

**Mission**

The mission of the Office of the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney is to provide effective and efficient legal representation and advice; aggressive prosecution of adult and juvenile offenders; and protection to government clients and victims of crime so that they can receive adequate legal advice, justice and representation.

**Strategic Focus**

**Primary Initiative:** Legal Matters - Adjudicate, prosecute and represent all matters presented to the Office within the legal parameters required by law while providing mandated services and justice to all clients and victims of crime.

**Primary Issue:** Policy Changes - Changes in policy made by outside agencies may cause a temporary or permanent spike in workload. Submission of information in electronic or digital formats which the system cannot accept slow down the work processes in the Prosecutors Office. - As our office continues to deploy the new case management system, we are experiencing workflow changes and have been in contact with the vendor to make necessary adjustments. We are also actively working with our vendor toward bringing the last arresting agency onboard to allow that agency to send information electronically. This will further impact our workflow and employee duties.

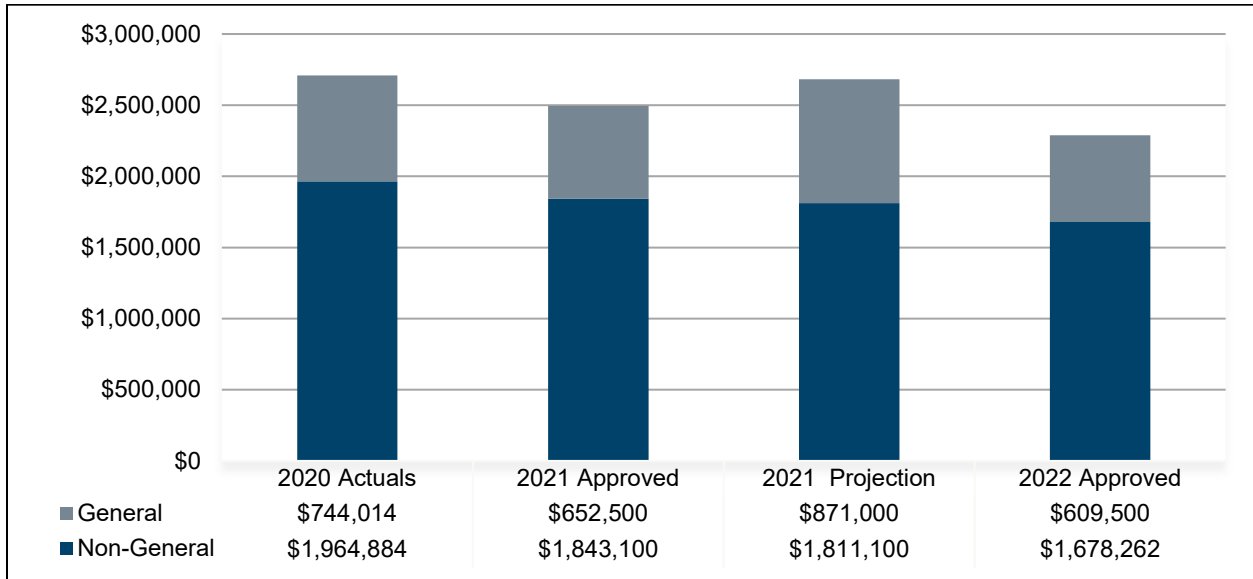
**Performance Spotlight**

**Measure:** Number of screened cases referred to Franklin County Municipal Drug Court Program

**Program:** Prosecution, Adjudication and Litigation

About this measure		Why it is important	
This measure tracks the number of cases received in our office from arresting agencies for prosecution of adults charged with low level felony drug possession offenses which after further review have been returned to the Franklin County Municipal Court Drug Court Program, thereby avoiding prosecution.		These offenders may be addicted to drugs and need treatment. Often there are no other felony charges related to the offender's arrest and it may be beneficial to remove that person from the felony criminal justice system. Although our main focus is on drug addiction, some of these offenders do have other misconduct or risky behavior such as prostitution or mental health problems that are exacerbated by their drug addiction. Breaking the cycle of crime/prosecution/imprisonment will give these offenders a change to turn their lives around.	
What is being done			
