

# State Attorney

**Sixth Judicial Circuit:** State Attorney Bruce Bartlett  
**OMB Budget Analyst:** Veronica Ettel

**Department Purpose**

The State Attorney represents the State of Florida in the circuit and county courts and is responsible for conducting criminal prosecutions of all persons charged with violating state, county, and/or local laws and ordinances. The State Attorney reviews charges and complaints to determine whether they warrant prosecution and trial. In addition to court duties, the State Attorney provides legal advice in criminal matters to all law enforcement agencies and works with these agencies to provide in-service training. The County portion of the budget funds Article V related technology requirements.

**Budget Summary**

<b>All Funds</b>						
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>FY24 General Fund</b>	<b>FY24 Non- General Fund</b>	<b>FY24 Total</b>	<b>FY25 General Fund</b>	<b>FY25 Non- General Fund</b>	<b>FY25 Total</b>
Operating Expenses	\$617,530	\$0	\$617,530	\$766,970	\$0	\$766,970
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$39,000	\$0	\$39,000
<b>Expenditures Total</b>	<b>\$617,530</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$617,530</b>	<b>\$805,970</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$805,970</b>

<b>Fund: 0001 – General Fund</b>					
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>FY21 Actual</b>	<b>FY22 Actual</b>	<b>FY23 Actual</b>	<b>FY24 Budget</b>	<b>FY25 Request</b>
Operating Expenses	\$232,160	\$485,459	\$479,460	\$617,530	\$766,970
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$11,170	\$0	\$0	\$39,000
<b>Expenditures Total</b>	<b>\$232,160</b>	<b>\$496,629</b>	<b>\$479,460</b>	<b>\$617,530</b>	<b>\$805,970</b>

**Topics for Discussion and Budget Drivers**

**Topics for Discussion**

- The County’s portion of the State Attorney’s budget is used to maintain and replace various technology according to a planned replacement schedule. A portion of General Fund support is derived from the Document Recording Fee, which is applied to Article V court technology expenses. The remaining amount is funded with other non-dedicated General Fund resources.
- The State Attorney submitted one decision package requesting funding for Year-1 of a 10-year contract to purchase AXON Justice Software and improve functionality for receiving evidence from law enforcement using Evidence.com. More information is provided on the next page.

**Budget Drivers**

- The FY25 State Attorney Budget for expenditures increases \$188,440 (30.5%) to \$805,970. The FY24 Adopted Budget was amended to carry forward \$172,000 from FY23, revising the FY24 budget to \$789,530 for phase one of updating Motorola radios. The net increase from the revised budget to FY25 is \$16,440.
- The State Attorney’s Office does not have county-funded employees.

## State Attorney

- Operating Expenses increase \$149,440 (24.2%) to \$766,970. The net increase is for phase two of the radios update project.
- Capital outlay expense of \$39,000 is added in FY25 to purchase a Cisco Catalyst Switch and License for expansion on two floors.

### FY25 Decision Packages

- **AXON Justice Software (ranked 1) Total \$463,405 in FY25, with 65% to Pinellas (\$301,213) and 35% to Pasco County (\$162,192). Recurring.** If approved, the contract would total \$3,258,833 for Pinellas County's 65% share of cost over the 10-year period. Pasco County's 35% share would be \$1,754,759. The total commitment of \$5.0M through Year-10 reflects 4% annual inflation.
  - The software works in conjunction with AXON Evidence.com which is a software program law enforcement currently uses in Pinellas County. The software will allow streamlining the management, storage and sharing of digital evidence. Creating centralized digital evidence provides for effective and efficient evidence sharing, which will improve discovery efforts, evidence management, case preparation, and internal case review processes. (See Attachment 3 for the State Attorney's description and justification summary, pages 5-6.)
  - The funding presented in this document includes the County Administrator's preliminary recommendation not to fund this decision package for the FY25 Proposed Budget.

