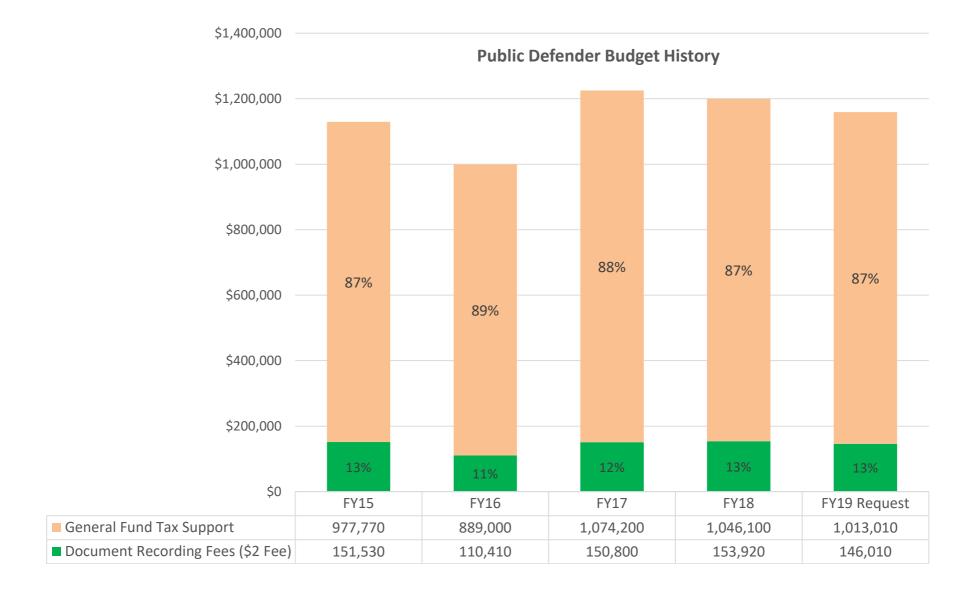


The Public Defender Budget is supported by multiple funding sources. The County portion of the Public Defender's budget reflects a \$41,000 (3.4%) decrease from FY18 budget. The decrease is related to the scheduled end of the pilot program funded by a decision package in FY18 which provided funding for two Crossover Case Managers. Due to difficulties in filling these positions, the Public Defender was unable to begin this program until April 2018 and has submitted a decision package in FY19 to continue this program and allow for data to be collected to assess the effectiveness of this program. The FY19 request for this desicison package is \$140,000. The Public Defender has also submitted a decision package for additional funding of \$35,000 for the Jail Diversion program due to increased case load, and \$215,000 for three State employees who will work with youth who are aging out of the foster care system, which would be a new program in FY19.

The Public Defender Technology program is intended to be funded by Article V revenues and does not have a target. The Jail Diversion, ITP, and Jail Diversion Caseworker programs are discretionary and are funded by General Fund revenues. These programs are \$72,150 below the FY19 budget target which represents an inflationary increase over the FY18 budget appropriation. However, Article V revenues are not fully funding the required programs. Article V of the State Constitution requires counties to provide funding for all reasonable and necessary technology and communications functions for the Judiciary, State Attorney, and Public Defender.



PUBLIC DEFENDER

The Public Defender's office provides legal advice, counsel, and defense services to needy and financially indigent citizens accused of crimes, as required by Florida law. The County portion of the budget funds Article V related technology requirements, Jail Diversion, Incompetent to Proceed (ITP) programs, and SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR). The Public Defender does not have any County staff, although funding provided by the County enables hiring of staff to support specific programs.

		FY19	
Program Descriptions		Budget Request	FTEs
Public Defender- Technology Program	Article V of the State Constitution requires the counties to provide all reasonable and necessary technology and communications functions for the Judiciary, State Attorney, and Public Defender. Funding is partially supported by Court fees.		-
Public Defender-Jail Diversion-BCC Funds	This program is a collaborative effort of the Public Defender, State Attorney, Pinellas County Sheriff, the Judiciary, and local service providers to reduce the incidence and length of incarceration of individuals diagnosed with mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorder.	626,750	-
Public Defender-Jail Diversion-State DCF Grants		60,000	-
Incompetent to Proceed	Since FY07, the Board of County Commissioners has funded a program for case management assistance to non-violent criminal misdemeanor offenders who have mental health issues. These persons are not eligible for other jail diversion programs which are only available to felony offenders.		-
Jail Diversion Caseworker	Assist Jail Diversion clients, with duties to include transporting clients from jail to treatment programs after taking them to probation, connecting clients to local agencies that will help with permanent housing, jobs, medical/dental needs, and food banks, resulting in less recidivism and homelessness.		-
TOTAL		1,159,020	-

Public Defender, 6th Judicial Circuit of Florida 14250 49th St. No. Clearwater, Florida 33762

Organizational Chart July 1, 2017