Prosecutors and support staff assigned to work with the Drug Court Program attend daily arraignment hearings at the Franklin County Municipal Court and take note of low-level felony drug possession cases involving adult offenders. Our office attempts to get these offenders into appropriate treatment to address their drug addiction and progress into other level of treatment for other problems. Prosecutors evaluate cases for treatment. Cases that qualify for Drug Court Program are presented to that Court during a hearing where the offender enters a guilty plea to a misdemeanor crime and enters the program. Prosecutors attend "staffing" meetings for the various treatment courts and with our input, the Court determines the best treatment plan for the offender. The offender must comply with all the conditions of that program. By successfully meeting all the requirements of the Drug Court Program the offender is removed from prosecution through the felony justice system and hopefully will not re-offend			
2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Projected	2022 Budget
126	450	1,170	1,350

**Budget Summary – Revenues**



**Primary Revenue Sources by Fund Type**

Fund Type	Fund Name (Number)	Primary Revenue Sources
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Fund (1000)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payments from the Workers' Compensation Fund</li> <li>• CSEA Payments</li> <li>• Violence Against Women's Act Grant</li> <li>• Victims of Crime Act Grant</li> </ul>
Special	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rotary Fund (2044)</li> <li>• Delinquent Tax &amp; Assessment Collection Fund (2047)</li> <li>• Equitable Sharing Fund (2155)</li> <li>• State Law Enforcement Trust Fund (2156)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reimbursements from SWACO</li> <li>• General Fund Transfer</li> <li>• Tax Assessment Collections</li> <li>• Title Search Fees</li> <li>• Federal Asset Forfeitures</li> </ul>
Debt	None	N/A
Capital	None	N/A
Enterprise /Internal	None	N/A

**Comparison: 2021 Approved to 2021 Projection**

	2021 Approved	2021 Projection	Variance	
			\$	%
General Fund	\$652,500	\$871,000	\$218,500	33.5%
Non-General Fund	\$1,843,100	\$1,811,100	(\$32,000)	-1.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,495,600</b>	<b>\$2,682,100</b>	<b>\$186,500</b>	<b>7.5%</b>

The \$186,500 increase from the 2021 Approved Budget to the 2021 Projection is primarily attributed to:

- General Fund – A \$200,000 grant from the City of Columbus for two additional gun unit prosecutors in order to expand the County's Gun Violence Reduction Initiative.

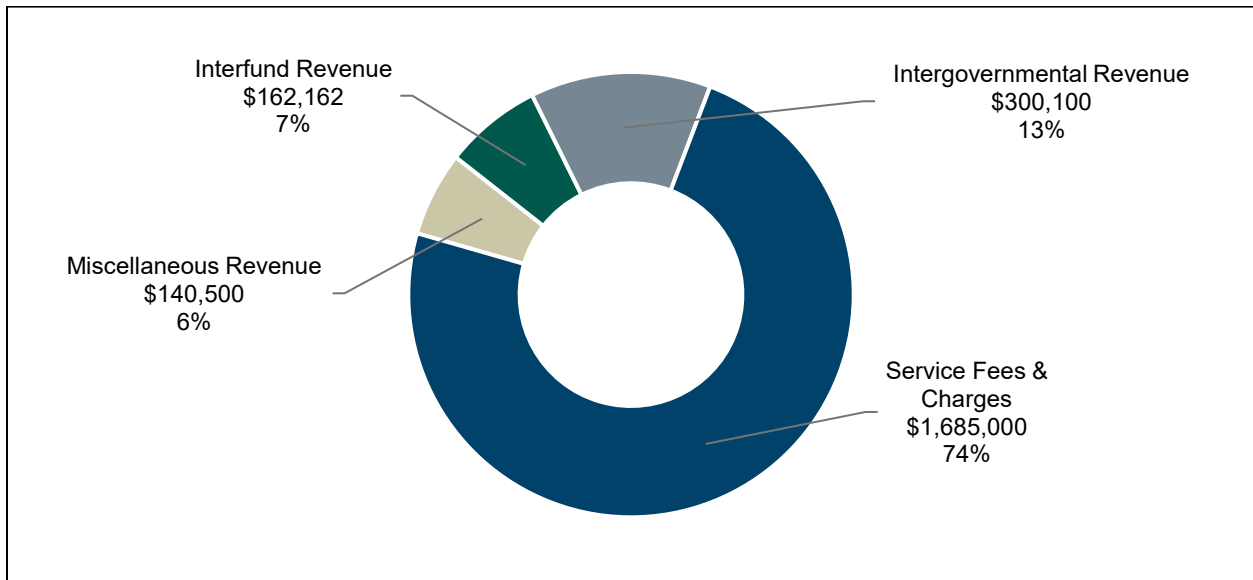
**Comparison: 2021 Approved to 2022 Approved**

