
Public Defender - Business Plan

Our Customers—Who we serve

- Initial appointment to all indigent/ partially indigent adult felony and juvenile cases throughout the county and the same for all misdemeanors in the overwhelming majority of villages, townships and cities within the county
- Initial appointment to all indigent/ partially indigent clients for special civil matters, probation violations, line-ups, PPOs, extraditions and Friend of the Court contempt cases
- First choice appointment as Guardian- Ad -Litem for all Juvenile victims in neglect and abuse cases
- All other components of the Criminal Justice System in the collaborative pursuit of Justice .

2012/13 Accomplishments

- Meeting or exceeding all of the Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System as established or adopted by the American Bar Association and the State Bar of Michigan
- Successful continuous use of volunteers to maintain and enhance quality workforce services with maximum cost effectiveness
- Successful collaboration with the Michigan Campaign for Justice and the State Bar of Michigan for a long term solution to achieving Statewide standards and receiving adequate funding support for indigent clients, resulting in enactment of PA 93 of 2013 .
- Successful ongoing collaboration with programs and agencies such as Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative, Project Outreach Team, Street Outreach Court and Juvenile Drug Court to prevent crime and enhance public safety by rendering top quality legal representation

Major Collaborations—Who we work with

- Both collaboratively and adversarially with prosecution, police and corrections to convict and punish only the guilty while protecting the innocent
- All public safety, human services, health, job training and placement agencies within community.
- Secondary schools, community colleges, universities, substance abuse treatment and mental health facilities
- Other components of the Criminal Justice System— Courts, Police Agencies, Prosecutor and Corrections
- State / local units of governments, non- profits, civil rights organizations, churches and businesses, including but not limited to Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative, Catholic Social Services , PORT, CSTS and SafeHouse.

2014-17 Goals, Enhancements, Service Modifications

- Continuous re-structuring of department whenever feasible to achieve maximum cost effectiveness without compromising quality service in accordance with BOC strategic priorities and budget decision principles and the enactment of PA 93 of 2013, plus updating electronic case management processes
- Continuous use of highly qualified volunteers to enhance capacity to provide quality legal services at greatly leveraged cost savings.
- Continuation of quality legal representation that meets or exceeds all required ethical and professional standards of the State Bar of Michigan, ABA and PA 93 of 2013
- Obtain in 2014 remainder of critically needed 5th Floor of City Center Building after move of main offices there in December 2013 from the 4th, 3rd and Lower Level Floors of long occupied County Annex Building.



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Provide top quality legal representation as needed to enforce constitutionally mandated public defense competently, effectively, efficiently, ethically and vigorously

Our Vision: A safe, secure and just society where those in need receive effective legal representation and appropriate resources

OUR SERVICES - WHAT WE DO

Adult Criminal and Civil Division — *Mandated*

Appear for County as needed to provide mandated public defense services:

- Pre-trial, Preliminary exams and motions
- Trials and/or pleas, sentencing dispositions
- Select civil cases
- Public legal advice

Desired Outcome: Continuous delivery of mandated legal services with required quality and cost effectiveness in accordance with BOC strategic priorities and budget decision principles

Juvenile Division — *Mandated*

Appear for County as needed for juveniles charged with delinquencies or for guardian-at-litem services for victims of neglect and abuse

- All stages of the process to final disposition or applicable adulthood

Desired Outcome: Continuous delivery of mandated legal services with required quality and cost effectiveness in accordance with BOC strategic priorities and budget decision principles

Volunteer Division — *Discretionary*

- Recruits, trains and utilizes many highly qualified volunteers from educational institutions, businesses and the community at large to provide top quality legal services cost effectively
- Integrates them into 15 operational teams as extensions of required self reliant supervisory FTE attorneys to strengthen and expand team workload capacity

Desired Outcome: Greatly enhanced capacity of Office to accomplish mission in meeting BOC strategic priorities and budget decision principles

Community Outreach Program — *Discretionary*

- Partners extensively with the community to promote safety and security by prevention of crime, and
- Restoration of clients to productive and law abiding roles in society that reduce recidivism

Desired Outcome: Greatly enhanced capacity to accomplish mission and realize vision of a safe and just community in accordance with the BOC strategic priorities and budget decision principles