

Justice and Consumer Services

**FY08 Budget
Information Session
April 5, 2007**

Department Direction/Highlights

Public Safety SFA

■ Reduce Crime

- Investigate consumer complaints to reduce victimization and economic crime
- Coordinate tools to aid in safety and crime solving
- Regulate and investigate consumer ordinances and statutes
- Provide programs for outreach, education, and prevention

■ Enhance Efficiencies within Law Enforcement and Justice Services

- Contract administration (ME, PCSO, program funding)
- Grant Administration (JAG and Drug Abuse Trust Fund)
- Coordinate with agencies on identified functional consolidation
- Provide research, analysis, and evaluation of processes



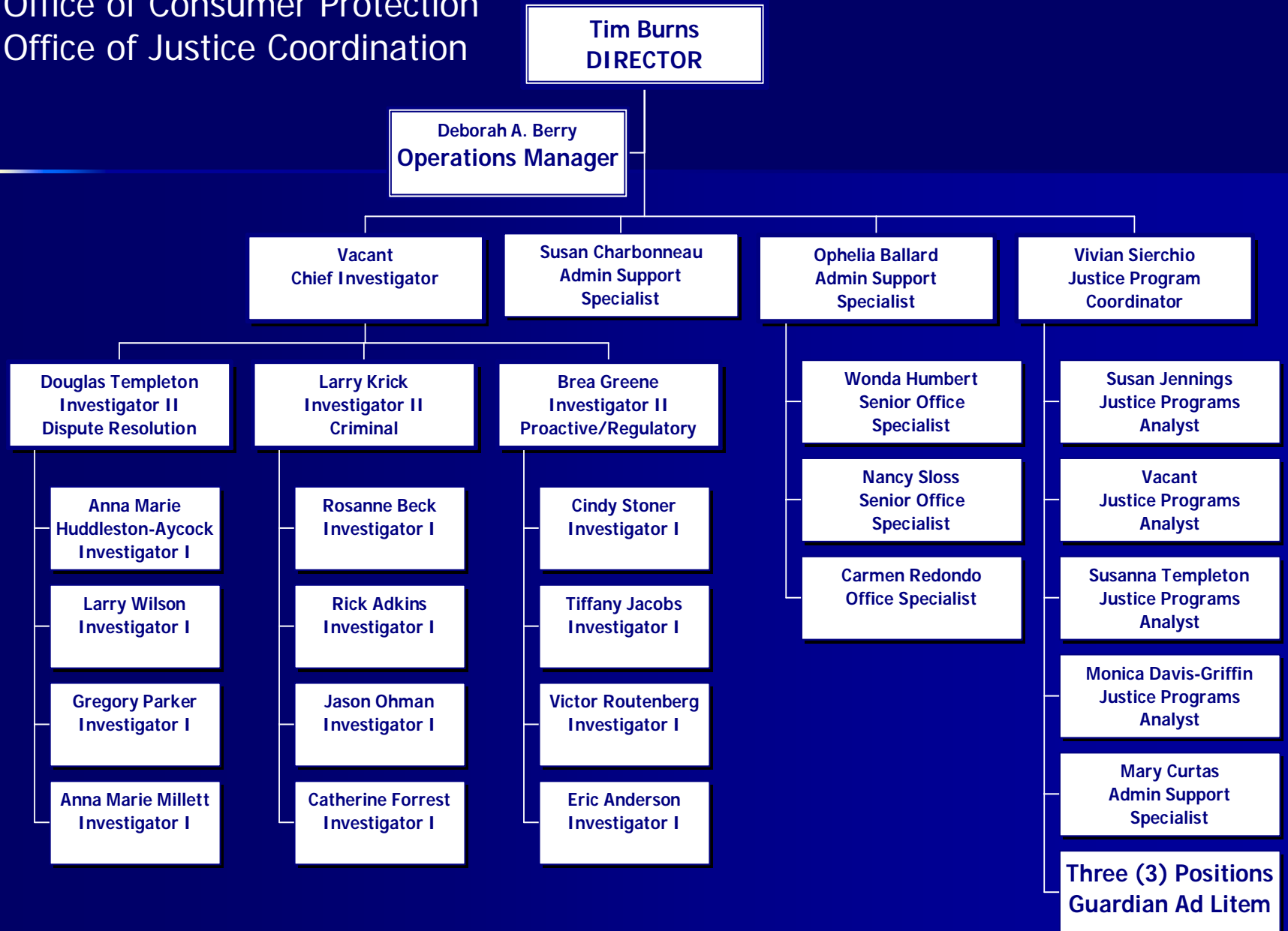
Department Direction/Highlights

Public Safety SFA

- **Address Alternatives to Incarceration and Recidivism to Impact Jail Population Forecasts**
 - Coordinate Pinellas County interests in alternatives to incarceration and reentry programs
 - Provide administration of program funding as needed
 - Work with stakeholders to explore and implement new programs to impact jail population
- **Administer Funding for State Mandated Programs**
- **Internal Service**
 - Employment background check, due diligence for County contracts

Justice and Consumer Services

Office of Consumer Protection
Office of Justice Coordination



Objectives/Goals FY08

- Enhance outreach and prevention to reduce economic crime
- Focus on efforts and efficiencies for citizen service
- Identify areas for sound alternatives to incarceration and reentry program enhancement
- Implement analysis tools and extend information sharing capabilities
- Develop operational task teams for alternatives and jail population and enhance collaboration among local stakeholders
- Assist with facilitation of planned Justice System Process Study

Accomplishments

- Alternatives to Incarceration Report
- Implemented New Program Oversight Processes with Quarterly Status Reports
- DJJ Mandate Analysis and Dispute
- Scope for Justice System Process Study
