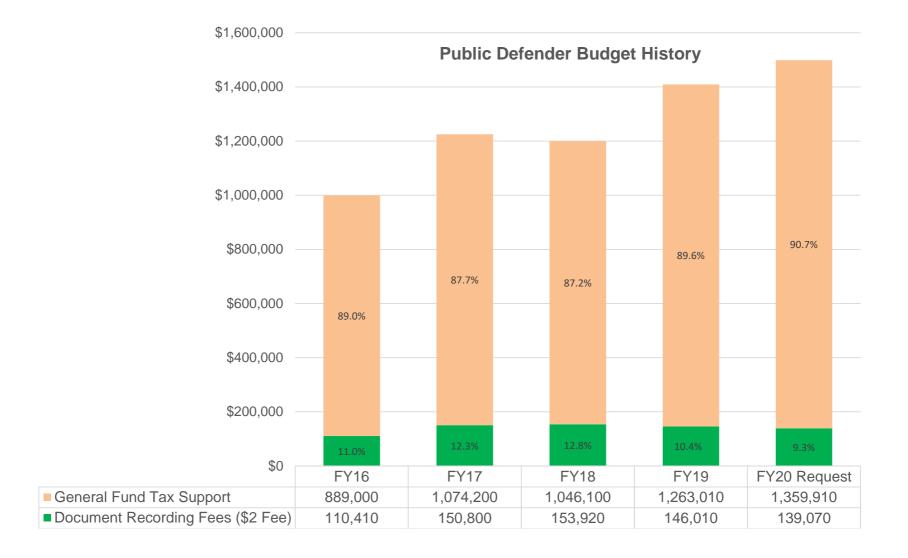


The Public Defender Budget is supported by multiple funding sources. The County portion of the Public Defender's budget reflects an \$89,960 (6.4%) increase from the FY19 budget. The Public Defender Technology program is intended to be funded by Article V revenues and does not have a target. However, Article V revenues are not fully funding the required programs. The Jail Diversion, ITP, and Jail Diversion Caseworker programs are discretionary and are funded by General Fund revenues. These programs are \$41,240 below the FY20 budget target which represents an inflationary increase over the FY19 budget appropriation. 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. The Public Defender has submitted a decision package (\$146,000) requesting funding to continue two Crossover Case Managers, positions which were initially added as a pilot program in FY18. The Public Defender was unable to fill those positions until April of 2018, and the pilot program was extended into FY19.



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, and Incompetent to Proceed (ITP) programs. The Public Defender does not have any County staff, although funding provided by the County enables hiring of staff to support specific programs.

		FY20
Program Descriptions		Budget Request
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.	296,140
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.	806,590
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.	186,250
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.	72,000
Ready for Life	Assist youth that are aging out of the foster care system. The therapist will work with the youth to find employment, housing, and other vital skills to become successful and achieve indpendence.	78,000
TOTAL		1,498,980

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

Organizational Chart May 1,2018

