

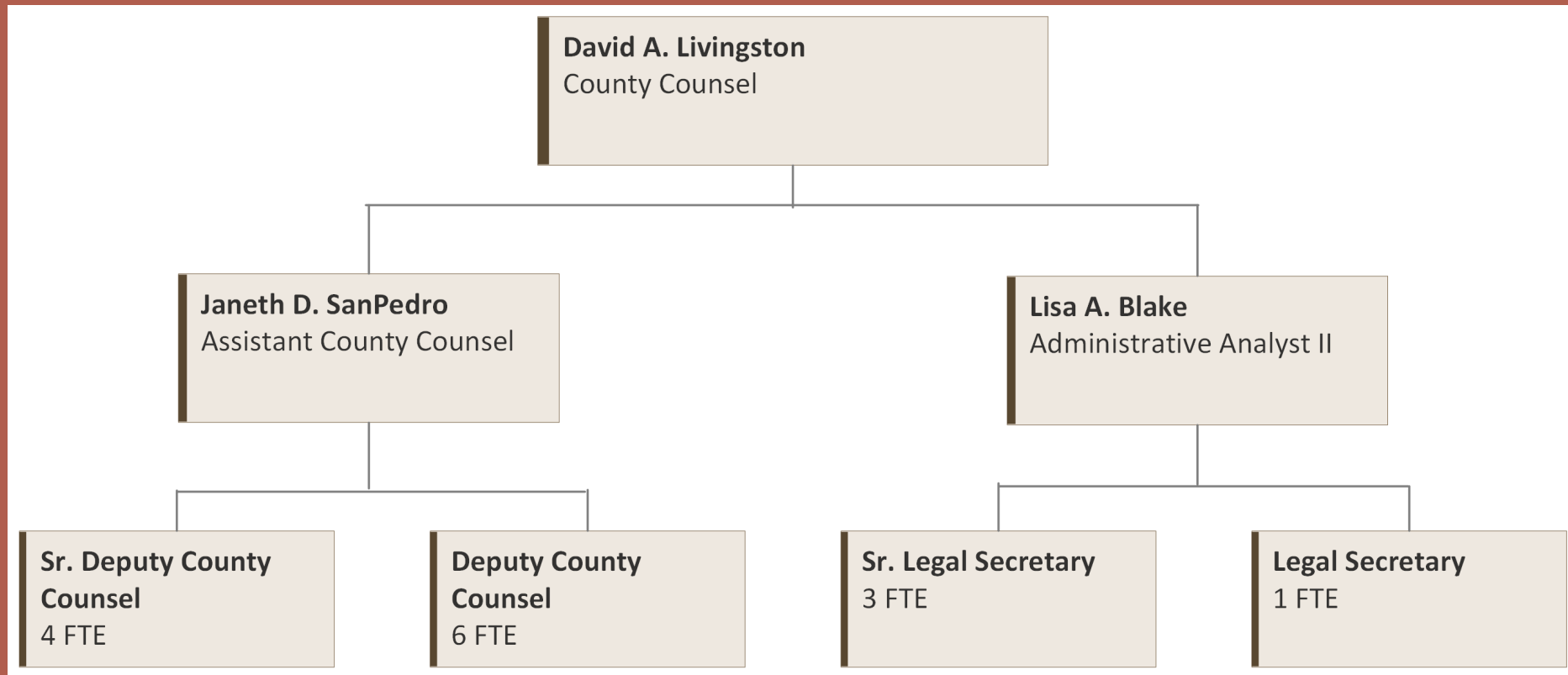
County Counsel Overview

Presented to the Board of Supervisors on February 1, 2023

What we do

- The Office of the County Counsel is the legal advisor to the County.
- A County Counsel's office, once established, assumes the civil functions of the District Attorney (Gov. Code §27642), including the following:
 - Provide legal services to the County (§ 26520)
 - Represent the County and its officers and employees in civil actions (§26521)
 - Act as the legal adviser to the Board of Supervisors and attend Board meetings (§ 26526)
- County Counsel also represents and advises the court upon request (§26524, 27647), the grand jury (Penal Code § 934), the Assessment Appeals Board (§31000.7), the Air Pollution Control District (H&S Code § 40101), and the Resource Conservation District (Pub.Res.Code § 9418).
- Per County ordinance, the County Counsel's office is required to review all contracts, proposed ordinances, and resolutions.
- Note that while the Office of the County Counsel is a public law office it does not provide legal advice to members of the public.

Organizational Chart



Functional Groups – 12 Attorneys

- Health and Human Services (4 FTE)
- Land Use and Development (3.5 FTE)
- General Government (2.5 FTE)
- Law & Justice / Human Resources (2 FTE)

Total Appropriations and Net County Cost

	21/22 Budgeted	22/23 (Budgeted)
Total Appropriations	\$3,852,236	\$4,123,448
Total Revenue	\$443,300	\$476,300
FTE's	17	17
Net County Cost	\$3,408,963	\$3,647,148
% Net County Cost	88%	88%

Non General Fund Revenue Sources

- Court-ordered awards of attorney fees
- Direct charges to departments (e.g., DOT, Risk Management, EMS, EMD, and AQMD)
- Reimbursement from developer-driven litigation

Service and Performance Indicators

	FY18/19 *	CY22
Juvenile dependence cases opened	76	90
Current total open juvenile dependency cases	292	133
Public guardian cases opened	36	51
Current total open public guardian cases	300	216
Legal services requests received	581	610
Contracts/requisitions reviewed	1276	2086

* We lack data for intervening years due to the transition of office management software.

Role in the Strategic Plan

- The County Counsel's Office's primary role in implementing the Strategic Plan is through its support to other County departments in furtherance of their identified strategic plan goals.
- Additionally, the County Counsel's Office directly contributes to the Strategic Plan through the pursuit of litigation and defense of claims.