

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

CURRENT BUDGET OVERVIEW

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

Total Appropriation

(What We Budgeted to Spend in FY 2025-26)

\$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

(How We Pay For All of This)

\$213.1



Federal Assistance

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State Assistance

0.2 (<1%)



Fees/Charges for Services*

21.2 (10%)



Other Resources**

175.2 (82%)



Net County Cost

remaining balance, covered by locally generated revenues

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

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.

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

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

* Priority budget and unmet needs requests

CHALLENGES & MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Challenges:

- Increased Workload
- Hiring
- Unanticipated Costs

Mitigation Strategies:

- Embracing Legal Technology
- Right-Sourcing