

Office of the County Counsel

FY 2021-23 Recommended Budget

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COUNTY OF SAN MATEO



Mission

The Office of the County Counsel provides quality and timely legal services to the Board of Supervisors, the County Manager's Office, elected County officials, all County departments, and boards and commissions. We also provide services to school districts, special districts, and other public agencies operating within the county, allowing them to carry out their responsibilities in a manner fully consistent with the law.

FY 2021-23 Priorities

- Countywide recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;
- County Capital Projects;
- State Controller's Office issues;
- Sea Level Rise;
- Responding to potential and actual changes in state and federal policy;
- Affordable/workforce housing;
- Equity initiatives
- Homelessness.

FY 2021-23 Challenges

- Supporting attorneys and staff affected by the COVID-19 pandemic including related school / childcare closures
- Recruiting top notch legal talent in an environment of escalating private-sector salaries
- Adjusting and adapting to a post-pandemic office environment

FY 2021-23 Budget Overview

	FY 2020-21 Revised	FY 2021-22 Recommended	Amount Change	Percent Change
Total Sources	12,141,469	12,382,152	240,683	2%
Total Requirements	20,109,654	20,484,367	374,713	1.9%
Net County Cost	7,968,185	8,102,215	134,030	1.7%
Total Positions	49	49	0	0%

FY 2021-23 Budget Overview

	FY 2021-22 Recommended	FY 2022-23 Preliminary Recommended	Amount Change	Percent Change
Total Sources	12,382,152	12,474,253	92,101	0.7%
Total Requirements	20,484,367	20,649,084	164,717	0.8%
Net County Cost	8,102,215	8,174,831	72,616	0.9%
Total Positions	49	49	0	0%

Innovation & Equity

- Improved office procedures to enable remote work and social distancing
- Developed office specific training in the areas of diversity and equity
- Continue to work with legal and minority bar associations in recruiting attorneys and staff

Performance

	FY2018-19	FY2020-21	FY2022-23
CCO Biennial Client Survey	Actual	Actual	Estimate
% of Clients Indicating Legal Services Meet or Exceed Expectations	94%	96%	95%

C.A.R.E. for Employees

- Expanded telecommuting schedules
- Flexible start and end times (e.g. 7AM, 9AM)
- Walking meetings
- Zoom employee recognition and social events
- CCO Implicit Bias training
- CCO Diversity training
- Biweekly all hands staff meetings and trainings

C.A.R.E. for Customers

- Monthly litigation updates
- Post-Litigation surveys
- All-client surveys
- Embedding attorneys at client sites
- Client check-in meetings
- Co-hired an employee (with CMO) – a Legislative Analyst to update clients on legislative changes
- Extremely active in County Counsel's Association
- Staff active in COVID-19 response and recovery

Questions?

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