



Manohar Raju,
Public Defender



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

SF PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE
MAKING JUSTICE HAPPEN

Transformative Justice
& Empowering Communities



Community Budget Presentation Roadmap



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

1. Purpose
2. Achievements
3. Budget
4. Goals & Call to Action

We Are Defenders

The San Francisco Public Defender protects and defends the rights of indigent adults and youth accused of crimes, and immigrants facing deportation.

Led by Mano Raju, California's only elected Public Defender, our team of 110 attorneys and 106 non-attorneys members provide zealous, compassionate, and creative legal representation to over 20,000 people annually.

We aspire to provide the highest level of legal advocacy, and to be the state and nationwide model for transformative public defense services.



Fiercely
defend
individuals,
confront state
sponsored
violence, and advocate
for community power.

OUR
MISSION

Love, Compassion,
Courage, Excellence.

OUR
VALUES

OUR
THEORY OF CHANGE

When we fiercely defend individuals,
confront state sponsored violence,
and advocate for community power,
then our communities are better
able to resist injustice and fight for
self-determination and freedom.

A world where collective
humanity is cherished.

OUR
VISION



**SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Our Office

CONFRONT & ADVOCATE

Communications

Integrity – Police Accountability

State and Local Policy

DEFEND

Felony

Misdemeanor

Mental Health

Pre-Trial Release

Paralegals

Clean Slate

Training

Freedom Project - Post Conviction

Immigration

Re-entry

Alternative Courts

Investigators

Youth Defenders

MAGIC

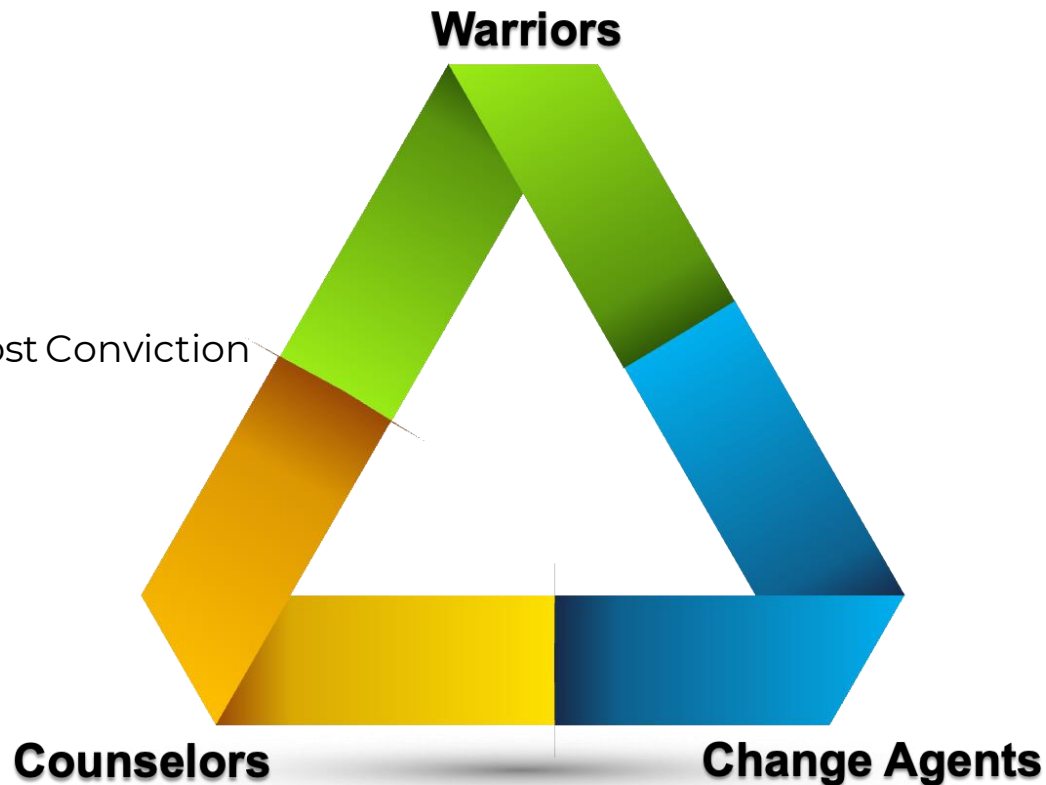
OPERATIONS

Payroll – Finance & Planning

Clerical

Human Resources

Technology



We Defend

our community's most vulnerable and disenfranchised

10%

Immigrants or non-English speakers



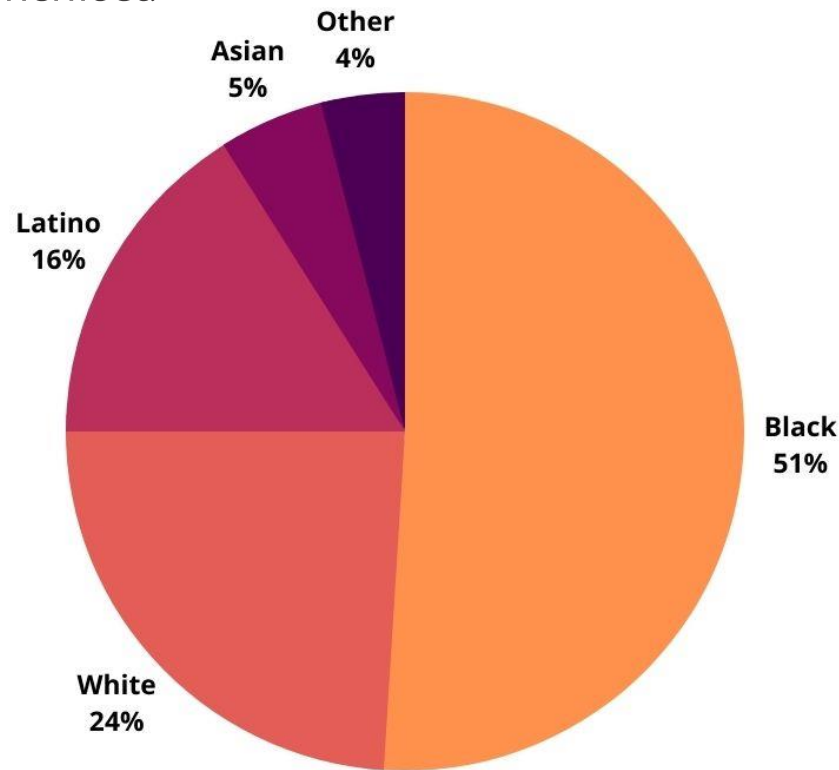
75%

Suffer from mental illness or substance use issues



