



Fairfax County, Virginia

LINES OF BUSINESS

February 5, 2016

OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

*County Lines of Business (LOBs)
Presentation to the Board of Supervisors*



www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/2016-lines-of-business.htm



OUTLINE OF TODAY'S PRESENTATION

1. Department Overview
2. High level view of Lines of Business (LOBs)
3. How LOBs relate to the County Vision Elements
4. Metrics
5. Trends and Challenges
6. Looking Forward
7. Discussion

Note: See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/2016-lines-of-business.htm to access all LOBs documents and presentations.



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

- » The Commonwealth's Attorney is the Chief Law Enforcement Officer for Fairfax County.
- » The Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney is charged with the duty of protecting public safety through the successful representation of the public in the prosecution of criminal, traffic and delinquency matters in the Circuit Courts, General District Courts and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts.





DEPARTMENT RESOURCES

Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
FUNDING			
Expenditures:			
Compensation	\$2,595,861	\$3,195,434	\$3,597,621
Operating Expenses	154,345	180,671	120,634
Total Expenditures	\$2,750,206	\$3,376,105	\$3,718,255
General Fund Revenue	\$1,895,846	\$1,869,988	\$1,877,533
Net Cost/(Savings) to General Fund	\$854,360	\$1,506,117	\$1,840,722
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
Positions:			
Regular	36 / 36	39 / 39	40 / 40
Exempt	1 / 1	1 / 1	1 / 1
Total Positions	37 / 37	40 / 40	41 / 41



LOBS AT A GLANCE

#191
**Prosecution of
Criminal Cases**



LOBS SUMMARY TABLE

LOB #	LOB Title	FY 2016 Adopted	
		Disbursements	Positions
191	Prosecution of Criminal Cases	3,718,255	41
Total		\$3,718,255	41



LINES OF BUSINESS SUMMARY

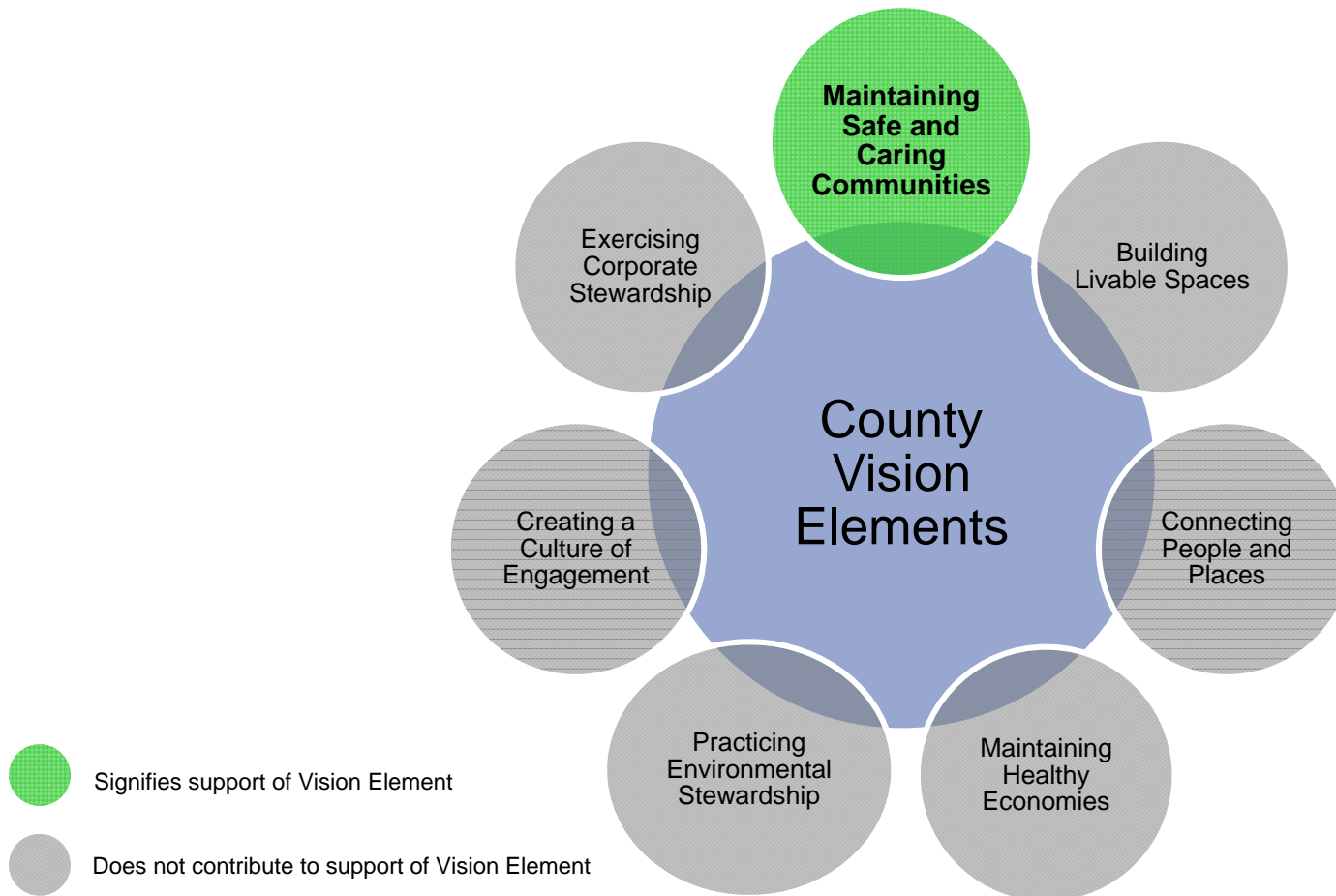
Prosecution of Criminal Cases (#191)