	2021 Approved	2022 Approved	Variance	
			\$	%
General Fund	\$652,500	\$609,500	(\$43,000)	-6.6%
Non-General Fund	\$1,843,100	\$1,678,262	(\$164,838)	-8.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,495,600</b>	<b>\$2,287,762</b>	<b>(\$207,838)</b>	<b>-8.3%</b>

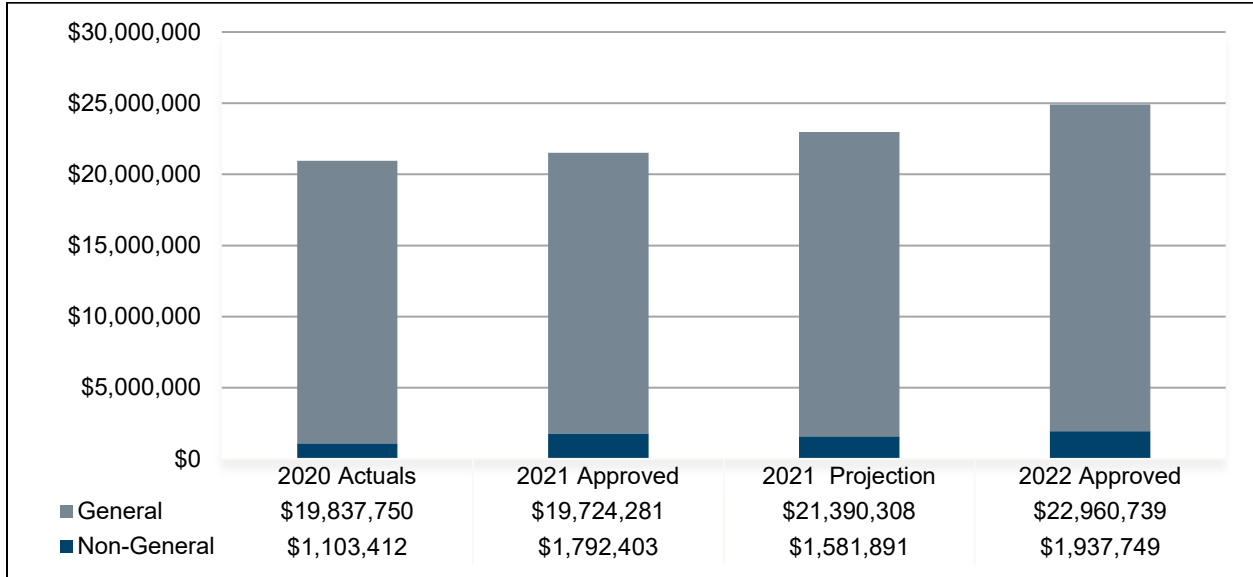
The \$207,838 decrease from the 2021 Approved Budget to the 2022 Approved Budget is primarily attributed to:

- General Fund - A decrease in funding for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant
- Non-General Fund – lower than anticipated delinquent tax collections.

