

District Attorney's Office

PP&J – 2026



County Positions

Currently there are 78.8 county FTE positions in the DA's Office.

These positions are funded by a combination of GPR, grant funded DPP Opiate Case Manager, and reimbursement from the Office of Crime Victim Services (OCVS).

With the budget reduction target, the DA's Office budget request will contemplate the elimination of three Deferred Prosecution Program (DPP) positions.

The county operates on an Annual Budget.

Employee Count



State Positions

Currently there are 29 state FTE prosecutor positions (including the District Attorney) in Dane County.

There is 1 grant funding prosecutor position (Task Force Grant)

The total current yearly cost to the state for prosecutors in Dane County is \$4,258,575.42.

One ADA per 10,000 citizens would be adequate prosecutor staffing.

The state operates on a Biennial Budget.

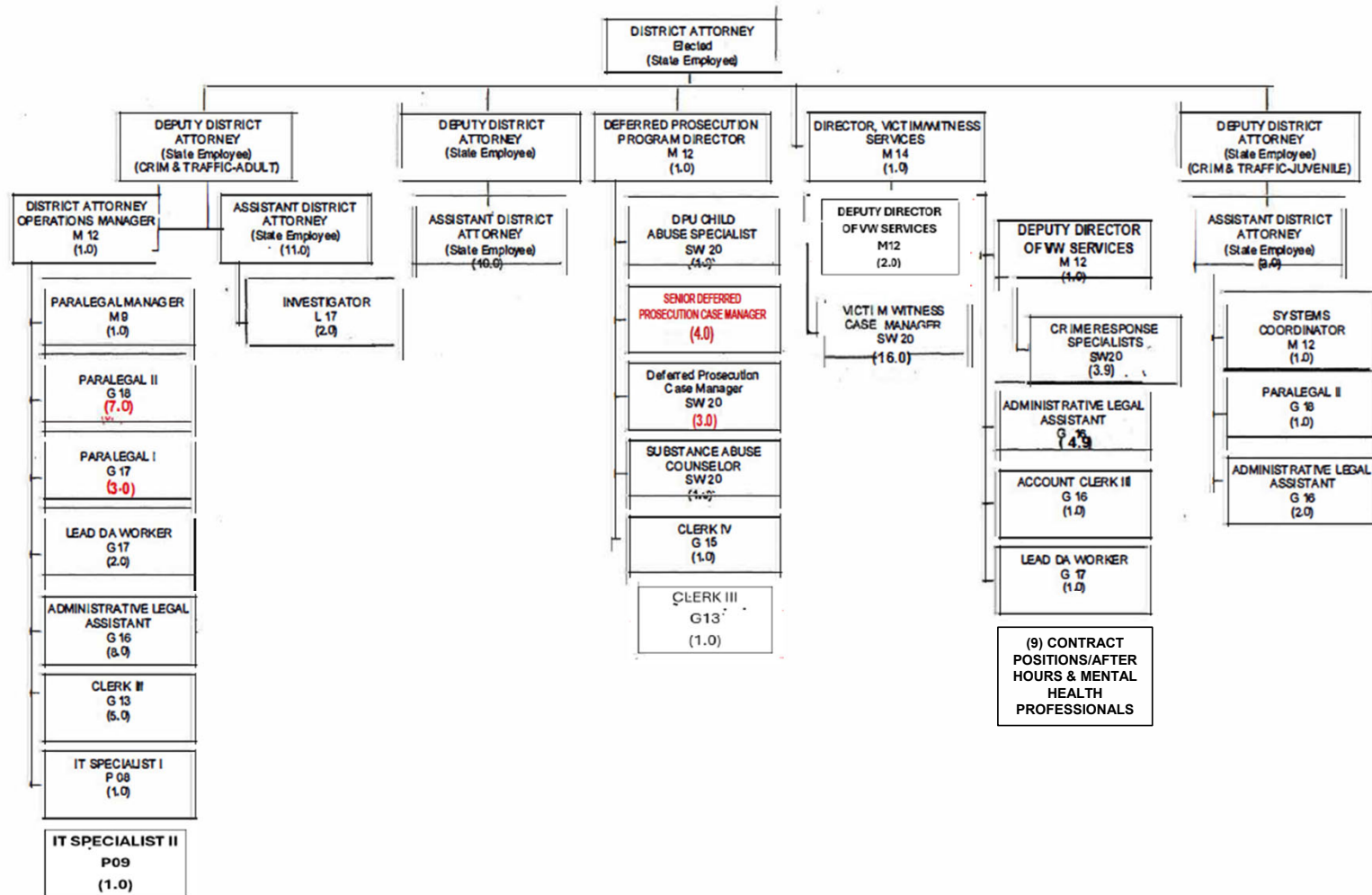
Continued ADA Staffing Shortages and Paralegal/ALA Off-Set

PARALEGALS AND
ADMINISTRATIVE LEGAL
ASSISTANTS OFF-SET ADA
SHORTAGES.

