# 2025 Business Plan Presentation

#### **Solicitor General's Office**

Lisamarie N. Bristol

Solicitor General of Gwinnett County





## Mission of the Solicitor General's Office

The mission of the Office of the Solicitor General of Gwinnett County is to prosecute crimes and violations of codes and ordinances committed in Gwinnett County in a diligent, fair, just, and efficient manner while maintaining the highest ethical standards and ensuring that justice prevails for victims, defendants, and residents of Gwinnett County.



## 2024 Accomplishments

- Streamlined the case intake and management process to ensure that victims receive resources and services from our office as quickly as possible.
- Increased focus on education and training for attorneys and investigators to improve their skills to better serve the community.
- Obtained national credentialing for our victim advocates to ensure quality services for crime victims and achieve recommended practices.
- Collaborated with Law Department on a coordinated approach to nuisance code violations.



### Approved 2024 Decision Package Update

#### 1. Establish Special Victims Unit

The preliminary planning for this request began in earnest. However, implementation of the unit was delayed due to office space constraints.

#### 2. Establish Diversion Unit

Like the Special Victims Unit above, planning was underway for this unit. However, the office does not have the capacity the personnel at this time.

We anticipate an office move in the coming fiscal year that will allow for the implementation of these units.



#### Current State/Trends

#### Current State

- Streamlined processes are moving cases and tackling backlog.
- Vertical prosecution model is creating efficiencies in case management and communication with victims, witnesses, attorneys, and defendants.

#### Obstacles

- Competitive pay to enable better recruitment and retention. We are lower than many metro-Atlanta counties.
- The need for pre-accusation numbering to allow for case disposal and activity prior to formal accusation.
- Overly large trial calendars that do not provide an opportunity to be prepared for trial (e.g. an attorney cannot be prepared for 100 trials).



## Strategic Plans

- Transition into new office space at GJAC
- Launch the Special Victims
   Unit to handle specialized and sensitive cases
- Launch a Diversion Unit to provide culturally competent diversion options for offenders





## New Operational Request

- Special Victims Unit and Diversion Unit Implementation
- While the main components of a Special Victims Unit and a Diversion Unit were approved as Operational Requests in the FY2024 budget, planning and preparation for implementation has shown that we will need an additional five (5) positions to fully staff these units. Our desire is to address these cases more quickly with dedicated staff to provide better service to the victims of sensitive crimes.
- Cost \$475,515



## **Total Requested Budget**

<b>Total 2025 Requested</b>	\$13,146,665
New Operational Request	\$475,515

