# Office of the Alternate Public Defender 2023

Presented to the Board of Supervisors on January 31, 2023

23-0246 G 1 of 8

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Alternate Public Defender is to provide high quality, vigorous and caring representation to clients charged with criminal offenses, in cases where the Public Defender's Office is unable to represent them (due to unavailability or conflict of interest). Our team is committed to fighting for the rights, liberty and dignity of every client.



## Organizational Chart



23-0246 C 3 of 8

### What we do?

- Advocate for people impacted by the criminal legal system
- Challenge unjust and often unconstitutional practices
- Link clients with essential services





### Total Operating Appropriations

### Alternate Public Defender

- Revenue: \$14,300
  - (Public Defense Pilot Program Grant)
- Appropriations: \$1,165,557
- NCC: \$1,151,257

### **Indigent Defense:**

- No Revenue Budgeted
- Appropriations: \$1,530,849
- NCC: \$1,530,849

#### **Scales of Justice**

National spending on public defense, corrections, and police, in millions



#### Total Spending on District Attorney Offices and Indigent Defense

(In Billions)



23-0246 G 5 of 8

Based upon FY 2022-23 Budget

## Service and Performance Indicators

- Legal Services
- Pre-Trial Intervention and Specialty Courts
- Investigations
- Appeals
- Conservatorships
- Juvenile
- Civil Contempt Issues



• Resentencing Issues pertaining to new laws



## Role in the Strategic Plan

### **Good Governance**

• As a legally mandated department we strive to operate by the county's core values of integrity and service excellence

#### **Economic Development**

• As a critical part of the justice system we help our clients return to work and try to help them become productive members of society

### **Healthy Communities**

• We work with the district attorneys to look for alternatives to incarceration that serves the clients' mental health and substance abuse issues

#### **Infrastructure**

• Our office is committed to maintaining our building and providing a safe comfortable place for our staff and clients

### **Public Safety**

• Our department actively encourages our clients to make use of the resources provided through the legal system and the county so that we can reduce recidivism

23-0246 6 7 of 8

### Upcoming Policy and Programmatic Changes



1: Anticipate a trend toward reductions in incarceration to continue Example -SB 1209 Sentencing: members of military: trauma (Effective 1/1/23)

2: Anticipate a trend toward programming Example - SB 1338 The Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act (Effective 12/1/24)