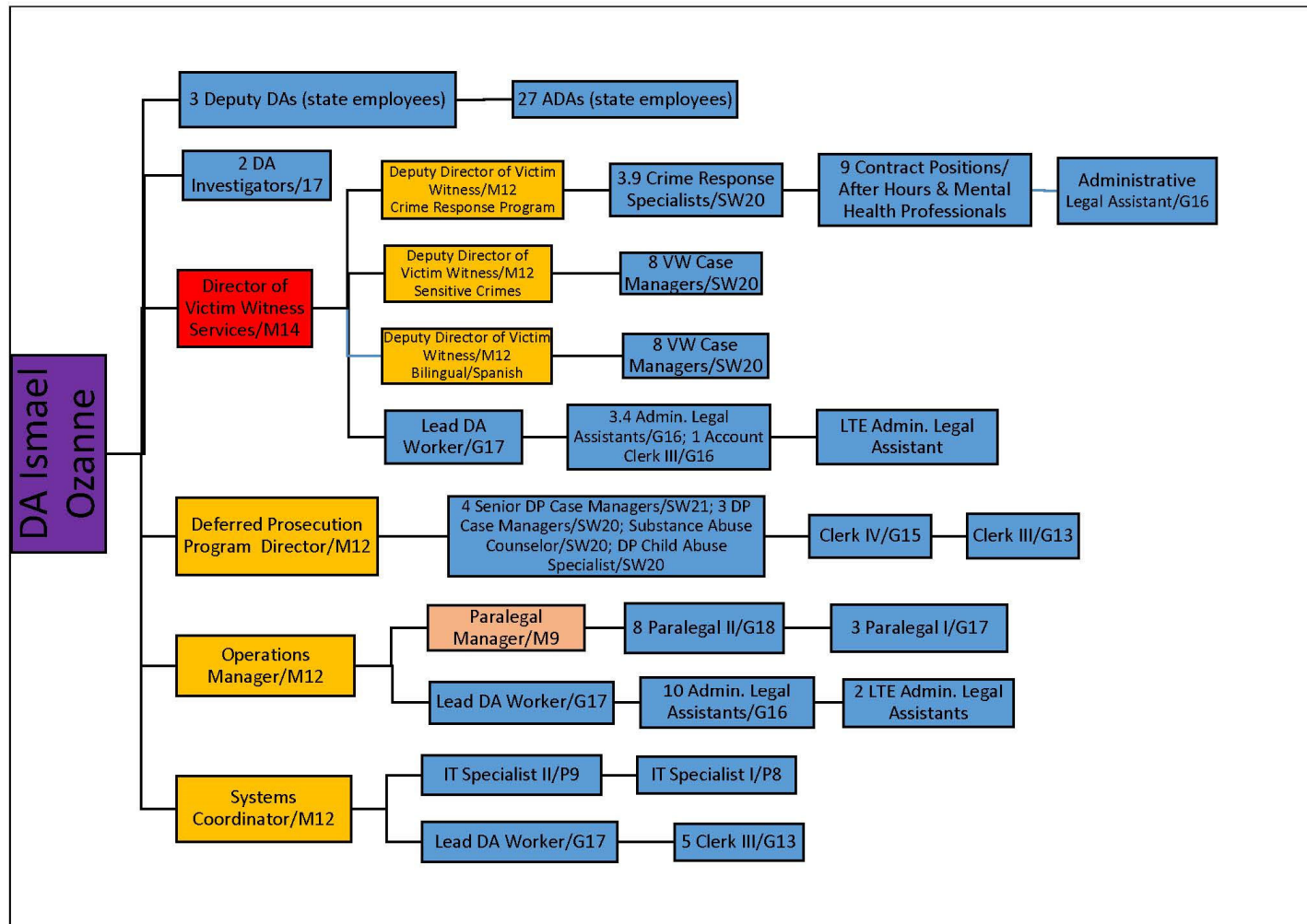
CURRENTLY THERE ARE
EIGHT HOMICIDE CASES
SCHEDULED FOR JURY TRIAL
BEFORE THE END OF THE
YEAR.

