

Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Budget Program Description

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Department Mission Statement:

Dedicated to provide quality legal representation in criminal and related proceedings to indigent defendants.

Program Description (By OCA Code)	Customers Served	Mandated Service	Funding Source
OCA 440005 <u>Public Defender</u> – The office of the Public Defender was created by State legislature based on the right to counsel and to due process guaranteed by the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Illinois. Public Defenders are licensed attorneys appointed by the court to represent indigent defendants in criminal cases. They provide legal defense for felony, misdemeanor and juvenile delinquency cases. Also, at the juvenile court, Public Defenders provide legal counsel for children in abuse, dependency and neglect petitions. The Public Defender is also appointed to represent people subject to involuntary commitment, contempt, paternity action, and extradition proceedings.	Appointed Public	55 ILCS 5/3-4000	General Fund Resources