- The office prosecutes criminal and traffic matters in the Fairfax County General District Court and the Fairfax County Circuit Court, criminal and delinquency matters in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, and all felony cases.
- The office handles both the violation of County ordinances and the violation of state statutes.
- The office also advises police regarding legal matters that may arise during investigation as well as charging decisions. The office also handles some civil matters such as forfeiture hearings, mental health commitments, and OSHA complaints.



COUNTY VISION ELEMENTS

- The purpose of the LOBs process and the validation process performed by staff and management is to array the relevance of all LOBs according to the County's Vision Elements. Our LOBs support:

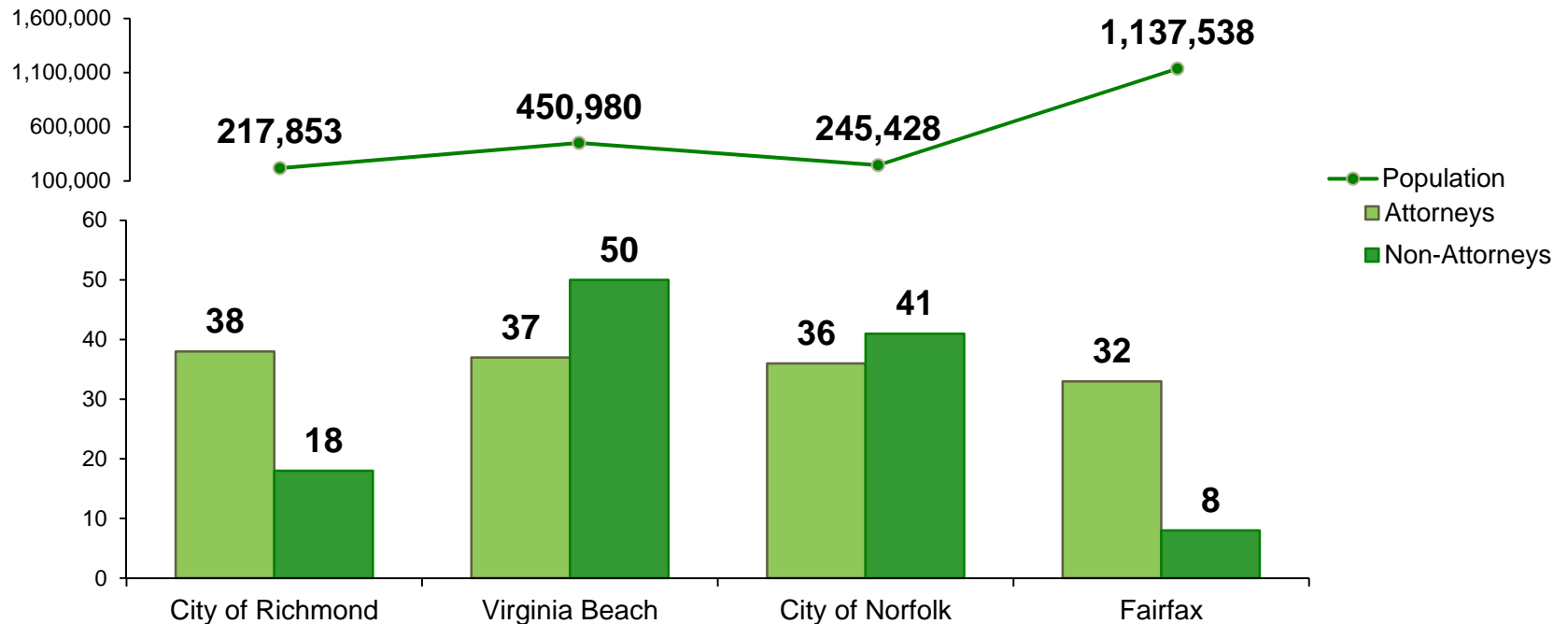




CASELOAD COMPARISON

- Currently, there are four "Super Jurisdictions" identified by the Virginia State Compensation Board based on felony caseload in Circuit Court. Fairfax County has the highest workload of all super jurisdictions.

