

Budget Presentation to Board of Supervisors

June 12, 2026

Mano Raju, SF Public Defender



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Greater than one.

Fiercely
defend
individuals,
confront state
sponsored
violence, and advocate
for community power.

OUR
MISSION

Love, Compassion,
Courage, Excellence.

OUR
VALUES

OUR
THEORY OF CHANGE

When we fiercely defend individuals,
confront state sponsored violence,
and advocate for community power,
then our communities are better
able to resist injustice and fight for
self-determination and freedom.

OUR
VISION

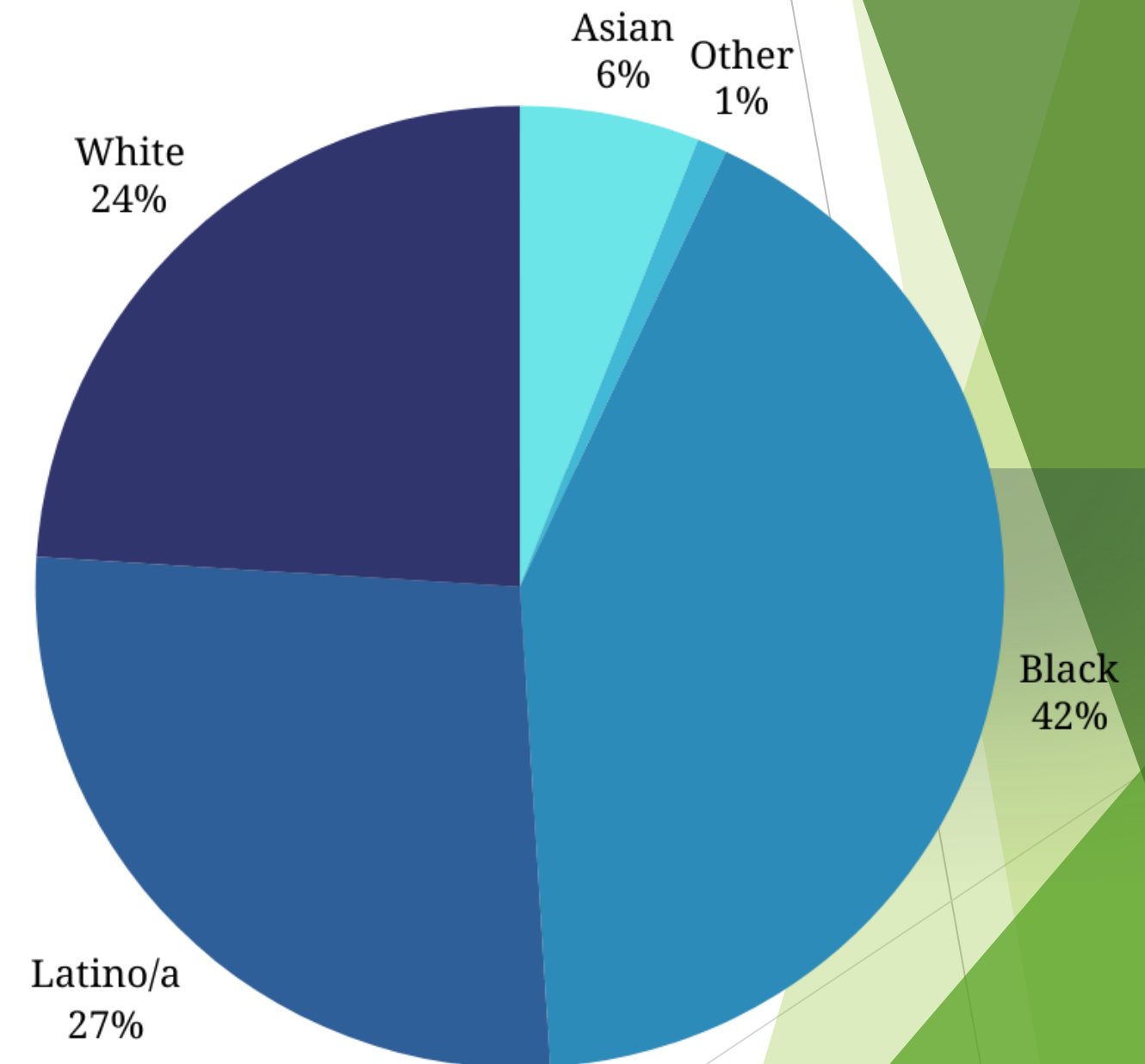
A world where collective
humanity is cherished.



