



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

MISSION

The mission of the County Counsel's Office (Office) is to provide the highest quality legal services to the Board, County departments, and other governmental entities.

MANDATORY & MAJOR DUTIES

- **Duty 1** : Chief civil lawyer of the County
- **Duty 2** : Provides legal opinions and advice
- **Duty 3** : Handles litigation, appeals, and administrative matters
- **Duty 4** : Prepares ordinances and resolutions
- **Duty 5** : Reviews Contracts
- **Duty 6** : Prepares impartial analysis of ballot measures
- **Duty 7** : Represents county officers in probate and conservatorship proceedings, and juvenile dependency cases
- **Duty 8** : Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection
- **Duty 9** : Office of County Hearing Officer

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CURRENT BUDGET OVERVIEW

FY 2025-2026
Final Adopted Budget
(\$ Millions)

Total Appropriation <i>(What We Budgeted to Spend in FY 2025-26)</i>		\$213.1
	Salaries & Employee Benefits (746 positions)	192.7 (90%)
	Services & Supplies	19.5 (9%)
	Other (Cap Assets/Equip, Other Charges)	0.9 (1%)
Sources of Funding <i>(How We Pay For All of This)</i>		\$213.1
	Federal Assistance	--
	State Assistance	0.2 (<1%)
	Fees/Charges for Services*	21.2 (10%)
	Other Resources**	175.2 (82%)
	Net County Cost <i>remaining balance, covered by locally generated revenues</i>	16.5 (7%)

* Some State and Federally funded services are reflected as "Fees/Charges for Services" through reimbursement mechanisms (e.g., Medi-Cal billing)

** "Other Resources" includes miscellaneous revenues not otherwise classified, including fines, settlements, interest earnings, and interdepartmental billing



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BUDGET BREAKDOWN BY PROGRAM AREA

What These Investments Deliver For Residents

General Program Category	% of Dept Budget
Legal Support and Advocacy	77.0%
Justice System Operations and Oversight	9.7%
Administrative Management	10.0%
IT Operations and Management	3.3%

Program categories shown here are presentation-level groupings created to consolidate information from the new LA County Enterprise System (LACES) for this briefing. Note that as part of the County's initial rollout of data-driven budgeting through LACES, categories and outcome measures will continue to evolve based on practical use and data insights as departments operationalize the system in FY 2026–27.



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DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES, METRICS & OUTCOMES

Priorities

- Provide Superior Legal Services
- Create a Social Impact
- Maintain Operational Excellence
- Cultivate a Connected and Empowered Workforce

Metrics & Outcomes (2025)

- **80** BOS Motions requesting CoCo Action
- **34** CoCo Report Backs; **31** Collaborative Report backs; **90** Fact Sheets
- **61** Ordinances; **5** Proclaimed Local Emergencies; **9,441** Contracts reviewed
- **5,525** lawsuits received; **520** appeals handled
- **8,020** dependency cases filed; **2,872** LPS filings; **367** CARE Ct filings; **3,226** Workers' Compensation claims filed
- **845** PRAs; **26** OCHO hearings referred
- **29** Depts and **8** Commissions trainings



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BUDGET REQUEST (FY2026-2027)

Total New Appropriation Request*	\$4.0M
Additional positions requested	10.0
Additional NCC requested	\$0.0M

Key Budget Requests	Amount (\$Millions)	One-Time/ Ongoing?	Positions
Support Increased Legal Needs of MTA	\$1.7	Ongoing	5.0
Support Increased Legal Needs of Department of Youth Development	\$0.4	Ongoing	1.0
Support Increased Legal Needs of Fire Department	\$0.4	Ongoing	1.0
Increase Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection Resources	\$1.0	Ongoing	3.0

CHALLENGES & MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Challenges:

- Increased Workload
- Hiring
- Unanticipated Costs

Mitigation Strategies:

- Embracing Legal Technology
- Right-Sourcing