

# VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM

The Victim/Witness Assistance Program (operated by the Circuit 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. Victim advocates communicate with over 7,000 victims each year.

In FY 03, the Office of the Crime/Victim Ombudsman (part of the State of South Carolina Governor's Office) recognized the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit as being one of the top performing regions in the state in terms of quality victim service.

DEPT NUMBER: 1-9267	VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM					
FUNDING SOURCE(S)	FY 2005/06 ACTUAL	FY 2006/07 ACTUAL	FY 2007/08 ACTUAL	FY 2008/09 BUDGET	FY 2009/10 BUDGET	INC/DEC FY 10 - 09
General Fund	128,792	136,325	147,207	151,766	<b>163,764</b>	11,998
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
Personnel Services Expenditures	128,366	136,142	147,207	151,766	<b>163,764</b>	11,998
Operating Expenditures	426	182	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
Other Expenditures	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$128,792</b>	<b>\$136,325</b>	<b>\$147,207</b>	<b>\$151,766</b>	<b>\$163,764</b>	<b>\$11,998</b>
<b>AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL</b>	3	3	3	3	3	0

## FY 2009/10 Budget Highlights & Initiatives

- There are no significant changes in the FY 2009/10 Victim Witness Program Recommended Budget.