SUMMER INTERNS FROM
UW LAW SCHOOL –
INCREASE TO \$7,500/PER
STUDENT (CURRENTLY
TOTAL BUDGET \$7,500)

Budgeted Positions



Dane County District Attorney's Office
2026 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Victim Witness Reimbursement

In accordance with Ch. 950, the costs of providing victim and witness services are paid for by the county, but the county is eligible to receive reimbursement from the state for no more than 90% of the costs incurred in providing those services. The funding for state reimbursement of Crime Victim & Witness Assistance Programs is a combination of general-purpose revenue, victim witness surcharge, and penalty surcharge program revenue.



Due to limited statutory expenditure authority, the reimbursement rate for January - May 2026 is currently 50.5%, or 449,998.85\$



A request to increase the expenditure authority is currently before the legislature's Joint Committee on Finance. If the request is approved, supplemental payment for 2026 (\$42,895.41) will be issued to the counties to increase the total reimbursement rate to approximately 54-55%.

Victim Witness Unit

- **Mandated Services**
 - Wisconsin Constitution (Marsy's Law)
 - Wisconsin Statutory Victim Rights (Chapter 950 and 973)
- **Funding Sources**
 - Crime Response Program
 - County GPR, and
 - Grants: (Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP - \$57,594 ongoing) , Justice Assistance Grant (JAG - \$10,820) and State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP - \$100,000 available).
 - Victim Witness Court Based Services
 - County GRP, and
 - State GRP funding and VW Surcharges passed through reimbursement for 12 positions and supplies from WI DOJ
 - 2025 – total received \$972,806.89
 - 2026 – January through May received \$492,894.26
- **Victims and Witnesses Served:**
 - 1/1/2025-12/31/2025: 12,238 victims served.
 - 1/1/2026-6/30/2026: 6,958 victims served.
- **Programs and Services**
 - Crime Response Program (24/7 early case management and crisis response)
 - Court base VW Case Managers
 - Administrative Support Staff

Victim Witness Court Based Programs

- Deliver trauma-informed services to crime victims and witnesses in a culturally respectful, compassionate and multidisciplinary matter.
- Notify and educate crime victims and witnesses of their legal rights. Provide advocacy for crime victims and witnesses. Consult and safety plan with victims' pre-charge. Notify crime victims of court hearings and the purpose of each hearing.
- Confer with victims about case declines and continuances, their desired protection orders and case outcomes. Assist victims with requesting restitution and filing Crime Victim Compensation applications and victim impact statements.
- Prepare crime victims and witnesses to testify. Court accompaniment.
- Collaborate with prosecutors, paralegals and trial team professionals during trials and large court hearings to ensure all victims and witnesses are cared for and respected during the court process.
- Refer to community services and resources. Notify victims of case disposition and post-conviction victim rights and services.
- Consult with prosecutors regarding victim behaviors and secondary trauma, charging decisions, trial strategy and desired outcomes. Assist prosecutors with trial preparation and organization of witnesses.
- Facilitate restorative justice (RJ) outcomes including but not limited to victim offender dialogs. Serve as a RJ resource to prosecutors.
- Attend forensic interviews of child victims and witnesses and participate in child abuse case reviews.
- Attend community meetings and professional trainings that address current issues and challenges crime victims' experience.
- Conduct professional and community trainings.

Crime Response Program (operates 24/7/365)

- Serve both in the office and field as trauma responder during day hours as well as after hours with on call trauma responders that are contractual staff.
- Serve as point person to field trauma responders about outcomes and needed follow up. Providing trauma services to crime victims, their families and witnesses of crime in the immediate aftermath of incidents of violent or threatening crime or in the early stages of the investigation.
- Contact those identified through reports with an offer of service to include defusing, emotional support and stabilization, mobilization of personal resources, explanation of trauma symptoms and coping techniques as well as information about their victim rights and how to exercise those rights. Provide ongoing case status updates, information and referral, and follow-up.
- Advocate on behalf of victim/witness/family members and survivors of homicide with various parties including employers; educational institutions; landlords; funeral directors, allied service providers and the criminal justice system (CJS).
- Assist with emergent needs for safety, food, shelter (emergency and short-term temporary), financial assistance, crime scene clean-up, pet welfare and privacy.
- Provide court support at the initial appearance in cases where the suspect is arrested and charged by the District Attorney's Office. Coordinate service with assigned victim witness staff to make the transition between crisis and longer-term criminal justice support as seamless as possible.
- Provide Mass Violence field service response during critical incidents.
- Provides direct referrals immediate crisis counseling/mental health services through contractual mental health staff.
- Provide direct assistance in applying for Crime Victim Compensation.

