



LAW

Program Goal

The Law Department provides effective legal services to the Mayor and City Council, city manager, departments and advisory boards; interprets and enforces city, state and federal laws as they pertain to city services and activities; and effectively administers and prosecutes criminal cases filed in Phoenix Municipal Court using the prosecutorial function and discretion in a fair, impartial and efficient manner.

Budget Allowance Explanation

The Law Department 2008-09 operating budget allowance of \$22,918,000 is \$312,000 or 1.4 percent more than 2007-08 estimated expenditures. The increase is due to normal inflationary adjustments and is offset by budget reductions including the elimination of four attorneys and four legal support positions assigned to various trial courtrooms and civil litigation.

Expenditure and Position Summary

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Operating Expense	\$20,786,000	\$22,606,000	\$22,918,000
Total Positions	252.0	250.0	250.0
Source of Funds:			
General	\$20,006,000	\$21,797,000	\$22,274,000
Court Awards	202,000	220,000	207,000
Federal and State Grants	487,000	500,000	374,000
Other Restricted	91,000	89,000	63,000

Law Department Major Performance Measures and Service Levels

The following significant performance measures and service level trends will be achieved with the 2008-09 budget allowance:

	2006-07	2007-08*	2008-09
Criminal cases sent to diversion	3,389	3,700	7,700**
Pre-trial disposition conferences set	51,675	55,000	55,000
New civil cases opened in the fields of condemnation, collection, taxes and civil litigation, excluding liability and other cases assigned to outside counsel	1,280	1,400	1,400
Number of defendants submitted for charging review	36,297	44,000	44,000
Number of civil cases closed, including those assigned to outside counsel and handled through the alternative dispute resolution process	1,427	1,300	1,300
Ordinances and resolutions for City Council adoption drafted and reviewed	1,375	1,300	1,300
Number of jury trials prosecuted	271	200	200

*Based on 10 months actual experience.

**The Prosecutor's Office is in the process of completing a Request for Proposal selection process for an Underage Drinking Diversion Program. It is anticipated that in 2008-09 4,000 new cases will be sent to diversion upon implementation.

