

**Santa Barbara County  
Office of the Public Defender  
Budget Workshop Presentation**

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# PUBLIC DEFENDER BUDGET

- Adopted FY 2008-2009 = \$10,297,054
- Requested FY 2009-2010 = \$10,588,583
- Target FY 2009-2010 = \$8,614,390
- Deficit = \$1,974,193

# IMPACT ON STAFFING

- Approximately 91% of budget is in Salaries and Benefits, i.e. Staff
- Loss of 10 Attorney Positions
- Loss of 5 Support Staff Positions
- Amounts to 31% Decrease in Attorney Staff (10 of 32)

# IMPACT ON SERVICES

- With a 31% reduction in attorney staff, impossible for remaining attorneys to handle the current level of overall cases.
- Total Case Load (est.) for FY 2008-2009 is 23,856.
- An equivalent reduction in Case Load is 7,395 cases.

# STATE BAR STANDARDS

It is incumbent on a Chief Defender to secure additional resources or to refuse to accept that portion of the incoming workload that exceeds the capacity of the defender program.

Failure to do so may result in personal liability to the Chief Defender and jeopardize his/her right to practice law.

- Guidelines On Indigent Defense Services Delivery (2006), The State Bar of California (pages 29-30)

# INDIGENT LEGAL DEFENSE SERVICES

- Constitutional Requirement
- County's Financial Obligation

# COST TO COUNTY FOR APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL EXCEEDS THE SAVINGS: FY 08-09

FY 08-09 Unavailable Cases Contract Cost:	\$385,000
FY 08-09 Public Defender Request:	\$317,000
<b>Public Defender Cost Savings:</b>	<b>\$68,000</b>
Additional Outside Contract Costs over Public Defender:	21%

# POTENTIAL COST TO COUNTY FOR APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL EXCEEDS THE SAVINGS: FY 09-10

FY 09-10 Potential Unavailable Cases:	7,395
FY 09-10 Deficit:	\$1,974,193
Cost Differential % Based on FY 08-09 Contract: (\$385,000 Contract Rate vs. \$317,000 PD Cost)	21%
FY 09-10 Potential Unavailable Cases Contract Cost:	\$2,388,774
<b>FY 09-10 Public Defender Cost Savings:</b>	<b>\$414,581</b>