

# **State of Alaska FY2002 Governor's Operating Budget**

Department of Health and Social Services  
Public Defender Agency  
Component

## **Component: Public Defender Agency**

**Contact: Janet Clarke, Director, Administrative Services**

**Tel:** (907) 465-1630 **Fax:** (907) 465-2499 **E-mail:** Janet\_Clarke@health.state.ak.us

### **Component Mission**

The mission of the Division of Family and Youth Services is to protect children who are abused and neglected or at risk of abuse and neglect.

### **Component Services Provided**

The Public Defender Agency (PDA) provides attorney resources to concentrate on new Child in Need of Aid cases (CINA) and termination of parental rights trials.

### **Component Goals and Strategies**

- 1) ASSIST IN MOVING CHILDREN THROUGH THE LEGAL SYSTEM IN ORDER TO ENSURE PERMANENT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN A TIMELY MANNER.
  - Providing attorney resources to concentrate on new Child in Need of Aid (CINA) cases.
  - Providing senior attorneys for termination of parental rights trials.

### **Key Component Issues for FY2001 – 2002**

Federal and State law, including Alaska's HB 375 (Chapter 99, SLA98) mandate shortened time frames for children to be placed into permanent homes. The changes were to encourage and enable the State to emphasize permanency planning and to place children who are in State custody into stable, safe, supportive, and permanent homes without unnecessary delay.

The Child Protection Legal Assistance BRU, created within DFYS in FY1999, strengthens the State's ability to process Child in Need of Aid (CINA) cases through the legal system to increase the number of children legally eligible to be adopted. This new BRU provides funding for RSA's with the Public Defender Agency and the Office of Public Advocacy for processing Child in Need of Aide Cases. The Public Defender Agency provides attorney resources to concentrate on CINA cases and the Office of Public Advocacy provides Guardian Ad Litem for these new cases.

DFYS maintains RSA's with the Department of Law and the Court System to address the problem of backlogged adoption court cases. The Division anticipates that the services provided by these agencies will continue to be a significant factor in Subsidized Adoption and Guardianship caseload growth into FY2002.

### **Major Component Accomplishments for FY2000**

#### **CHILDREN RELEASED FROM DFYS CUSTODY TO PERMANENT PLACEMENTS**

- A) FY1998 105 children were released to the custodianship of permanent placements
- B) FY1999 112 children were released to the custodianship of permanent placements
- C) FY2000 180 children were released to the custodianship of permanent placements

#### **CHILDREN WHO HAD PARENTAL RIGHTS TERMINATED**

- A) FY1998 48 children had parental rights terminated
- B) FY1999 145 children had parental rights terminated
- C) FY2000 351 children had parental rights terminated

**Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

- AS 47.10.088 Termination of parental rights and responsibilities.
- AS 47.10.086 Reasonable efforts.

**Key Performance Measures for FY2002**

**Measure: This component is for pass through funds and the performance measures for the Division of Family and Youth Services are set up under the Purchased Services and the Front Line Social Workers BRU.**  
*(Not yet addressed by Legislature.)*

**Status of FY2001 Performance Measures**

	<i>Achieved</i>	<i>On track</i>	<i>Too soon to tell</i>	<i>Not likely to achieve</i>	<i>Needs modification</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This component is for pass through funds and the performance measures for the Division of Family and Youth Services is set up under the Purchased Services and the Family and Youth Services BRU.</li> </ul>			X		

**Public Defender Agency**  
**Component Financial Summary**

*All dollars in thousands*

	FY2000 Actuals	FY2001 Authorized	FY2002 Governor
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Contractual	255.0	255.0	255.0
74000 Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>255.0</b>	<b>255.0</b>	<b>255.0</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1004 General Fund Receipts	255.0	255.0	255.0
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>255.0</b>	<b>255.0</b>	<b>255.0</b>

**Public Defender Agency  
Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2002**

None

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2001 Authorized to FY2002 Governor**

*All dollars in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2001 Authorized</b>	<b>255.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>255.0</b>
<b>FY2002 Governor</b>	<b>255.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>255.0</b>