**2022 Approved Budget  
Revenues by Category**



**Budget Summary – Expenditures**



**Significant items in the 2022 Approved Budget**

Object Code	Budgeted Amount	% of Budget
PERSONAL SERVICES & FRINGE	\$23,285,607	93.5%
LEGAL ADVERTISING	\$301,000	1.2%
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES-OTHER	\$200,000	0.8%
PUBLICATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$172,315	0.7%
IT COMPUTER STATIONS LESS THAN \$5,000	\$168,600	0.7%
IT SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION AND MAINTENANCE	\$152,468	0.6%
STORAGE FACILITIES RENT/LEASE	\$116,000	0.5%
OFFICE MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	\$111,000	0.4%
OTHER SERVICES & CHARGES	\$77,674	0.3%
OUT OF COUNTY TRAVEL EXPENSES	\$50,000	0.2%
OTHER	\$263,824	1.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,898,488</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Comparison: 2021 Approved to 2021 Projection**

	<b>2021 Approved</b>	<b>2021 Projection</b>	<b>Variance</b>	
			<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
General Fund	\$19,724,281	\$21,390,308	\$1,666,027	8.4%
Non-General Fund	\$1,792,403	\$1,581,891	(\$210,512)	-11.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,516,684</b>	<b>\$22,972,199</b>	<b>\$1,455,515</b>	<b>6.8%</b>

The \$1,455,515 increase from the 2021 Approved Budget to the 2021 Projection is primarily attributed to:

- General Fund - Termination and wellness payouts and higher personnel costs associated with non-bargaining increases.
- Non-General Fund – A decrease in legal advertising needs.

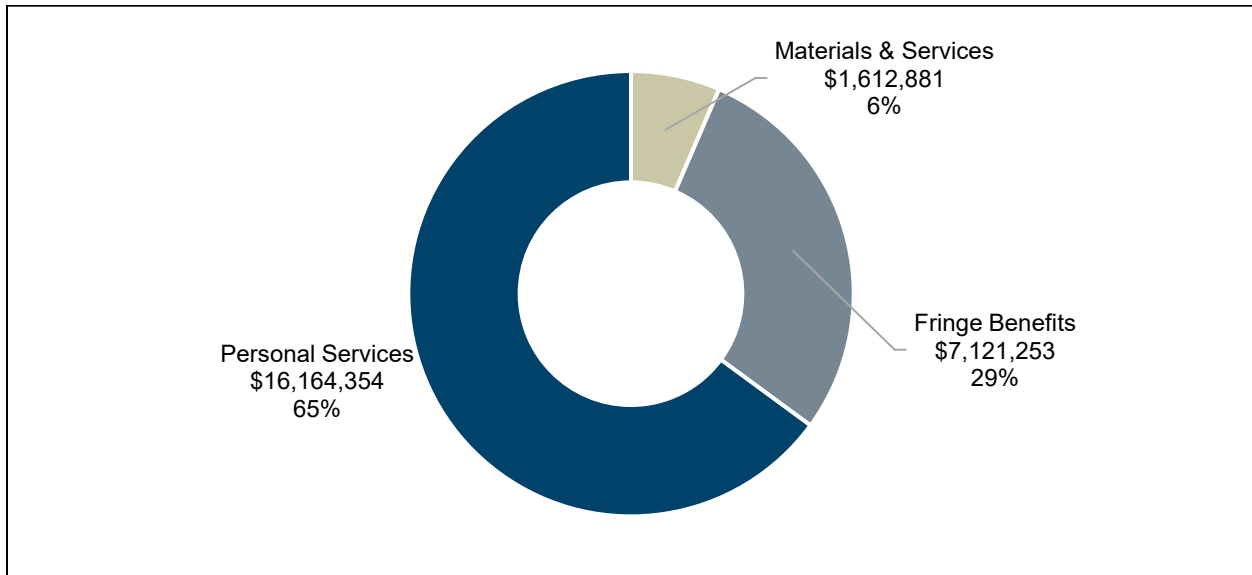
**Comparison: 2021 Approved to 2022 Approved**