Deferred Prosecution Program

- The Deferred Prosecution Program (DPP) is a unique program in the Dane County District Attorney's Office that offers restorative and balanced approaches to the criminal justice system as an alternative to prosecution and incarceration. DPP's essential purpose is to help ADA's resolve cases.
- DPP case managers conduct intake assessments to determine program eligibility, level of accountability, and potential requirements for a deferred prosecution agreement.
- DPP case manager hold defendants accountable, help them change their behavior, and ensure they take responsibility for repairing any harm caused. DPP offer a meaningful second chance at a crucial moment. Case Managers engage, educate, enhance intrinsic motivation, activate, and empower participants. We engage participants on a level that is relevant to them, resilient, about relationships, and how they see themselves in their communities and across all their relationships.
- The case manager coordinates and collaborates with treatment providers to ensure continuity and continuation of care for mental health and substance use disorder, domestic violence, and other treatment, providing more effective treatment through coordination across agencies to better utilize community resources to improve outcomes and reduce recidivism.
- DPP operates within the parameters of criminal justice reform by providing all eligible participants a diversion option to avoid a criminal conviction.

Deferred Prosecution Program Continued

DPP has an Annual Budget of \$1,555,301 GPR, which funds:

- 1 FTE Director Position
- 9 FTE Deferred Prosecution Case Manager Positions
- 1 FTE Clerk IV Position
- 1 FTE Clerk III Position (Currently Frozen)
- 1 LTE Clerk III Position

The 9 case manager positions include a Substance Abuse Counselor position funded by a TAD Grant. The SAC works with defendants with Opiate and Meth addictions.

DPP-O Budget 2027 revised	State	Match	Total
Personnel	\$48,788	\$16,263	\$65,051
Benefits	\$24,251	\$8,084	\$32,335
DPP-O Conference	\$641	\$214	\$855
UW Population Health	\$21,720	\$7,500	\$29,220
Mileage: UW Pop	\$480	\$0	\$480
UW Pop Equipment	\$300	\$0	\$300
			\$128,241
DPP-O Total Budget	\$96,180	\$32,061	

Dane DA IT Support

- Tier 1 Helpdesk support for both State and County systems
 - DA Office is a hybrid of State and County systems
 - Primary is the State network/system
 - DCIM supports with access to critical software and systems that are not provided by the State in addition to resources for county employees
 - Computer & phone hardware, case management system PROTECT & interfacing software, Axon Justice for case evidence management
 - Technical training for new staff
- Digital Evidence Case Management
 - DA Office receives about 13,000 case referrals per year and files about 10,000 cases per year
 - 80% of DA cases now include digital media evidence
 - Administration of Axon Justice digital evidence management system for evidence review and evidence sharing to defense and other justice partners
 - Organize and process all new incoming case digital evidence involving complex proprietary formats for playback compatibility
 - Squad cameras
 - Bodyworn cameras
 - Interview rooms
 - 911 calls
 - Surveillance video
 - Jail Calls & Video Visits
 - Cell phone extractions
 - Computer extractions
 - Develop workflows and training guides for DA staff, law enforcement, and defense attorneys

SW21 Promotional Opportunity for Victim Witness Unit

- A Senior Deferred Prosecution Case Manager- SW21 pay scale - was created as an opportunity for the Deferred Prosecution staff during last year's Meet and Confer process. This opportunity is currently not extended to the Victim Witness Unit working in the same office/department.
- The Victim Witness Unit runs a 24/7 program, providing critical crisis-oriented services including immediate safety planning and temporary housing in the aftermath of crime.



Revenue Allocation to COC

- The District Attorney's Office creates revenue for the county in the way of forfeiture payments from defendants who dispute their citation.
- The Law Enforcement Agencies for which the DA's Office serves as their municipal prosecutor include WSP, SCPD, DCSO, UWPD, and DNR.
- Revenue collected through citation forfeiture payments is credited to the Clerk of Court's Office, though.

Open House Opportunities for Committee Members



- County board members are welcome to attend any public hearing. Jury trials are an excellent opportunity for observation staff such as prosecutors, Victim Witness Case Managers/Crime Response Specialists, Paralegals, collaborative professional/community partners.
- County board members are also welcome to attend any ongoing training opportunities hosted by Dane County Critical Incident Response Team (DCCIRT). Please contact Brooke Barcena (brooke.Barcena@da.wi.gov) if you'd like to learn more about this team or ways to engage.
- You could observe initial appearance court that occurs daily at 1:30pm using this link:
<https://iframe.dacast.com/live/4dafbf46-ed15-c11c-fa22-a58262833632/c6f09e0f-edf6-4286-9b64-82a2e9cbca9e>
- County board members could observe our traffic paralegals who staff our criminal traffic plea negotiations commonly referred to as “wheels” events located in the jury assembly room in the courthouse.
- County board members are welcome to observe professional trainings provided by the District Attorney's Office with any community partners. This often includes law enforcement; hospitals; universities; professional conferences and community venues.