

# Commonwealth's Attorney

## Proposed FY 2018 Budget Highlights

March 7, 2017

- Proposed budget totals \$4.2M
  - A 3% increase from FY 2017 due to:
    - Personnel increases due to addition of 1.0 FTE in FY 2017 funded by the DCJS Victim Witness Grant (Standard personnel increases)
    - Additional FTE was approved after the adoption of the FY 2017 budget
- Total FTEs: 35.0
  - net increase of 1.0 FTE from FY 2017
    - DCJS grant funded 1.0 FTE approved in FY 2017

- **Manager initiatives**
  - **Drug Court**
    - In FY 2017, the number of participants increased to more than 20
    - Deputy Commonwealth’s Attorney attends weekly DCT hearings as a member of the DCT
  - **Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Response**
    - Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Lead
    - “Bar Bystander” Campaign: VW Program staff partnering with ACPD in April to conduct sexual assault awareness training for Clarendon area bar and restaurant staff
    - Increase community domestic violence awareness through the annual Purple Out campaign in partnership with Doorways for Women and Families

- **Other Department Highlights**
  - **Disposition of first offender marijuana possession cases**
    - In conjunction with the General District Court judges (effective 3/1/17)
    - Commonwealth will waive jail sentences for defendant's charged with first offense marijuana possession
    - Lessens the burdens on individuals charged with first offenses
  - **Pre-trial release of defendants with mental health issues**
    - Commonwealth may agree to pretrial release of certain defendants with identified mental health issues
    - Must have a specialized plan in place for monitoring the defendant in the community

- **Expand outreach efforts with regional law enforcement partners, including Virginia State Police, Metro Transit Police and Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority**
  - Strengthen relationships with law enforcement agency command staff to improve lines of communication
  - Develop opportunities for CWA staff to conduct roll call trainings similar to trainings provided to ACPD and FCPD

- Police Body Worn Cameras
  - Implementation will significantly impact CWA
  - All video recordings will have to be reviewed by an attorney pretrial to determine its evidentiary value or exculpatory nature and disseminate as necessary to comply with the rules of discovery
  - Increased workload will require additional attorney and legal support staff positions