	<b>2021 Approved</b>	<b>2022 Approved</b>	<b>Variance</b>	
			<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
General Fund	\$19,724,281	\$22,960,739	\$3,236,458	16.4%
Non-General Fund	\$1,792,403	\$1,937,749	\$145,346	8.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,516,684</b>	<b>\$24,898,488</b>	<b>\$3,381,804</b>	<b>15.7%</b>

The \$3,381,804 increase from the 2021 Approved Budget to the 2022 Approved Budget is primarily attributed to:

- General Fund - Higher personnel costs associated with non-bargaining increases, lower than anticipated vacancies, and a Request for Result for six Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys.

**2022 Approved Budget  
Expenditures by Category**



**Budget Summary – FTEs**

	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>2022 Approved</b>	<b>Approved Budget as % of Total FTEs</b>
General Fund	210.00	220.00	95.2%
Non-General Fund	11.00	11.00	4.8%
<b>Total Agency FTEs</b>	<b>221.00</b>	<b>231.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

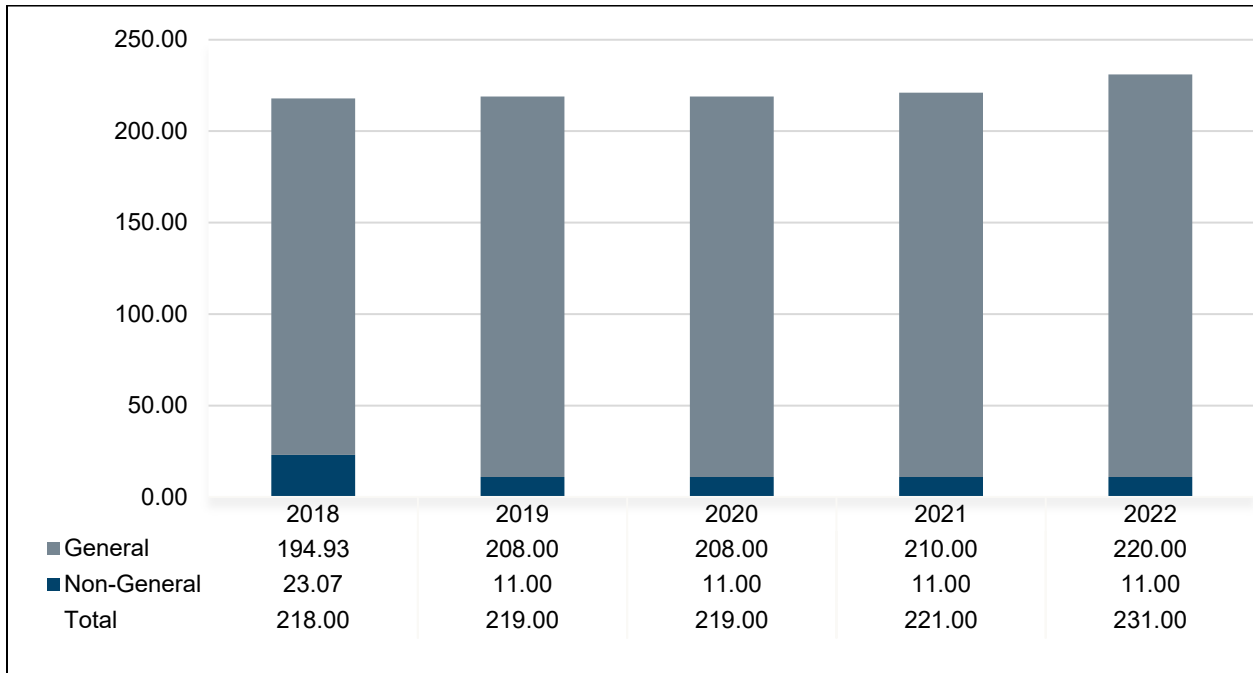
The 10.00 FTE increase from the 2021 Budget to the 2022 Approved Budget is due to the addition of four Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys by resolution during 2021; and a Request for Results (RFR) for six additional Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys.

