

District Attorney

The District Attorney's Office (DA) will sustain its mission to promote crime prevention, protect the rights and ensure the safety of California citizens within the County of Santa Barbara through criminal prosecution and civil enforcement remedies. The District Attorney's office aggressively investigates and prosecutes criminal and civil violations of the law. Specialized programs and public outreach efforts also provide a proactive approach to deterring crime, including Truancy Intervention, Drug Court Diversion, Welfare Fraud, Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) check restitution and volunteer consumer mediation. Other units provide services to assist victims in the aftermath of crimes and obtain State reimbursement for losses experienced as victims of violent crimes.

Branch offices are located in County facilities adjacent to the Courts in Santa Barbara, Santa Maria and Lompoc to facilitate continuous prosecution staffing at all stages of Court proceedings involving criminal matters. The DA Welfare Fraud Units are co-located with the Department of Social Services. The South County District Attorney's Office is housed in a 28,000 sf building constructed in 2003-04, consolidating all units into a single four story facility. In Lompoc, the District Attorney occupies 5,200 sf in the Civic Center Plaza, which was renovated in 2002 to provide secure contiguous office space for its employees. The new Santa Maria Juvenile Court facility provides 1,500 sf for DA staff assigned to the Juvenile criminal caseload and Truancy Programs.

At the Santa Maria Courthouse, the District Attorney occupies 10,060 sf of space, leaving a space deficit of 18,300 sf, based on the 2005 Space Utilization Report which has only become more severe with North County growth since then. In FY 05-06 the District Attorney financed and completed a minor renovation designed to address significant building deficiencies and provide more functional office space. Lighting and ceilings were replaced in the east wing and offices were reconstructed to create two small offices. Carpeting was replaced and offices were painted throughout the building. Modular units were installed for the legal support staff to further improve space utilization.

The capital project included for the District Attorney's Office follows completion of the Superior Court's Capital Improvement Project to construct a new facility. Once current space is vacated, 3,600 sf is slated for DA renovation and occupancy, somewhat improving the overcrowded and deficient office space. The District Attorney's Office would then occupy three separate wings of this facility. The Legal Support and

Victim Witness Offices would move to refurbished space in the first floor, after which the two wings on the second floor would be renovated to improve the offices occupied by attorneys and investigators.

District Attorney web site: www.countyofsb.org/da

Santa Maria Office Remodel - New

Function: Law & Justice

Department: District Attorney

This project is managed by General Services.

Description

This project renovates roughly 3,600 sf of space in the Santa Maria Court complex for occupancy by the District Attorney when the space is vacated by Superior Court. This will somewhat relieve the space deficit, estimated at 18,338 sf in the 2005 North County Space Utilization report. Two units will be relocated to the first floor space, enabling the second floor to be renovated to add offices for Attorney and Investigator staff. Moving the Legal Support staff, along with DA Reception and records, to the first floor will facilitate access by law enforcement and the public. The Victim Witness Assistance Program and witness waiting room will also be moved to this space, to provide witnesses with closer access to the courtrooms.

The renovation will primarily include construction of a secure lobby and witness waiting room and relocation/installation of modular furnishings for the legal support staff.



Estimated Project Costs

Construction Costs		Annual O & M Costs	
Preliminary	0	Utilities	10
Design	75	Maintenance	14
Acquisition	0	Personnel	0
Construction	750	Other	0
Other	100		
Total Cost	925	Total Cost	24

Status

Currently, this facility is mainly open office space housing the Superior Court Clerks. When the new Court Administration building is completed, Court staff will be relocated to the new facility. The space will then be available for occupancy by the District Attorney.

Net Impact on Operating Budget

The sole impact will be the cost of the utilities associated with the additional 3,600 sf to be occupied by the DA's Office.

Source of Funds	Fund	Prior Year(s) Expense	Est Act 2007-08	Proposed 2008-09			Projected Requirements					Five Year Total	Future Years	Project Total
				Carry Forward	New Funding	Year 1 Total	Year 2 2009-10	Year 3 2010-11	Year 4 2011-12	Year 5 2012-13				
Unfunded								75	850		925		925	
Totals								75	850		925		925	
Operating & Maintenance Costs for Fund 0001				Year 1 Impact:				24	24	48				