- Consumer Charity and Fortunetelling Ordinance Changes to Reduce Registration Overhead and Refocus Efforts

Accomplishments

▪Telephone Calls Received	29,662
▪Written Complaints Received	2,220
▪Criminal Cases Opened/# Victims	186/348
▪Cases Sent to SAO	218
▪Prison (years)	4
▪Probation (years)	54
▪Refunds & Adjustments	\$395,076
▪Court Ordered Restitution & Fines	\$250,009

New Outreach:

We are now conducting home improvement show outreach with laptops to provide consumers with information proactively



Gulf Front Retreats: Loraine Blackwood...50 Complaints

- Stranded renters and loss of \$150,000 in rental fees
- Charged with Grand Theft

Warrant issued for ex-condo rental agent

Authorities say agency's closing cheated tourists and property owners.

1/10/07

Vilicity Stow.....48 Complaints

- Falsely selling AKC purebreds
- Charged with Grand Theft

Breeder accused of falsely selling dogs as AKC purebreds

The Clearwater woman is charged with two felony counts and four misdemeanors.

the AKC registration papers of one is forwarded to Pinellas County Animal Services. The 40 of sale allows the county to track the dogs for care and euthanasia.

BY EDWARD A. JOE
Times Staff Writer

of charges." While not "I would contemplate that three Stow's account information "You don't need to take a

1/7/07

Jeff Gaston received 15 years probation as a result of consumer complaints for unlicensed contracting in 1989

- Currently facing 15 grand theft with additional cases pending.

After 15 years probation, he's facing similar charges

■ New charges are pending against a man who was convicted of unlicensed construction. His lawyer says it's a contract dispute.

CHARGED OR CONVICTED

THE CABINET BANDIT

7/30/06

Intelligence Information to Federal Trade Commission, FBI, and US Postal Inspection Service

- Peter Porcelli II indicted for mail fraud, wire fraud and conspiracy using several Florida based companies

Oldsmar man is indicted in scam

The credit card scheme grossed more than \$12-million, say federal officials.