100%

Low-income; many live in poverty or suffer from homelessness



In The Court

We aggressively advocated for justice for our clients in the courts while addressing the trial backlog through “Open the Courts” advocacy.

Across both Felony and Misdemeanor clients, nearly 1,208 cases were dismissed.

Also Provide:

- Support upon arrest and booking into San Francisco Jail
- Pre-trial support and preparation
- Mental health support and advocacy
- Diversion court support and advocacy
- Youth & family support in the Juvenile Court System
- Law enforcement accountability

In The Community



Our Achievements

- **Trial Success:** Our Felony and Misdemeanor Units obtained acquittals, dismissals, hangs or mixed verdicts in approx. 85% of the cases we tried.
- **Be the Jury:** Launched in March 2022 working closely with community partners, city agencies and San Francisco's Treasure's Office. Aimed at eliminating financial hardships so low-income jurors can serve on juries. To date 425 participants have successfully enrolled.
- **Immigration Win:** In 2021/22 we assisted with a federal case winning a groundbreaking settlement, requiring immigration authorities to preserve COVID-19 safety measures and led to the liberation of hundreds of non-citizens from immigration detention.
- **Policy to End Racist Traffic Stops:** In 2022-23 we worked with community partners to limit police from stopping community members for nine categories of vehicle code violations. In the future, this will lead to 10K fewer pretext traffic stops a year, lowering arrest rates.
- **Clean Slate Expansion:** Established partnerships leading to monthly community clinics at YCD, The Hub (Latino Task Force), SFPD Cares, and Arriba Juntos. Continuing assistance with expungements and clears clients' criminal records, removing barriers to employment, housing, and education for 708 clients last year.

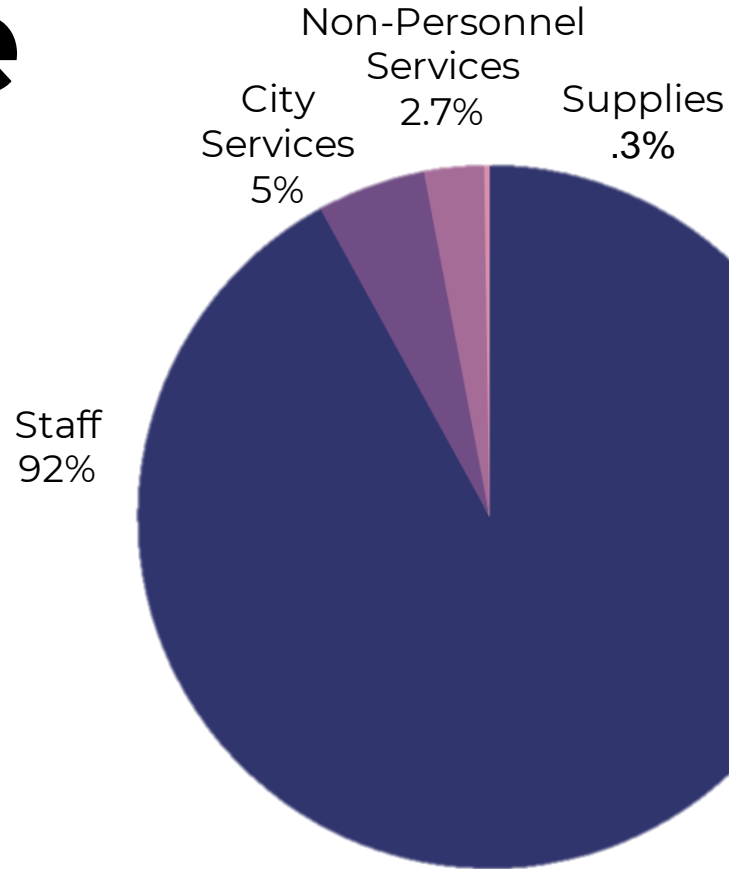


A Budget For Justice

	Budget	Defense Team Members
FY 2020-21	\$42,256,703	199
FY 2021-22	\$45,292,551	210
FY 2022-23	\$49,090,429	220



