

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

81-01-Juvenile/Adult Investigation and Probation Services

Fund/Agency: 001/81	Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court	
Personnel Services	\$4,150,443	<p>CAPS Percentage of Agency Total</p> <p>25.5%</p> <p>74.5%</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>■ Juvenile/Adult Investigation and Probation Services</p> <p>■ All Other Agency CAPS</p> </div>
Operating Expenses	\$212,773	
Recovered Costs	\$0	
Capital Equipment	\$0	
Total CAPS Cost:	\$4,363,216	
Federal Revenue	\$0	
State Revenue	\$847,245	
User Fee Revenue	\$0	
Other Revenue	\$87,219	
Total Revenue:	\$934,464	
Net CAPS Cost:	\$3,428,752	
Positions/SYE involved in the delivery of this CAPS	84/83.5	

► CAPS Summary

Juvenile and adult probation officers are responsible for preparation of pre-dispositional investigation and social history reports and providing probation supervision as ordered by the court. Investigations assist the judge in ordering a treatment plan for the youth and family as well as the adult offender. Probation and parole staff conduct investigations and provide case supervision on matters involving criminal and non-criminal offenses, and custody and visitation disputes. Both juveniles and adults placed on probation and parole supervision are responsible for adhering to the probation rules as ordered by the court and are enforced by the probation/parole staff. Youth and adults placed under court supervision may additionally be ordered into special programs such as community services, intensive supervision, work training, sex offender treatment, residential placement, and family counseling.

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In December 1999, the Court Services Unit (CSU) was audited by the Department of Juvenile Justice Certification Compliance Team. The CSU failed the standard relating to probation officer to client ratio that requires a ratio of 1 probation officer per 30 youth on supervision. The required corrective action plan developed at the time of the audit stated that the Court would request increased juvenile probation staff to come back into compliance. The Court Services Unit requires 5 additional Probation Officer II positions in order to bring the CSU into compliance with the Department of Juvenile Justice standards for average probation caseload size. Four of these positions would be assigned to field probation offices. One position would be assigned to the Special Services Unit for the Community Services Program.

Providing services to youth adjudicated truants is a particular burden on juvenile probation services. On July 1, 1999 House Bill 1817 took effect in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This legislation both increased the school's responsibility to react to truancy cases in a much more timely fashion and the school's access to the Court for legal intervention when necessary. The Court's discretion in accepting truancy complaints from the attendance officers was removed in these cases by the Code change. Intake workers must respond to the complaint. If the child, once formally charged, is found to be within the purview of the Court and the Court orders services, the School Attendance Officer (SAO) is no longer involved in the supervision of the case. It is the legal responsibility of the Court Service Unit to assure that the Court's orders are implemented and the child is in compliance with those orders. This is handled through probation services.

Prior to the change in the Code, the number of truancy petitions in any given year was minimal. With the full implementation of the new Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) truancy procedures, those numbers began to rise. Between FY 1996 and FY 1999 truancy petitions increased from 20 to 53. In FY 2000 there were 180 cases petitioned to Court. Forecasts for FY 2001 indicated that the Court could expect 600 additional truancy petitions if the number of SAOs remains at fifteen. Increases of this magnitude have had a dramatic impact at every level of court processing.

In order to comply with the Code of Virginia (Chapter 14, Article 1, Compulsory School Attendance) and meet the demands for intake, evaluation and supervision services for truancy cases in a timely fashion, the Court requires 8.5 additional probation officers. This would enable the CSU to add one intake officer, one probation officer to facilitate additional required interdisciplinary evaluations for truancy cases, and 6.5 probation officers to replicate the Maximize Attendance Program in the Court's remaining probation offices. Failure to increase the capacity of the Court Services Unit to provide adequate services to truancy cases increases the difficulty for the Court to comply with the Code of Virginia, Chapter 14 Article 1, Compulsory School Attendance. The impact of not funding additional positions will be felt in all areas of case processing and will not allow the CSU to effectively intervene in these cases.

► **Method of Service Provision**

Juvenile and adult domestic relations investigation and probation services are provided by County personnel. Youth and families are ordered into services by a juvenile court judge. Prior to final disposition on criminal complaints the court orders investigations on defendants. These investigations require probation officers to meet the defendant and family and develop a social history and make recommendations to the court. Typically, probation staff will meet the youth and family in the home, secure detention, and at school, if necessary. Information is gathered regarding the youth's and adult's (if appropriate) academic record, as well as school adjustment, work history, in addition to other public and private agency contacts. Criminal history checks are conducted on all youth and adults involved in criminal matters before the court.

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Probation services are provided to all clients consistent with the court order placing them on probation and with the Department of Juvenile Justice standards. Youth and adults are provided counseling, supervision, monitoring, sex offender treatment, and specialized services as ordered by the court based on the emerging needs of the family. Intensive supervision services are provided for juvenile Serious or Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) and high risk offenders. These services are delivered geographically throughout the county in court offices, in the schools, in the home or in other public or private facilities.

Probation services operate from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. However, all probation units have flexible hours assigned to staff in order to meet the needs of client schedules. Evening hours are available to all clients. Satellite offices are located in Reston, Fairfax City, Alexandria, and Falls Church.

► Performance/Workload Related Data

Title	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Estimate
Juvenile probation services	3,416	2,821	2,093	2,777	2,777
Juvenile investigation reports completed	1,190	1,165	1,178 est.	1,178	1,178
Community service assignments	1,173	1,163	1,019	1,118	1,118
Adult probation and monitoring cases assigned	1,176	1,342	1,367	1,295	1,295

► Mandate Information

This CAPS is Federally or State mandated. The percentage of this CAPS' resources utilized to satisfy the mandate is 76 - 100%. The specific Federal or State code and a brief description of the code follows:

- Code of Virginia Section 16.1-235