### Budget Summary by Program and Fund

#### **State Attorney-Technology**

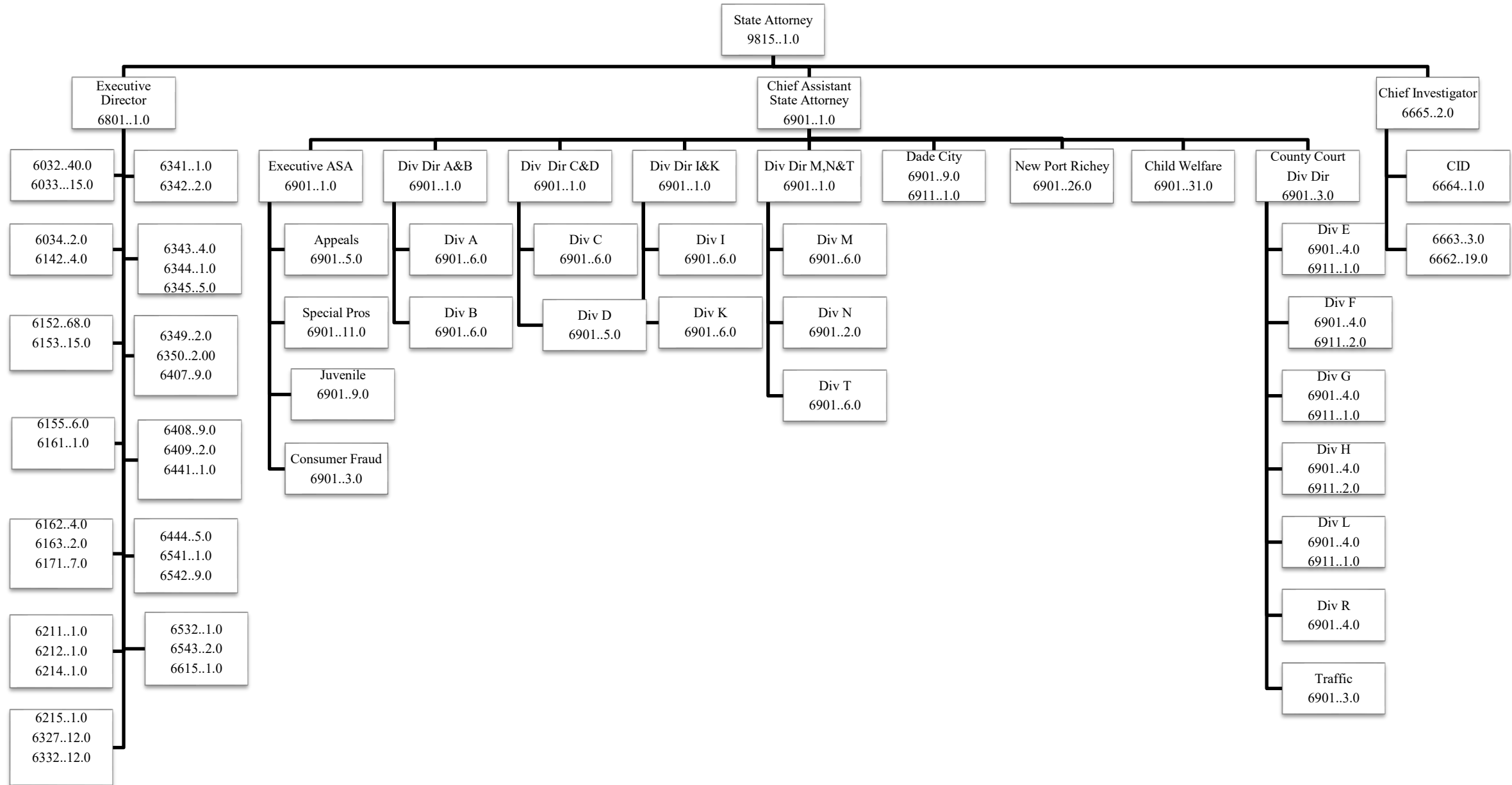
Technology and communications functions for the Judiciary, State Attorney, and Public Defender, as required by Article V of the State Constitution. Funding is partially supported by Court fees.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>FY21 Actual</b>	<b>FY22 Actual</b>	<b>FY23 Actual</b>	<b>FY24 Budget</b>	<b>FY25 Budget</b>
General Fund	\$232,160	\$496,629	\$479,460	\$617,530	\$805,970
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$232,160</b>	<b>\$496,629</b>	<b>\$479,460</b>	<b>\$617,530</b>	<b>\$805,970</b>

#### Attachments:

1. Organizational Chart (p.3)
2. Budget Report (p.4)
3. Decision Package (p.5-6)

**Schedule X**  
**Organizational Structure**  
**Office of the State Attorney - Sixth Judicial Circuit**  
**Effective July 1, 2022**



