

PUBLIC DEFENDER CHEROKEE

The mission of the Public Defender Office is to provide effective, competent legal representation for indigent individuals charged with criminal offenses in Cherokee County General Sessions, Magistrate and Municipal Courts and for indigent juveniles charged with offenses in Family Court.

DEPT NUMBER: 12-9261	PUBLIC DEFENDER CHEROKEE					
FUNDING SOURCE(S)	FY 2006/07 ACTUAL	FY 2007/08 ACTUAL	FY 2008/09 BUDGET	FY 2009/10 BUDGET	FY 2010/11 BUDGET	INC/DEC FY 11 - 10
General Fund	0	0	0	0	327,348	327,348
EXPENDITURES						
Personnel Services Expenditures	0	0	0	0	267,291	267,291
Operating Expenditures	0	0	0	0	54,657	54,657
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	5,400	5,400
Other Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0	0
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$327,348	\$327,348
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL	0	0	0	0	3	3

FY 2010/11 Budget Highlights & Initiatives

- This is a new department added during FY 2009/10 to provide public defender services to Cherokee County. By law the 7th Circuit Public Defender oversees this office along with the Spartanburg County Office. All expenses associated with the Cherokee County Office are paid for by the State or Cherokee County. Spartanburg County does not contribute to the financial needs of this Cherokee County Office.
- The Cherokee County office has 3 full-time staff who are now employees of Spartanburg County.
- Operating expenses are minimal with the biggest expenditure being contract services for an attorney to handle juvenile cases.

Goal:

To provide excellent, effective and ethical representation for all clients assigned to the public defender office, while working with other agencies to develop, improve and provide an effective criminal justice system

Objectives:

- Maintain individual attorneys' caseloads within the recommended ABA and State caseload standards for criminal defense attorneys
- Adequately prepare all cases for final disposition with a minimum of delay
- Identify clients and initiate representation as early after commencement of criminal proceedings as possible

Function or Division	Description	Percent of Budget
General Sessions Court	Representation of clients in General Sessions	87%
Summary Courts	Representation of clients in Magistrate and Municipal Courts	3%
Juvenile Court	Representation of clients in Family Court	10%