



Dallas County Public Defender's Office

FY 2025 ARPA Requests

Paul Blocker, Interim Chief Public Defender

Dallas County ARPA Position Requests

Position Title	Salary Grade	Quantity	Salary and Benefits
Attorney IV	ATT4	2	\$319,826
Paralegal	15	2	\$197,224
Investigator	INV2	2	\$227,990
Attorney V	ATT5	1	\$188,622
Attorney III	ATT3	1	\$136,386
Attorney II	ATT2	1	\$124,885
Legal Secretary	8	2	\$138,250
Total		11	\$1,333,183



TIDC ARPA Position Requests

Position Title	Salary Grade	Quantity	Salary and Benefits
Social Worker	EE	1	\$78,009
Attorney IV	ATT4	2	\$319,826
Paralegal	15	1	\$98,612
Investigator II	INV2	2	\$227,990
Attorney III	ATT3	12	\$1,636,632
Sr. Legal Secretary	9	1	\$73,667
Total		19	\$2,434,736

Please note that these positions are funded through TIDC ARPA funds through February 2025 if briefed and approved by Commissioners Court.



Metrics & Performance Data

Co. ARPA

Paralegals significantly enhance our ability to deliver high-quality legal services in a more expedient manner. This is a relatively new practice in criminal law but has been a long-standing practice in civil law.

Attorney V provides leadership and guidance, operational oversight, timely decision making and problem solving, employee development, operational risk management, effective communication and coordination. The occupant of this position is bilingual and has experience in every facet of criminal justice including prosecutor, judge, and defense attorney.

Investigators play a vital role in the criminal justice system by gathering evidence, establishing facts, identifying suspects, supporting legal proceedings, upholding due process, and ultimately aiding in the resolution of criminal cases. (564 cases/199 clients FY 2024 to date – backlog cases only)

TIDC-Mental Health Expansion

Engagement supervisor, who must have at least a LMSW, is crucial for ensuring ethical practice, clinical oversight, professional development, risk management, and regulatory compliance. In FY 2024, 1426 referrals assigned to the mental health division.

Legal Assistant provides critical continued support to 14 specialized attorneys to ensure there is no disruption in the day-to-day workflow and case management.



Metrics & Performance Data

TIDC ARPA

The misdemeanor caseload reduction grant showed a reduction of caseloads by 3.4% in courts where a grant attorney was assigned in comparison to caseloads in courts where no grant attorney was assigned that saw an increase. Additionally, *court dispositions* for PD assigned misdemeanor cases increased by 37.3% in FY 2023 when compared to FY 2022.

Attorney IV assists with the training and support of attorneys. Provides docket coverage as needed allowing the department and courts to function effectively and efficiently without disruption when team members are out.

A paralegal plays a crucial role in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of our legal operations in several key ways: legal support, case management, client communication, cost efficiency and compliance and research.

Investigators' expertise and dedication are essential in ensuring a thorough and impartial investigation that serves the interests of justice.

BJA

While this position would be beneficial to the needs of the office, we are prepared to eliminate the position to reduce costs.

