

MISSION

The Office of the Public Guardian ensures the physical and financial safety of persons unable to care for themselves, and when there are no viable alternatives to a public conservatorship. Services are defined and directed by the Superior Court. The Superior Court can appoint the Public Guardian as a conservator of the person only, estate only (for probate), or both person and estate.

DEPARTMENT BUDGET SUMMARY

DEPT : 56 PUBLIC GUARDIAN

Description	Prior Year Actual	Current Year Adopted	CAO Recommended	Difference from Adopted
IG Rev - Federal	146,522	109,000	109,000	0
Service Charges	129,896	75,000	85,000	10,000
Miscellaneous Rev	623	50,000	50,000	0
Total Revenue	277,042	234,000	244,000	10,000
Salaries & Benefits	1,064,837	1,239,816	1,265,353	25,537
Services & Supplies	101,701	256,413	419,724	163,311
Other Charges	687	50,000	50,000	0
Intrafund Transfers	387,753	391,798	393,795	1,997
Total Appropriations	1,554,979	1,938,027	2,128,872	190,845
FUND 1000 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	1,277,937	1,704,027	1,884,872	180,845

MAJOR BUDGET CHANGES

Revenue

Service Charges

\$10,000 Increase in Public Guardian Fees to bring in line with actual collections.

Appropriations

Salaries and Benefits

\$28,106 Increase in Salaries and Benefits primarily due to step increases and benefit election changes.

(\$2,569) Decrease in Workers' Compensation charge, recommended at \$0 to bring the program funding level to an acceptable confidence level, as provided by the Risk Management Division.

Health and Human Services Agency

RECOMMENDED BUDGET • FY 2021-22

Services and Supplies

- \$178,032 Increase in General Liability insurance premium expense, as departmental charges are resuming after a rate holiday in Fiscal Year 2020-21 and Public Guardian’s share of overall County claims incurred has increased from prior years increasing their Liability insurance premium expense.
- (\$14,721) Decrease in Services and Supplies to align with prior year actuals and projected FY 2021-22 needs.

Intrafund Transfers

- \$1,997 Net increase in Intrafund Transfers due to a \$14,204 increase in Internal Cost Rate charges by the HHSA Administration and Finance Department, a \$12,794 decrease in A-87 Cost Plan charges, a \$287 increase in Mail charges, and a \$300 increase in Facilities charges.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The mandated Public Guardian Program (PG) establishes and administers conservatorships of persons and/or the estates of individuals who are functionally disabled, to ensure the proper care and treatment of those who are unable to adequately care for themselves or those who are victims of fraud and/or abuse. Public Guardian case managers work in collaboration with the Sheriff’s Office and Probation Department to ensure that offenders in the custody of the Sheriff and/or under the supervision of the Probation Department will receive the services and support necessary to successfully re-integrate into the community.

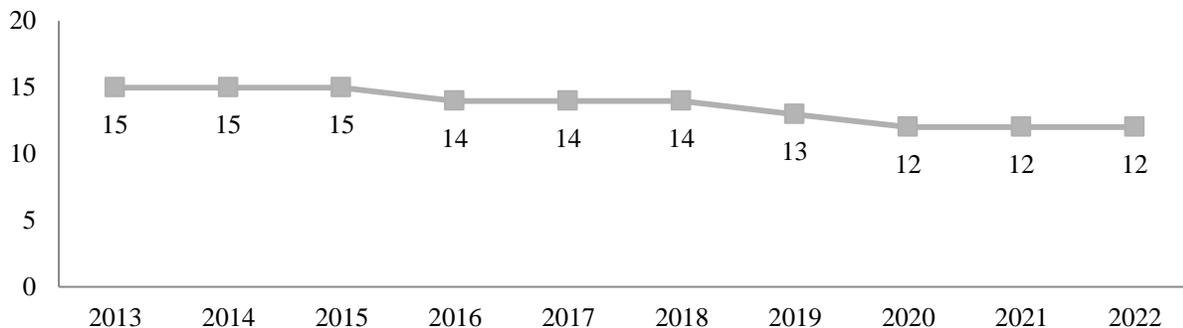
PG participates in the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program which is administered by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). MAA leverages allowable State and local revenue to receive Federal reimbursement for approved Medi-Cal activities. Other funding includes Fees for Services and County General Fund.

PENDING ISSUES

Changes in the California Probate Code have prevented Public Guardian from collecting fees from Public Guardian clients. These fees are established based on Probate Code and approved by the Board of Supervisors. While fees collected are minimal, these revenues offset Net County Cost and reductions will require additional County General Fund to maintain current operations.

STAFFING TREND

The Public Guardian staff allocation is recommended to remain unchanged at 12.0 for FY 2021-22.



Public Guardian

RECOMMENDED BUDGET • FY 2021-22

RECOMMENDED BUDGET

This Budget is recommended at \$2,128,872, which is an increase of \$190,845 (9.8%) when compared to the FY 2020-21 Adopted Budget. The General Fund provides 88.5% of the funding for the Public Guardian Department. The General Fund cost is \$1,884,872, which is an increase of \$180,845 (10.6%).

The increase in General Fund is due primarily to an increase in General Liability Insurance charges. The Risk Management Division calculates a Department's share of the County's General Liability charges on two factors: share of County Payroll and share of County Liability claims. Due to recent increases in Public Guardian's Liability claims the Liability Insurance charge for the Department has increased \$173,663 from FY 2019-20. Liability charges were waived in FY 2020-21.

CAO ADJUSTMENTS

No CAO adjustments are recommended.

Sources & Used of Funds

The General Fund provides the majority of funding for this Department (88.5%). Other funding comes from service charges (4%), Federal Revenue (5.1%), and Misc. Revenue (2.4%).