

Budget Detail Request - Fiscal Year 2016-17

Your request will not be officially submitted unless all questions and applicable sub parts are answered.

1. Title of Project: Rapid Intervention (Veterans Court)
2. Date of Submission: 12/10/2015
3. House Member Sponsor(s): Charles McBurney

4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
If answer to 4a is ?NO? skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request (Note that Column E will be the total of Recurring funds requested and Column F will be the total Nonrecurring funds requested, the sum of which is the Total of the Funds you are requesting in Column G):

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2015-16 (If appropriated in FY 2015-16 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2016-17 (If no new Recurring or Nonrecurring funding is requested, enter zeros.)			
	Column: A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column A + Column B)	Recurring Base Budget (Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)	INCREASED or NEW Recurring Requested	TOTAL Nonrecurring Requested (Nonrecurring is one time funding & must be re-requested every year)	Total Funds Requested Over Base Funding (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column E + Column F)
Input Amounts:					112,032	0	112,032

- e. New Nonrecurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs
- f. New Recurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs

5. Requester:

- a. Name: Matt Shirk
- b. Organization: Office of the Public Defender, 4th Judicial Circuit
- c. Email: tgriffin@thefiorentinogroup.com
- d. Phone #: (561)891-7122

6. Organization or Name of Entity Receiving Funds:

- a. Name: Office of the Public Defender, 4th Judicial Circuit
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended) Nassau
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding) Nassau

7. Write a project description that will serve as a stand-alone summary of the project for legislative review. The description should summarize the entire project's intended purpose, the purpose of the funds requested (if request is a sub-part of the entire project), and most importantly the detail on how the funds requested will be spent - for example how much will be spent on positions and associated salaries, specifics on capital costs, and detail of operational expenses. The summary must list what local, regional or statewide interests or areas are served. It should also document the need for the funds, the community support and expected results when applicable. Be sure to include the type and amount of services as well as the number of the specific target population that will be served (such as number of home health visits to X, # of elderly, # of school aged children to receive mentoring, # of violent crime victims to receive once a week counseling etc.)

With the fastest growing veteran's demographic in the State of Florida, the Public Defender's Office, 4th Circuit has targeted the incarcerated veteran population of Duval County with the implementation of Veteran's Court. Duval County incarcerates approximately 150 veterans per month, half of which are combat veterans. Many exhibit PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder), TBI (traumatic brain injury), and numerous substance abuse and mental health disorders caused or exacerbated by their services. Many of these incarcerated veterans qualify for diversion programs. Coordination of services is critical and was absent in this area until the Public Defender's Office began a partnership with the VA and other community partners including the City of Jacksonville, State Attorney's Office, Court Administration, and existing Drug Court and Mental Health Court organizations to form a specific coalition led by the Public Defender's Office. Most of the veterans being served are considered high risk, are chronic offenders, and , in some cases, homeless. These clients require long-term case management, with a 15 month average for final case resolution. Expanding Federal support, such as the recently funded Veteran's Outreach Coordinator who serves as a jail liaison to the PD-appointed clients, has actually increased the demand for coordination of services from this office. Effective October 1, 2013, the Veteran's Court program expanded into Clay County, requiring additional coordination with county, federal, and local resources to provide services. In the new Fiscal Year, with a new partnership consisting of the Courts and State Attorney's Office, the Veteran's Court program intends to expand services into Nassau County. On average, about 10% of the jail populations are veterans. Since the Public Defender's Office partnership with US Dept of Veterans Affairs, over 350 justice-affected veterans have become vested in the VA Healthcare system. Currently Duval County has an 8% recidivism rate, based on three years of operation, thus significantly saving the cost of long term incarceration. In both Duval and Clay County, this will assist in alleviating overcrowding at the county jails and is anticipated to do the same in Nassau County.

By diverting resources for the past three years, the Public Defender's Office has minimally staffed the Veteran's Court Program in Duval and Clay Counties. These

resources have now reached capacity and the Public Defender's Office is requesting additional staff to fully implement this program and operational funds for start-up equipment for this staff. Staffing required will include one (1) experienced felony attorney, one (1) Investigator to provide investigative and mitigation services for the clients, and one (1) Paralegal. The salary requested for the Assistant Public Defender (\$45,000) is required to hire an attorney with the experience level required. Salaries for the Investigator and Legal Assistant are requested at the default minimum for the pay grade. Public Defender Operating Expenditures Budget of \$11,857 and \$ 7,789 in non-recurring is requested to establish the positions as per Modified Standard # 3. This issue will impact our Criminal Investigative Services and our Criminal Trial Indigent Defense activities as it will expedite and coordinate services in both of these areas.

8. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2016-17 from all sources of funding:

Federal: 0

State: 0 (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column G)

Local: 0

Other: 0

9. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

Yes