

VICTIM/WITNESS

Program Description

The Victim/Witness Assistance Program (operated by the Solicitor's Office) provides information to victims and acts as an intermediary between victims and the criminal court systems.

During the period between the arrest of the defendant and the court date, the victim/witness staff keeps their clients informed about the latest developments in their case. The issues discussed include reimbursement for medical expenses and lost wages, restitution, counseling, emergency referrals, property return assistance and the preparation of the Victim Impact Statement.

Program and Services

- Four victim advocates work in the Spartanburg County office. The group communicates with more than 7,000 victims each year.
- The Office of the Crime/Victim Ombudsman (part of the Governor's Office) recognized the 7th Judicial Circuit as being one of the top performing regions in the state during the 2002-2003 fiscal year in terms of quality victim service.

Significant Changes

Personnel costs reflect a 4% compensation adjustment, and higher health care and workers compensation premiums.

| PERSONNEL INFORMATION | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | FY2005 ACTUAL | FY2006 BUDGET | FY2007 BUDGET |
| POSITION TITLES | GRADES | NUMBER OF POSITIONS | | |
| Victim Witness Advocate | 17 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Victim Witness Counselor | 19 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| TOTAL | | 3 | 3 | 3 |

| VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Account | | FY 2005 | | Budget | Budget | FY07 vs FY06 | % |
| No | Description | Actual | Budget | FY 2006 | FY2007 | Change | Change |
| 510 PERSONNEL SERVICES | | | | | | | |
| * | 91010 SALARIES | 89,454 | 93,010 | 93,570 | 98,166 | 4,596 | 4.9% |
| * | 91510 FICA | 6,703 | 7,120 | 7,160 | 7,509 | 349 | 4.9% |
| * | 91520 S C RETIREMENT | 6,128 | 6,370 | 7,200 | 8,050 | 850 | 11.8% |
| * | 91540 GROUP INSURANCE | 9,136 | 12,020 | 11,530 | 15,891 | 4,361 | 37.8% |
| * | 91550 WORKMENS COMPENSATION | 2,624 | 2,240 | 2,900 | 3,911 | 1,011 | 34.9% |
| * 510 PERSONNEL SERVICES | | 114,046 | 120,760 | 122,360 | 133,527 | 11,167 | 9.1% |
| 520 OPERATING EXPENSES | | | | | | | |
| | 92700 OFFICE SUPPLIES & EXPENSE | - | - | - | - | | |
| | 92704 COPIER EXPENSE | 357 | - | - | - | | |
| 520 OPERATING EXPENSES | | 357 | - | - | - | | |
| * 09267 VICTIM/WITNESS PROGRAM | | 114,403 | 120,760 | 122,360 | 133,527 | 11,167 | 9.1% |