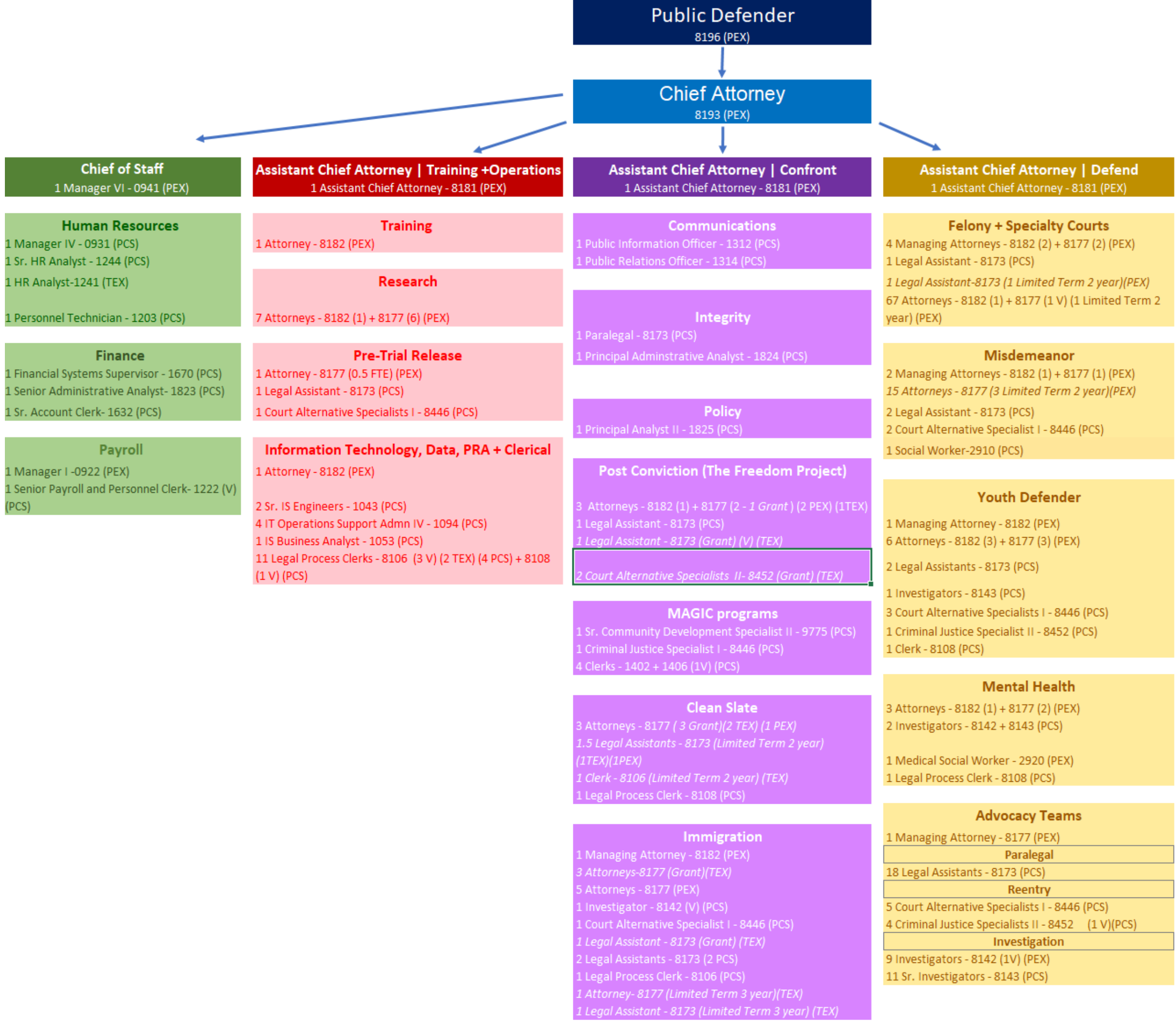
**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Our Clients

