

COUNTY COUNSEL

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of County Counsel is to provide quality, timely, and sound legal advice, services and representation in all civil and administrative proceedings to the Board of Supervisors, elected and appointed department heads, County departments, staff, and special districts.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Office of County Counsel currently consists of the County Counsel, six (6) full time attorneys, and four (4) administrative and support staff. As the County's Chief Legal Office, County Counsel serves as the attorney for Butte County, including the Board of Supervisors and all County offices, departments, boards, commissions, the Grand Jury, and special districts.

County Counsel is a support organization; our work is client driven, and we have no independent objectives. County Counsel is dedicated to the principle that thoughtful, credible and ethical legal services lead to fewer lawsuits, lower liability costs, better services and better County government. By interpreting the law in a sound and consistent manner we enable our clients to reach their objectives in accordance with local, state and federal law, thereby avoiding, to the extent possible, challenge and confusion.

County Counsel has primary responsibility for providing legal advice and assistance to the Board of Supervisors and county staff on matters such as: public policies; land use; human/social services; civil actions; risk management and insurance; municipal and public law; tort law; resources law; environmental law; nuisance abatement; personnel benefits, retirement and labor relations law; and construction, facilities and real estate law. The attorneys in the Office of County Counsel prepare board reports and recommendations; prepare legal opinions; draft ordinances, resolutions and proposed legislation; represent the county before the legislature as directed; formulate litigation strategies; oversee legal research and investigations; act as trial counsel in state court, federal court, and administrative proceedings; monitor legal developments; retain and manage outside counsel; and serve as attorneys for the County in all civil actions.

SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST

- The Department budget request includes funding to maintain fiscal year 2007-2008 staffing and operations level for the department.
- The Department budget request includes funding to continue the efforts in the Lake Oroville Federal Energy Regulation Commission (FERC) Relicensing process, Poe Relicensing process (FERC), General Plan and land use projects.
- The Department budget request includes the deletion of a vacant Legal Secretary position.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

- The recommendation includes funding to maintain fiscal year 2007-2008 staffing and operations level for the department.
- The recommendation includes funding to continue the various projects in progress.
- The recommendation includes the deletion of a vacant Legal Secretary position.

BUDGET CODE 100

UNIT TITLE - COUNTY COUNSEL

BUTTE COUNTY
 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 BUDGET UNIT EXPENDITURE DETAIL
 SCHEDULE 9 2008-09

FUNCTION 1 - COUNTY COUNSEL
 ACTIVITY - 14 -
 FUND - 0010 - COUNTY GENERAL FUND 0010

ACCOUNT	TITLE	ACTUAL 2006-07	ESTIMATED 2007-08	REQUESTED 2008-09	RECOMMENDED 2008-09	ADOPTED 2008-09
EXPENDITURES						
510	SALARIES & EMPLOYEE BENE	1,370,812	1,417,015	1,408,086	1,408,086	-
520	SERVICES & SUPPLIES	885,789	921,392	1,016,415	1,016,415	-
560	FIXED ASSETS	-	4,464	4,773	4,773	-
TOTAL	DIRECT	2,256,601	2,342,871	2,429,274	2,429,274	-
570	OTHER FINANCING USES	(1,638,466)	(1,696,359)	(1,774,821)	(1,774,821)	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		618,135	646,512	654,453	654,453	-
REVENUES						
60000	CHARGES FOR SERVICES	676,207	668,726	613,575	613,575	-
70000	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	195	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES		676,402	668,726	613,575	613,575	-
NET COSTS COUNTY COUNSEL		(58,267)	(22,214)	40,878	40,878	-