**State Attorney-Technology  
Fund 0001 - General Fund**

**Expenditures**

<b>Account</b>	<b>FY21 Actual</b>	<b>FY22 Actual</b>	<b>FY23 Actual</b>	<b>FY24 Budget</b>	<b>FY25 Request</b>	<b>Budget to Budget Change</b>	<b>Budget to Budget % Change</b>
5410001 - Communication Services	9,209	22,633	38,505	57,430	67,670	10,240	17.83%
5410006 - Comm Svcs-Repair & Maint	0	528	735	9,200	170,020	160,820	1748.04%
5460001 - Repair&Maintenance Svcs	36,187	22,200	16,971	26,650	22,900	(3,750)	-14.07%
5464000 - Repair&Maint-Equipment	838	319,411	159,120	164,910	199,190	34,280	20.79%
5520001 - Operating Supplies Exp	65,976	80,549	118,496	144,310	204,220	59,910	41.51%
5520091 - Equipment purchases under \$5,000	0	33,177	3,875	0	0	0	0.00%
5520098 - PC Purchases under \$5,000	0	0	141,758	215,030	102,970	(112,060)	-52.11%
5520099 - PC Purchases under \$1000	119,950	6,962	0	0	0	0	0.00%
5640001 - Machinery And Equipment	0	11,170	0	0	0	0	0.00%
5640091 - Equipment purchases over \$5,000	0	0	0	0	39,000	39,000	100.00%
<b>Expenditures Total</b>	<b>232,160</b>	<b>496,629</b>	<b>479,460</b>	<b>617,530</b>	<b>805,970</b>	<b>188,440</b>	<b>30.52%</b>

FY25 Budget Decision Package  
State Attorney Pinellas County  
Problem: AXON Justice

February 21, 2024

Our office, just like any other employer, learned the lessons of COVID in the work place and the need to adapt and modernize. In the last few years, we have made changes to our IT policies, such as, creating outside email use for our employees, opening use to JAWS, and converting the attorney work stations to laptops with docking stations for remote work, launching a new paperless case management system called STAC, among others.

Another big change was law enforcement's purchase of Axon Evidence.com for evidence storing and sharing for discovery purposes. Currently, AXON provides us a free version with limited functionality for receiving evidence from law enforcement using Evidence.com. Our office needs to make more changes to meet the needs of the current business and efficiency for evidence sharing with the Defense Bar and Public Defender's Office. Our office must embrace modern practices for case management, discovery, victim/witness services, and other critical functions through the technology available to law offices. We conducted a search for the best way to make these necessary changes and the new AXON product specifically designed for District Attorneys and State Attorney's nationwide called AXON Justice is the best product. The functionality of AXON Justice is a game changer for our office's discovery efforts, evidence management, case preparation, and internal case review processes. This product logically works parallel with the AXON Evidence.com version law enforcement currently uses and costs a great deal less. There is no conversion process with rolling out this product as it is ready for use on day one.

AXON Justice is a ten year contract with a first year cost of \$301,213, followed by nine years that include a 4% increase per year. The total bill is split 65% to 35% between Pinellas and Pasco Counties, which is standard for our office. Therefore, the first year and subsequent nine (9) year total costs would be as follows:

Program Length	120	Months	10	Years
Justice	4,963,593.60			
Implementation	50,000.00			
Total Cost	5,013,593.60		501,359.36	

Year	Total Cost	Pinellas
2024	463,404.77	301,213.10
2025	429,960.96	279,474.62
2026	447,159.40	290,653.61
2027	465,045.77	302,279.75
2028	483,647.61	314,370.95
2029	502,993.51	326,945.78
2030	523,113.25	340,023.61
2031	544,037.78	353,624.56
2032	565,799.29	367,769.54
2033	588,431.26	382,480.32

As this program is already in use by our law enforcement partners, there is no reasonable alternative available for use. Furthermore, law enforcement partners not using Evidence.com will have the ability to send our office evidence using a feature of AXON Justice. Therefore, implementing AXON Justice will allow our attorneys and staff to function in the highest efficiency and productivity levels while promoting public safety now and in the future, and bring a modern and paperless practice of law to the justice system.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.