By Times staff and wire reports
Published March 23, 2007

3/23/07

Accomplishments

■ *Vacation Club Membership Company*

- Received 9 complaints for selling vacation club memberships
- Travel presentation in exchange for a free cruise or dinner
- Pressured into buying membership packages ranging in price from \$1,500 to \$6,600
- Company did not have the proper seller of travel registration
- Refunds totaling \$30,000.00

■ *Mortgage Foreclosure Rescue Company*

- Foreclosure “rescue” companies offering to assist them in stopping the foreclosure of their homes
- Many consumers discovered that they had inadvertently signed over the title to their homes
- Refunds totaling \$23,000
- Some consumers were successful in having their deeds transferred back to them.

Budget Overview

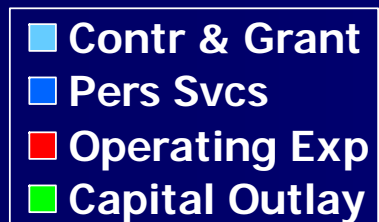
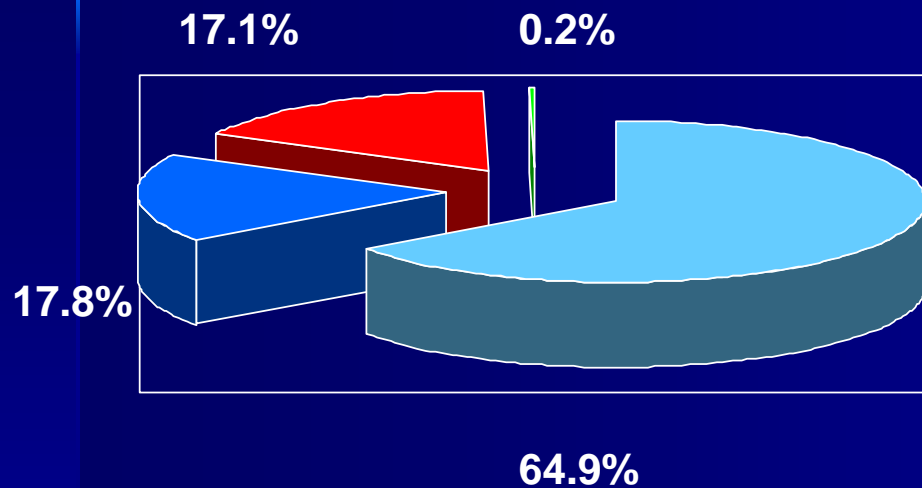
- The Department of Justice & Consumer Services continues to be budgeted in 3 core service areas:
 - Justice & Consumer Services
 - Other Public Safety
 - Contracts & Grants
- Overall budget: \$11,992,440 of which state mandated programs costs make up 66.3% of overall budget
- Programs directly related to crime reduction, justice system efficiencies, alternatives to incarceration, and working towards most effective justice system possible for Pinellas citizens.