A Budget For Justice

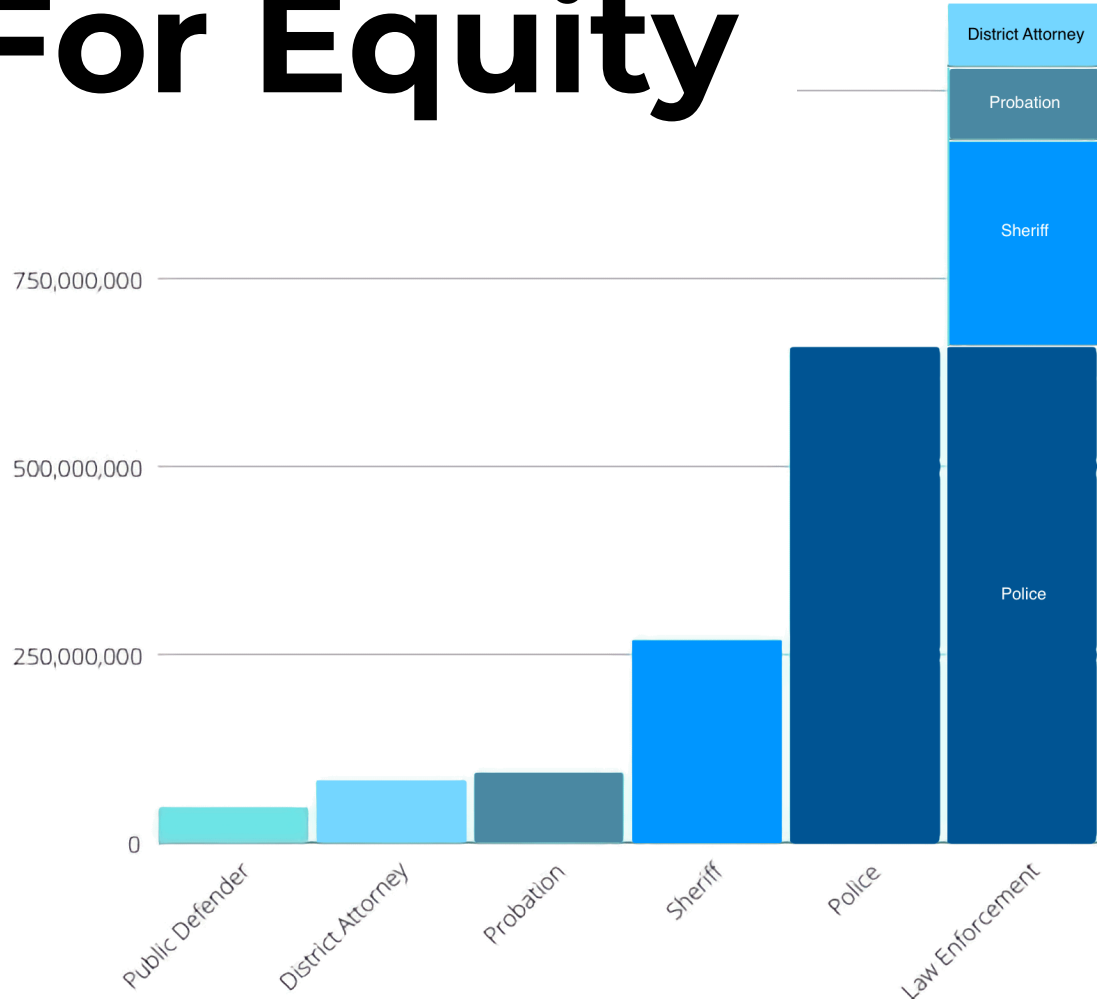


A Call For Equity

District Attorney's Office budget is **\$76 million**

At **\$292 million**, the Sheriff's Department budget is **six times** larger.

At **\$628 million**, the Police Department budget is **thirteen times** larger.



2023 Goals

- ▶ Continue to raise the standard for excellence in public defense
- ▶ Fight to end humanitarian crisis in our jails caused by the Court trial backlogs
- ▶ Address substance use disorder crisis by advocating for evidence-based public health solutions
- ▶ Continue to work to close Juvenile Hall
- ▶ State Policy Campaigns: Take "Be the Jury" Statewide; End ICE Transfers from Prison; Reimagine Youth Restitution; Protections for criminalized survivors



Call To Action

- ▶ Support our **Budget and our Office Goals**
- ▶ Advocate with us for our **state policy priorities**, including Be the Jury California state bill
- ▶ Join us in actions to **Open the Courts, and end the humanitarian crisis in the jails**

To learn more, follow us:

Twitter:

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SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER

Thank you!
Q&A