**New Positions**

<b>Position Title</b>	<b># of Positions</b>	<b>Annual Salary</b>	<b>Source</b>
Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys	6	\$70,000	RFR
Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys	4	\$76,500	Resolution No. 0626-21

Details regarding FTEs requested via RFR are available in the Request for Results section.

**Budgeted FTE History**



**Vacancy Credit**

The vacancy credit process is designed to more accurately reflect the true expenditures for Personal Services and Fringe Benefits within the agency budget request. The calculations for the budget process begin with funding all approved positions for the entire year. Vacancy credits take into account that not all approved positions will be filled for the entire year. The methodology historically used by OMB to estimate an agency's vacancy credit utilizes a four-year history of unused personnel budgets to estimate an appropriate vacancy credit. However, vacancy credits may vary from the four-year average due to staffing trends or the number of positions supported within a fund.

**Salaries & Wages**

	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>Four-year Average</b>	<b>2022 Approved</b>	<b>% Point Change to:</b>	
				<b>PY Budget</b>	<b>Average</b>
General Fund	4.9%	5.4%	1.8%	-3.1%	-3.6%
Rotary Fund	0.0%	-2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	2.9%
Delinquent Tax & Assessment Collection Fund	0.0%	17.6%	0.0%	0.0%	-17.6%

General Fund - The Prosecuting Attorney's Office intends to fill multiple vacancies throughout the remainder of 2021 and throughout 2022. Thus, the Requested Vacancy Credit is less than the Four-year Average.

Vacancy credits are not budgeted in the Rotary Fund and the Delinquent Tax & Assessment Collection Fund due to the number of FTEs supported within each fund.

**Fringe Benefits**

	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>Four-year Average</b>	<b>2022 Approved</b>	<b>% Point Change to:</b>	
				<b>PY Budget</b>	<b>Average</b>
General Fund	10.0%	9.4%	4.3%	-5.7%	-5.1%
Rotary Fund	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.6%
Delinquent Tax & Assessment Collection Fund	0.0%	15.5%	0.0%	0.0%	-15.5%

General Fund - The Prosecuting Attorney's Office intends to fill multiple vacancies throughout the remainder of 2021 and throughout 2022. Thus, the Requested Vacancy Credit is less than the Four-year Average.

Vacancy credits are not budgeted in the Rotary Fund and the Delinquent Tax & Assessment Collection Fund due to the number of FTEs supported within each fund.

**Request for Results**

A Request for Results is a request for additional appropriations to support a new initiative or expand existing services. A Request for Results contains a detailed description of the new initiative, justification for why the increase in appropriations is necessary, and the expected outcomes. In addition to the amount of additional appropriations, a Request for Results should identify any new revenue or savings expected to be achieved from the new initiative. The Office of Management & Budget reviews each Request for Results to determine if adequate justification is provided and sufficient resources are available. The County Administrator makes a recommendation based on this review, with the Board of Commissioners making the final decision on whether the item is included in the budget.

<b>6 Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys</b>		
<b>Fund Type</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>
General Fund	\$530,802	\$530,802
<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Request Description:</b> The Prosecuting Attorney's Office has identified a need for additional Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys across multiple programs and functions. Domestic Violence cases for the Columbus police increased by 20% from 2019 to 2020 (Victims Witness Unit). Also, Columbus experienced a record-high number of Homicides in 2020, and is on pace to exceed that in 2021 (Criminal Division). Activity in the Civil Division has increased, including staffing all Zoning Hearings. Domestic violence cases prosecuted are rising, as are investigations into human trafficking (Special Victims Unit). Based upon current needs, four Attorneys will be assigned to the Criminal Division, one to Civil, and one to the Special Victims Unit.	
	<b>Justification:</b> OMB recommends the addition of these six full-time positions in order to ensure efficient and effective operations by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.	



