

OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

KIMBERLY M. FOXX STATE'S ATTORNEY 69 W. WASHINGTON, SUITE 3200 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602 PHONE: (312) 603-1880

To: Honorable John P. Daley, Chairman, Finance Committee

From: Kimberly M. Foxx, *State's Attorney*

Cook County State's Attorney Office

CC: Annette C.M. Guzman, *Budget Director*

Department of Budget & Management Services

Date: SAO Response to Budget Hearing Questions

Re: Request for Information from FY2022 Budget Hearing

The following information is provided in response to questions posed at the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's ("SAO") budget hearing held on October 27, 2021.

I. Request ID #1250-01

Commissioner Sean Morrison has requested your office to justify each new position by title, and, if the funding for the positions is temporary, how your office will support the continued funding of such positions. Attached to this memo is a list of your new FTEs in the FY22 Executive Budget Recommendation. For each new position, please respond to the questions set forth in the list.

Response:

During the pandemic, the SAO has taken on heavier caseloads while adapting operations to remote, hybrid, and modified in-person settings, all during which many SAO employees have struggled with trauma, loss, and life disruptions.

Burnout is happening across the country in prosecutorial offices, including the SAO. The daily caseload for Assistant State's Attorneys (ASA) started at roughly 193 cases at the beginning of the pandemic. Currently, it is roughly 201 cases per ASA (4% increase). Caseloads peaked at around 244 cases per ASA during summer 2021 (a 16% increase) but has come down as the courts have reopened and the SAO has been able to close cases with pleas and trials.

The SAO is requesting 28 new positions, none of which are using temporary funding. The breakdown is below:

• Legal: 20 positions

Gun Crime Strategies Unit: 5 ASAsConviction Integrity Unit: 3 ASAs

o Civil: 3 ASAs

Juvenile Justice: 3 ASAs
 Post-Conviction Unit: 2 ASAs
 Resentencing Unit: 2 ASAs

o Grand Jury: 1 ASA

Preliminary Hearings: 1 ASA
 Administrative Services: 4 positions

o 4 Clerk I

• Investigations: 4 positions

o 4 Investigator I

II. Request ID #1250-02

Commissioner Deer requested three specific recommendations for the Board, State's Attorney's Office, and Cook County Health to target the areas of violence and domestic violence prevention and mental health treatment.

Response:

Unmet mental health needs constitute a public health crisis in Cook County and are one of the drivers of incarceration. For too long, state and local governments have slashed programs and closed clinics in areas experiencing the greatest trauma and mental health needs. Too many people receive mental health care for the first time while incarcerated. Greater resources need to be invested in mental health at the diversionary level in addition to community-based mental health treatments that prevent people from entering the criminal justice system.

Below are a few areas the SAO believes are critical to improving mental health treatment in Cook County.

- 1. **Work together:** Creating a task force/working group of stakeholders that work to address violence and the trauma caused by it, including the criminal justice and public health sectors, but also to include educators as well.
- 2. *Increase funding:* Restoring funding and access to mental health clinics and services, especially in historically disinvested and marginalized communities.
- 3. *Address trauma:* Investing in community-based, trauma-informed care, especially for children. Ensure schools whose students suffer the most from violence and trauma have fully staffed counselors and social workers. SAO personnel that work with people

- experiencing trauma are trained in the most current approaches to trauma-informed care. In addition, the SAO also provides victims and witnesses a trained comfort dog named Hatty to help provide comfort and relaxation while victims are in the courthouse or while they are giving their testimony.
- 4. *Partnerships with Cook County Health:* Increasing opportunities for the criminal justice system to identify when individuals may be better served by mental or behavioral health services, to divert or proceed with cases appropriately. One option would be to create a partnership with Cook County Health as a designated service provider for diversion programs. Ideally, a partnership with CCH would provide on-site case management for individuals with mental and behavioral health needs in the SAO diversion programs.
- 5. *Expand partnerships:* Expanding the number of providers (and funding for those providers) that can help address unmet needs, such as housing, education and financial stability, may contribute to individuals' overall wellness and reduce their likelihood of encountering a mental health crisis and/or interacting with the criminal justice system. The SAO is often limited in the types of services it can refer to by the ability for insurance to cover those services.