**Staff / Population Comparison
by Super Jurisdiction ***

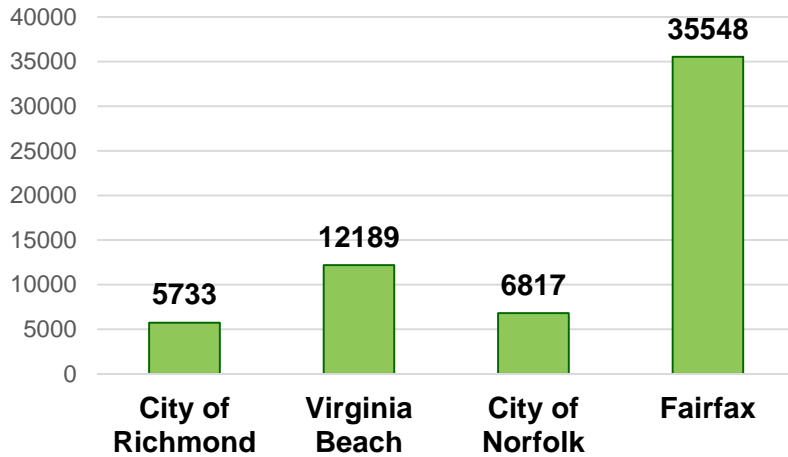


* Fairfax County has 2 attorneys (1 merit and 1 grant-funded) that are restricted to only prosecute domestic violence cases. They are not included in the Fairfax totals cited in this graph.

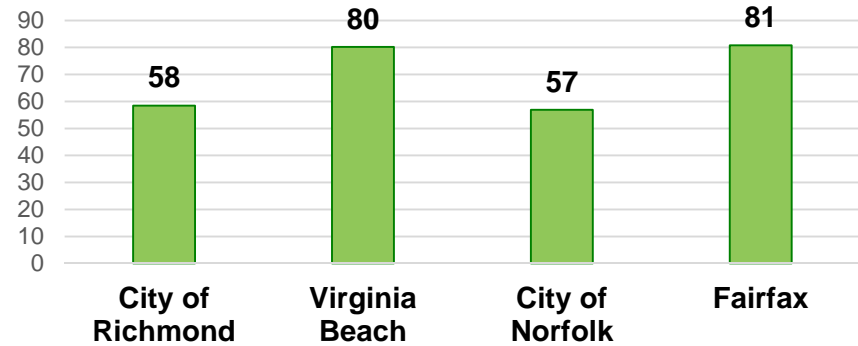


CASELOAD COMPARISON

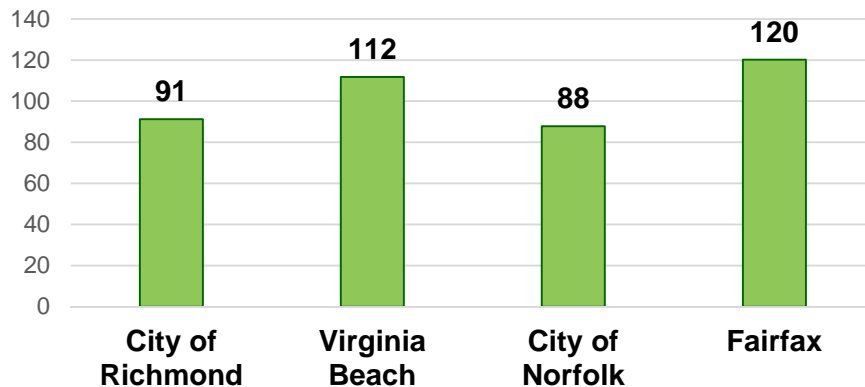
Citizens Per Prosecutor *



Felony Defendants per Prosecutor *



Felony Defendants & Sentencing Events Per Prosecutor *



* Fairfax County has 2 attorneys (one merit and one grant-funded) that are restricted to only prosecute domestic violence cases. They are not included in the Fairfax totals cited in these graphs. These numbers include all felonies in Circuit Court which the Commonwealth's Attorney is charged with prosecuting pursuant to Virginia Code and are averaged for the years 2013 and 2014.



TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

- Increase in inquiries from law enforcement agencies and citizens regarding investigations, decisions, and professional training inquiries.
- The ruling in *Mass. v. Melendez-Diaz* now requires additional witnesses, notices and preparation time, significantly increasing workload.
- Increase in daily number of courtrooms
 - 4-6 Circuit Court all day courtrooms
 - 2 Juvenile Court all day courtrooms
 - 8 General District morning courtrooms
 - 6 General District afternoon courtrooms
- Trials are now bifurcated into two separate phases resulting in longer trials.
- Increase in the use of technology in policing and the courtrooms.



LOOKING FORWARD

- Continued growth in workforce to parallel growth of the local law enforcement agencies and “super jurisdictions”.
- Case Management System Modernization:
 - The office is working with the Department of Information Technology in securing a new case management system.
- Continue to protect and serve the people who live, work and visit Fairfax County by ensuring that the crimes which affect the Fairfax County community are prosecuted and that justice is sought in all cases.



DISCUSSION