Budget Summary

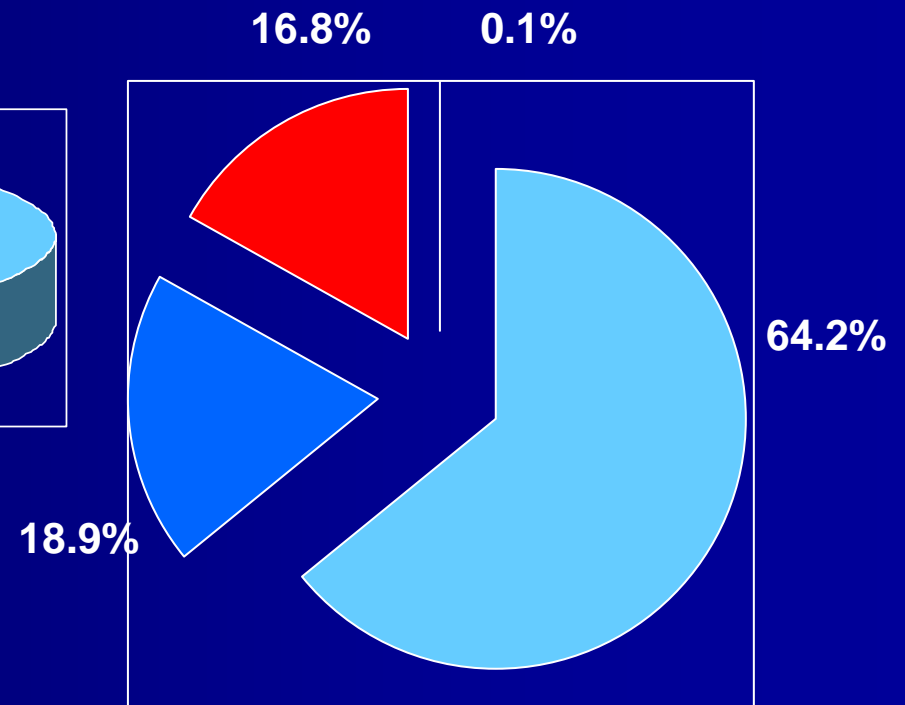
	FY07 Budget	FY08 Request	Variance	%
Personal Services	\$2,107,510	\$2,264,310	\$156,800	7.44%
Operating Expenses	\$2,027,950	\$2,011,490	-\$16,460	-0.81%
Capital Outlay	\$23,950	\$11,800	-\$12,150	-50.73%
Grants and Aids	\$7,696,900	\$7,704,840	\$7,940	0.10%
<i>Totals</i>	<i>\$11,856,310</i>	<i>\$11,992,440</i>	<i>\$136,130</i>	<i>1.15%</i>

Budget Summary Chart

FY07 Request



FY08 Request



Revenues/Fees Summary

- Minus general fund support, revenue estimates for FY08 are reduced by \$186,990
- Reduction is due to local registration changes approved by the BCC and grant fluctuations.

Summary of Programs:

Core Programs

- **Consumer Protection:** **\$1,359,280**
 - Dispute resolution, criminal investigation, and regulatory services (19 FTEs)

- **Justice Coordination:** **\$589,030**
 - Justice program, contract, and grant administration, research, policy, internal service (6 FTEs)

- **Administrative:** **\$482,490**
 - Department administrative costs (4 FTEs)

Summary of Programs

State Mandated: Total Cost \$7,954,840

- **Juvenile Justice Detention: \$7,200,000**
 - Mandated funding for pre-disposition detention per F.S. 985.2155
 - Pinellas Pre-disposition days total 32,543 or 5.6% of state total
- **Help A Child: \$404,840**
 - Mandated funding for physical exams and ancillary services for allegedly abused or neglected children per F.S. 39.304
 - Performed 1032 exams in FY06 and 311 to date in FY07
 - Pinellas makes up 14% of program budget
- **Gulfcoast Legal Services: \$350,000**
 - Mandated funding for indigent legal services per F.S. 29.008
 - Served 4603 residents in FY06 and 1267 to date in FY07
 - Pinellas makes up 13.23% of program budget

Summary of Programs

Non-Mandated

- **Adult and Juvenile Drug Court: \$788,000**
 - Juvenile Drug Court
 - 485 juveniles entered treatment in FY05/06, 82 juveniles to date in FY06/07
 - 87% , 12 month non-recidivism rate and over 85% successful completion rate.
 - The cost of services per program participant in the Juvenile Drug Court program is less than \$318.00.
 - Adult Drug Court
 - Referred 967 in FY06 and approx. 600 to date in FY07
 - 82%, 12 month non-recidivism rate and 51% successful completion rate
 - Cost of treatment per day ranges from \$25 to \$41.43
 - New Dependency Drug Court with estimated service delivery to 40

Summary of Programs

Non-Mandated

- **Justice Assistance Grants: \$290,940**
 - Administer federal reimbursement grant program

- **Guardian Ad Litem: \$237,860**
 - Advocates for interests of allegedly abused, neglected, or abandoned children in court proceedings
 - JCS provides oversight of county investment including coordinating overhead for space, telecommunications, and furniture as well as three positions administratively assigned to the program by the County (3FTEs)