Office	Fund	Position	Job Code	Funding Status	do within the operation	Justification - please indicate why your office needs the position.	Revenue Source - if the position is marked as "temporary" in column E, please indicate how this will be funded once the funding is gone.
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Conviction Integrity Unit	New Attorney Conviction Integrity	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Conviction Integrity Unit	New Attorney Conviction Integrity	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Conviction Integrity Unit	New Attorney Conviction Integrity	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 285	1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Civil Division	New Attorney for Civil Division	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Civil Division	New Attorney for Civil Division	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 768	1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Civil Division	New Attorney for Civil Division	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Gun Crime Strategies Unit	New Attorney for Gun Crimes Unit	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Gun Crime Strategies Unit	New Attorney for Gun Crimes Unit	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office) 1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety 11100-Public Safety	New Position 226	1172-Assistant State's Attorney 1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent Permanent	Gun Crime Strategies Unit Gun Crime Strategies Unit	New Attorney for Gun Crimes Unit New Attorney for Gun Crimes Unit	Permanent Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Gun Crime Strategies Unit	New Attorney for Gun Crimes Unit	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Juvenile Justice Unit	New Attorney for Juvenile Justice Division	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Juvenile Justice Unit	New Attorney for Juvenile Justice Division	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 745	1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Juvenile Justice Unit	New Attorney for Juvenile Justice Division	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Post Conviction	New Attorney -Special Litigation, DNA Review & Conviction Integrity	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Post Conviction	New Attorney -Special Edigation, DNA Review & Conviction Integrity New Attorney -Special Litigation, DNA Review & Conviction Integrity	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100 Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Resentencing Unit	New Attorney -Special Edigation, DNA Review & Conviction Integrity New Attorney -Special Edigation, DNA Review & Conviction Integrity	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Resentencing Unit	New Attorney -Special Litigation, DNA Review & Conviction Integrity	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Grand Jury	New Attorney-Preliminary Hearings & Grand Jury	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		1172-Assistant State's Attorney	Permanent	Preliminary Hearings	New Attorney-Preliminary Hearings & Grand Jury	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 662	0907-Clerk V	Permanent	Entry Level Clerk	Administrative personnel allow the judicial process to move forward from intake through disposition of	Permanent
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1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 666	0907-Clerk V	Permanent	Entry Level Clerk	Administrative personnel allow the judicial process to move forward from intake through disposition of cases. On the Criminal side, they assist and support the ASAs through running of background checks on cases and jurors, drafting information and indictments, Writs, Jury instructions, and other duties that vary by court location and assignment. On the Civil side, they prepare and support the ASAs for court and other proceedings through drafting of subpoenas, depositions, trial exhibits, and other necessary documents.	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 331	0907-Clerk V	Permanent	Entry Level Clerk	Administrative personnel allow the judicial process to move forward from intake through disposition of cases. On the Ciminal side, they askst and support the ASAs through running of background rehects on cases and jurors, drafting information and indictments, Writs, Jury instructions, and other duties that vary by court location and assignment. On the Civil side, they prograve and support the ASAs for cort and other proceedings through drafting of subpoenas, depositions, trial exhibits, and other necessary documents.	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 324		Permanent	Entry Level Clerk	Administrative personnel allow the judicial process to move forward from intake through disposition of cases. On the Cirininal side, they assist and support the KSAs through running of background checks on cases and juros, drafting information and indictments, Viris, Jury Instructions, and other duties that vary by court location and assignment. On the Civil side, they prepare and support the ASAs for court and other proceedings through drafting of subpoenas, depositions, trial exhibits, and other necessary documents.	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 574	0695-Investigator I State's Atty	Permanent	New Entry Level Investigator requested to support case work	Investigators conduct proactive, reactive, and pre-trial investigations. The Investigators complete investigations from the initial complaint stage through trial. Investigators also complement and supplement local law enforcement efforts by providing them with investigative assistance, expertise, and technical resources.	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 575	0695-Investigator I State's Atty	Permanent	New Entry Level Investigator requested to support case work	Investigators conduct proactive, reactive, and pre-trial investigators. The Investigators complete investigations from the initial complaint stage through trial. Investigators also complement and supplement local law enforcement efforts by providing them with investigative assistance, expertise, and technical resources.	Permanent
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1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 581	0695-Investigator I State's Atty	Permanent	New Entry Level Investigator requested to support case work	Investigators conduct proactive, reactive, and pre-trial investigations. The Investigators complete investigations from the initial complaint stage through trial. Investigators also complement and supplement local law enforcement efforts by providing them with investigative assistance, expertise, and technical resources.	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 310	0907-Clerk V	Permanent	Mail/Supply Clerk		Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 323	0907-Clerk V	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 687		Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 656		Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 303		Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 302		Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 906		Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 314	0907-Clerk V	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety 11100-Public Safety	New Position 281 New Position 301		Permanent Permanent	Admin Assistant Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office) 1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety 11100-Public Safety	New Position 301 New Position 907	0907-Clerk V 0907-Clerk V	Permanent Permanent	Admin Assistant Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent Permanent
	11252-State's Attorney Narcotics Forfeiture	New Position 907 New Position 315		Permanent	Admin Assistant Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office) 1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11252-State's Attorney Narcotics Forfeiture 11100-Public Safety	New Position 315 New Position 332		Permanent Permanent	Admin Assistant Receptionist	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety 11100-Public Safety	New Position 332	0907-Clerk V 0907-Clerk V	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer IV Title -Move Existing Employee Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety 11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety 11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title - Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100 Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100 Public Safety	New Position 330	4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100 Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
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1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety		4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Admin Assistant	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent
1250-State's Attorney (Office)	11100-Public Safety	New Position 300	4922-Administrative Assistant I	Permanent	Leads Operator	Reclassification of Stenographer V Title -Move Existing Employee	Permanent