**Delinquent Tax and Asset Recovery**

**Program Purpose:**

The purpose of the Delinquent Tax and Asset Recovery program is to provide advice and representation to the County Treasurer and other county agencies/offices so that they may recover delinquent taxes and other funds due.

**ORC Reference Mandating this Program:**

Chapters 15, 16, 17, 18, Section 5721.14

**Program Services:**

Legal advice to County Treasurer, Auditor, Recorder and Sheriff; Delinquent real estate tax, personal property tax and manufactured home tax collections; land reutilization foreclosures; Bankruptcy, Board of Tax Appeal and Board of Revision hearings; Commissioners' real estate entries and releases; pre-trial collection letters; title searches; complaint filings; pre-trial hearings and motions; foreclosures hearings; sale orders and post-sale entries; telephone counsel; inmate and non-inmate garnishments; court cost collections; counsel other governmental agencies; review of entries as third party defendant in private foreclosure actions; reports; calculating settlement figures for public; payment plans; other general information.

**Core Principle:**

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

**Linkage to Core Principle:**

This program provides services that seek effective litigation for other county offices and provides quality services to the residents of Franklin County. Participants in this program work closely with other county offices and courts and ongoing training for employees working in this program ensure quality services.

**Program Budget Overview**

	<b>2021 Approved</b>	<b>2022 Approved</b>	<b>Variance</b>	
			<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
Personal Services	\$789,885	\$805,681	\$15,796	2.0%
Fringe Benefits	\$326,214	\$340,414	\$14,200	4.4%
Materials & Services	\$547,147	\$551,079	\$3,932	0.7%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,663,246</b>	<b>\$1,697,174</b>	<b>\$33,928</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

**Prosecution, Adjudication and Litigation**

**Program Purpose:**

The purpose of the Prosecution, Adjudication and Litigation program is to provide effective and efficient legal representation and advice; aggressive prosecution of adult and juvenile offenders; and protection to government clients and victims of crime so they can receive adequate information, representation and justice.

**ORC Reference Mandating this Program:**

Chapter 309

**Program Services:**

Representation at all hearings concerning initial appearances and arraignments; grand jury matters, and all hearings concerning adult felony cases, juvenile misdemeanor and felony cases and cases involving abused, neglected and dependent children heard in Common Pleas and Domestic Courts. Conduct all preparations and presentations for trial, pre-trial and post-trial hearings, discovery responses and reciprocal requests, extradition and Rule 4 presentations, and expungement presentations. Representation and presentations for preliminary hearings, probable cause hearings, rehabilitation hearings, abuse/neglect/dependency hearings, delinquency, unruly and juvenile traffic hearings, mediation, sexual predator and competency hearings, probation/parole violation hearings, objections, early release, diversion evaluations, discovery, subpoenas, and review of warrants. Handle all matters relating crime victims during pre-trial, trial and post-trial phases of a case. Prepare written briefs, oral arguments, appellate research, and advice to other prosecutors, appellate motions, appellate responses, statistic reports, and appellate post-conviction motions responses. Provide legal advice and support to Commissioner Agencies, including but not limited to legal matters relating to the County Sheriff and operation of the jail, Treasurer and the collection of property taxes, contracting for the purchase of goods and services, human resources and personnel matters and matters regarding management public facilities.

**Core Principle:**

Provide Community Safety, Security & Effective Justice

**Linkage to Core Principle:**

This program provides services that seek justice for victims of crime which also ensures public safety. Participants in this program work closely with all county offices and courts, seeking effective justice. Ongoing training for employees working in this program ensures quality services.

**Program Budget Overview**

	<b>2021 Approved</b>	<b>2022 Approved</b>	<b>Variance \$</b>	<b>%</b>
Personal Services	\$13,803,054	\$15,358,673	\$1,555,619	11.3%
Fringe Benefits	\$5,311,906	\$6,780,839	\$1,468,933	27.7%
Materials & Services	\$738,478	\$1,061,802	\$323,324	43.8%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$19,853,438</b>	<b>\$23,201,314</b>	<b>\$3,347,876</b>	<b>16.9%</b>