	\$ 977,200



FY26 BUDGET – PROACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO SUPPLEMENT SHORTFALLS

PROACTIVE STEPS TAKEN BY THE SAO TO SUPPLEMENT SHORTFALLS IN STAFFING AND OPERATIONS



FY26 BUDGET – PROACTIVE STEPS TO SUPPLEMENT BUDGET

THE SAO HAS TAKEN NUMEROUS STEPS TO SUPPLEMENT FUNDING PROVIDED VIA THE GENERAL FUND:

- **Commitment to identifying and utilizing grant funding – both Federal and State – to hire critical staff such as ASAs, Victim Witness Coordinators and Investigators.**
- **Utilizing grant funding for community outreach, truancy reduction, family strengthening and re-entry**
- **Being proactive and receiving \$500,000 in Congressional Directed Funds to create a state-of-the-art digital evidence system**
- **Receiving \$100,000 GOCCP grant to initiate implementation of legislatively mandated Prosecutorial Data Dashboard**
- **Use of temporary staffing to supplement Administrative Staff**



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