Summary of Programs

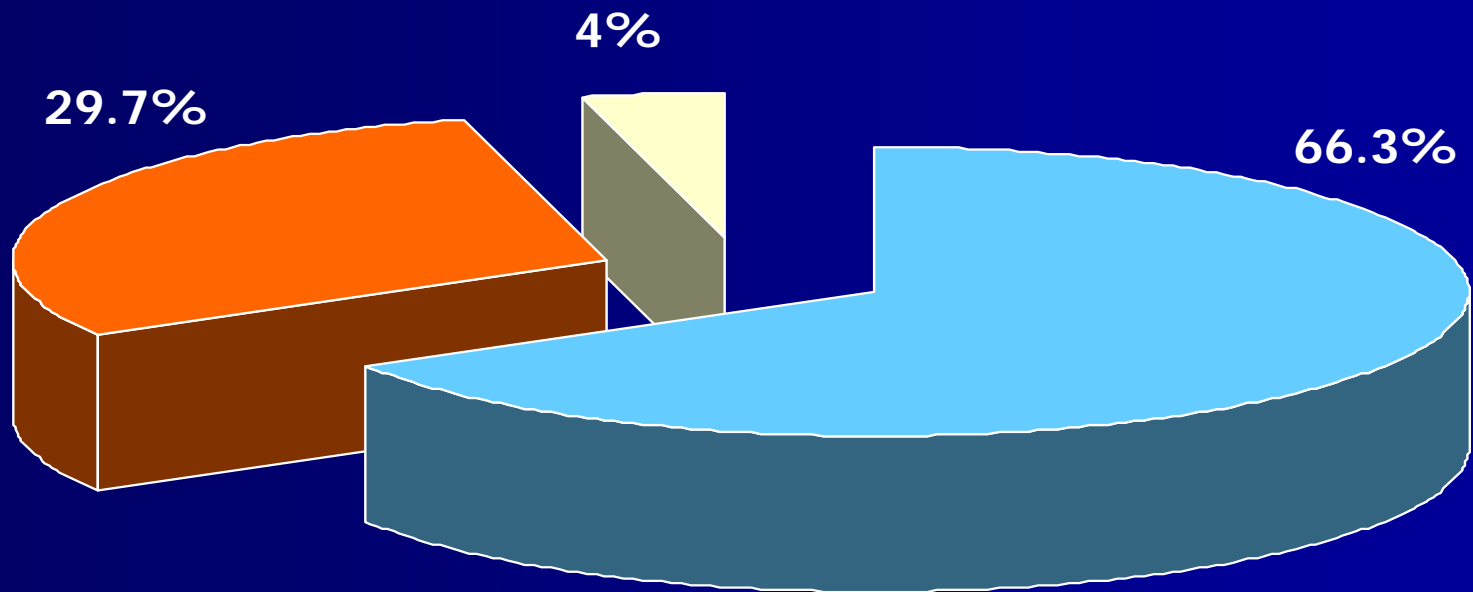
Non-Mandated

- **Turning Pt. Homeless Inebriate: \$190,000**
 - Provides 24 hour intake and intervention services for those that would likely otherwise be transported to jail.
 - Served 519 individuals to date in FY07
 - Pinellas makes up 22% of program budget

- **Juvenile Assessment Center: \$100,000**
 - Provides juvenile assessors at the JAC to interview and screen juveniles and make referrals
 - Assessed 8132 residents in FY06
 - Pinellas makes up 11.25% of program budget

Program Assignment Chart

Strategic Focus Area: Public Safety



- Mandatory
- Non-Mandatory
- Administrative

Future Service Delivery Opportunities/Challenges

- Complaint complexity continues to rise with new methods to defraud and multiple victims
- Crime, recidivism, reentry, and jail population trends continue to require innovative programs and stepped up collaboration
- Agencies must continue to explore functional consolidations and cooperative projects to derive system efficiencies and effectiveness