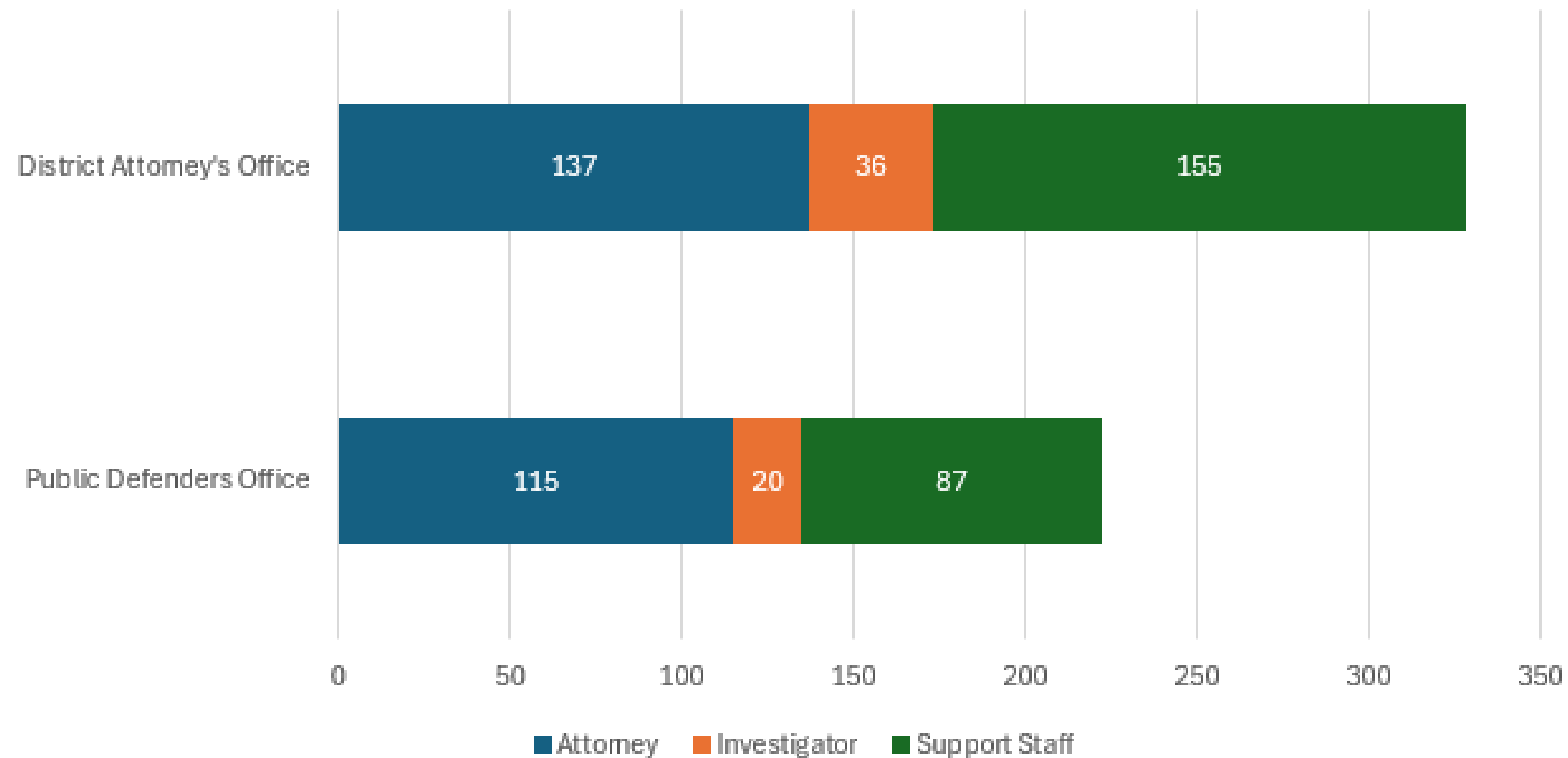
100% Low-Income



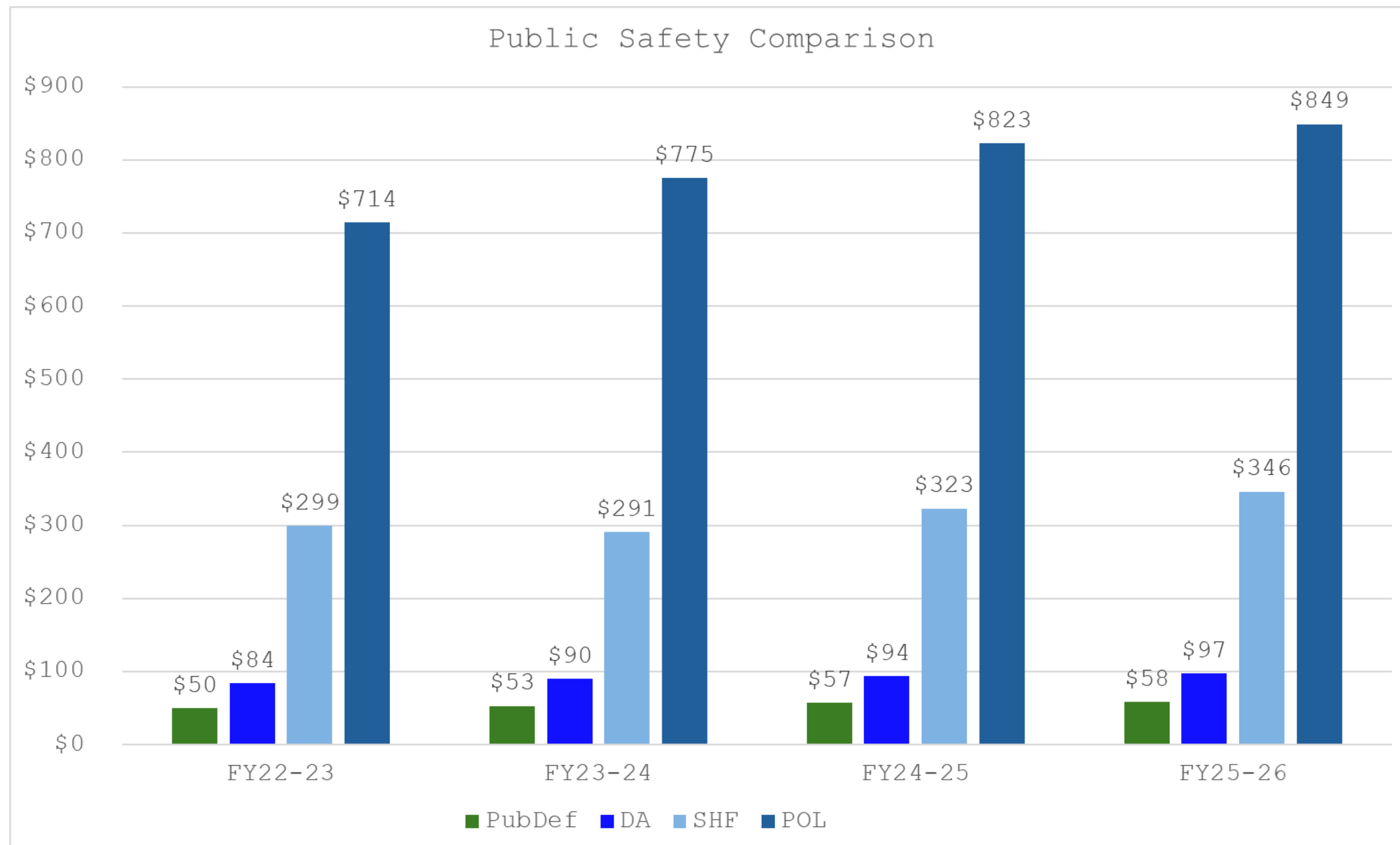
Our Staffing



Public Defender & District Attorney Staff Comparison



Our Budget

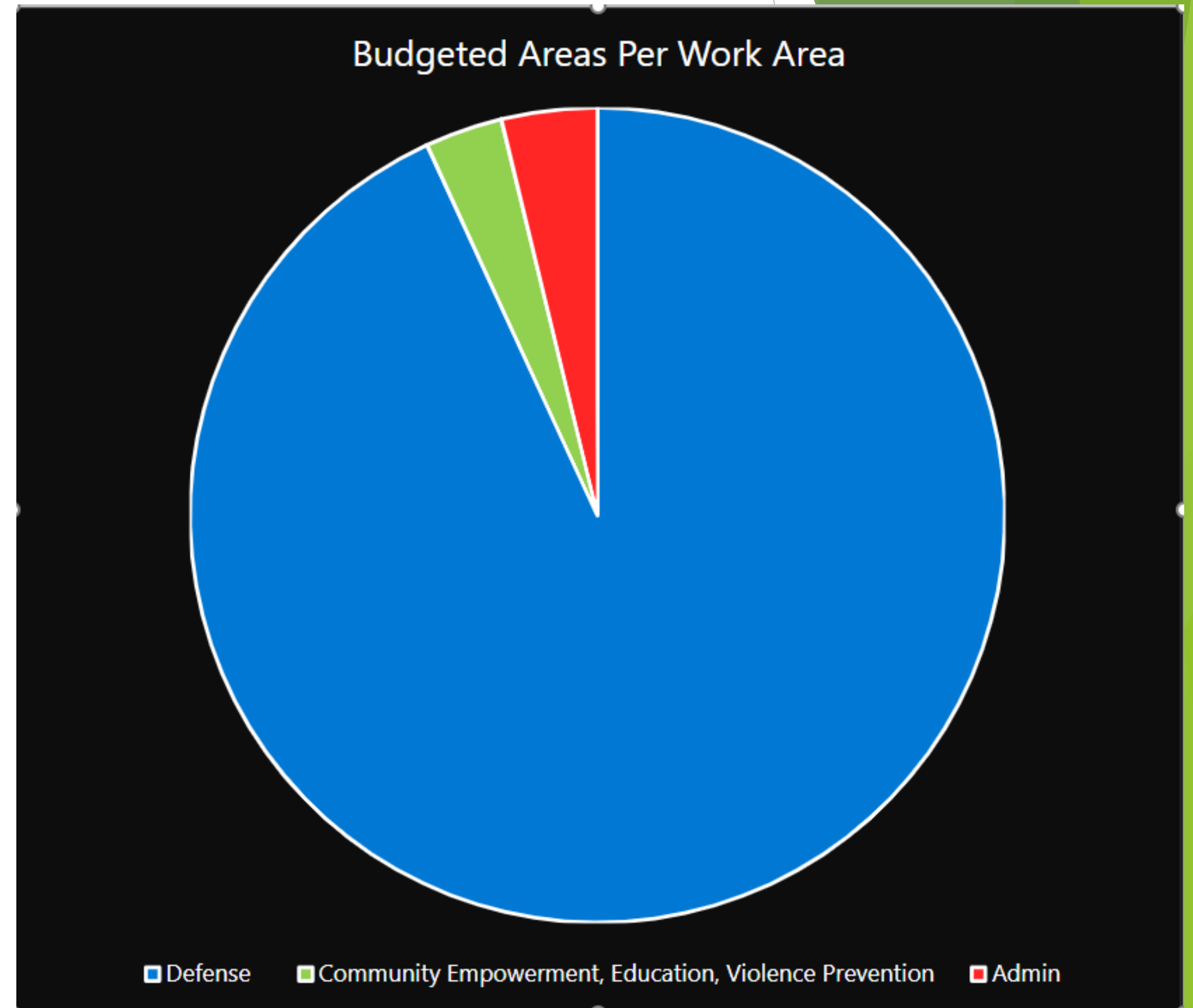


Our Core & Legally Mandated Services

93% of our people-power is devoted to ***holistically defending*** the accused in all stages of misdemeanor, felony, mental health, juvenile, immigration cases, and reentry.

4% funds administrative functions (HR, Payroll, Finance)

3% funds public education, community empowerment, and violence prevention



Our Caseloads and Workloads Continue to Increase

↑ Increase Arrests by Police

↑ Increase Filings by DA

↓ Fewer Cases Settling / Being Diverted

↑ More Litigation and Jury Trials

↑ Cases Are Increasingly Labor-Intensive to Defend and Take Longer to Resolve

Demands of Recent CA Supreme Court Kowalczyk Decision

Our Continued Dedication to Public Safety & Reentry Initiatives

Homecoming Project Partnership

Partnering with Impact Justice to launch a proven reentry housing program in San Francisco, addressing housing crisis disproportionately affecting formerly incarcerated individuals, supporting successful community reintegration and reducing recidivism.

State Legislative Victory

Secured passage of AB 321 (BID Act), strengthening judicial discretion to reduce felony wobbler charges to misdemeanors before trial. Advances equity in charging decisions and expands opportunities for case resolution alternatives.

Freedom Project

Resentencing and parole of people incarcerated in state prison — 108 people released with 100% successful re-entry due to skilled social worker support.

Clean Slate

San Francisco’s lead program for expungement of criminal records, removing barriers to jobs and housing. Also vacates criminal convictions for survivors of human trafficking.





Thank You!