



Office of the District Attorney

BUDGET REQUEST PRESENTATION

Areas of Need

City-paid
attorney salaries

Victim/Witness
Advocates

State-paid
attorney
supplements

Career ladder
for legal admins,
investigators,
and advocates

NICE Justice
software

Victim/Witness Advocates

- ▶ Duties required by Victim's Rights Law
- ▶ Currently 12 advocates
- ▶ October 2023 VOCA cuts lost six advocates
- ▶ Replaced two with ARPA funds and one with city funding (current budget)
- ▶ ARPA will end
- ▶ Expect future VOCA cuts
- ▶ Asked for four positions to replace expected loss

State-paid Attorney Supplements

- ▶ 10 State-paid attorneys
- ▶ Currently funded at \$5000 supplement
- ▶ Has not been increased in 30 years
- ▶ This is how we attract/retain experienced attorneys
- ▶ Canvassed six circuits
- ▶ Lowest was \$10,000 (Pickens Co.)

Career Ladder for Legal Admins, Advocates, Investigators

- ▶ Currently, no steps
- ▶ Only receive COLA raises
- ▶ Pay study resulted in some raises, but not steps
- ▶ Have to train on legal concepts
- ▶ Can't retain people if they aren't paid as criminal justice professionals

NICE Justice

- ▶ Software that will harvest and organize data from CPD
- ▶ Currently, investigators retrieve evidence piece by piece
- ▶ Affects how quickly cases get to court
- ▶ Affects jail population

Thank you!