

# County Manager's Proposed FY 2027 Budget

## Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney

*County Board Work Session*  
*April 7, 2026 | 3:00 p.m.*



# Department Overview

The Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for Arlington County and the City of Falls Church works on behalf of victims, defendants, and all the members of our community for a more accurate and just criminal legal system.

We strive to incorporate data - driven practices to inform our policies, while also seeking restoration by engaging with victims of crime and the community to repair harm.



# Focus on Equity

- **Prosecuting Crime Accurately and Fairly:** Setting policy and priorities in order to focus on serious crimes, victims, and rational prosecution decisions.
- **Working for Justice:** Upholding the rights of defendants and victims, protecting vulnerable members of the community, and supporting diversion and alternative programs such as drug and mental health courts and restorative justice.
- **Fighting for reform:** Transformative Justice through a holistic view that includes community engagement, public education, transparency, and advocacy.

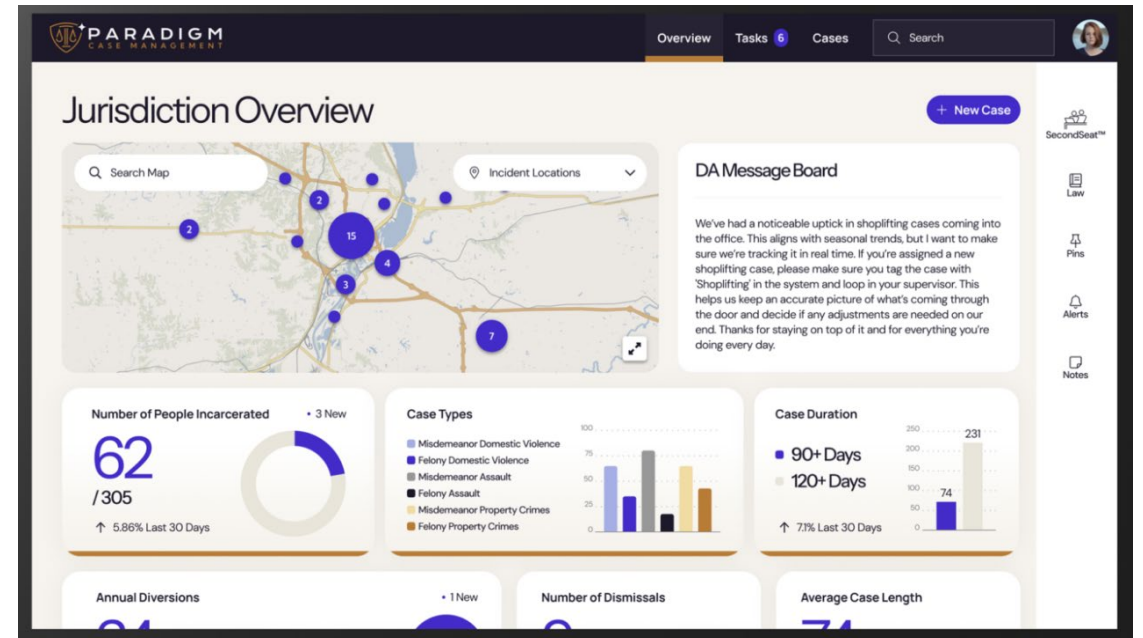
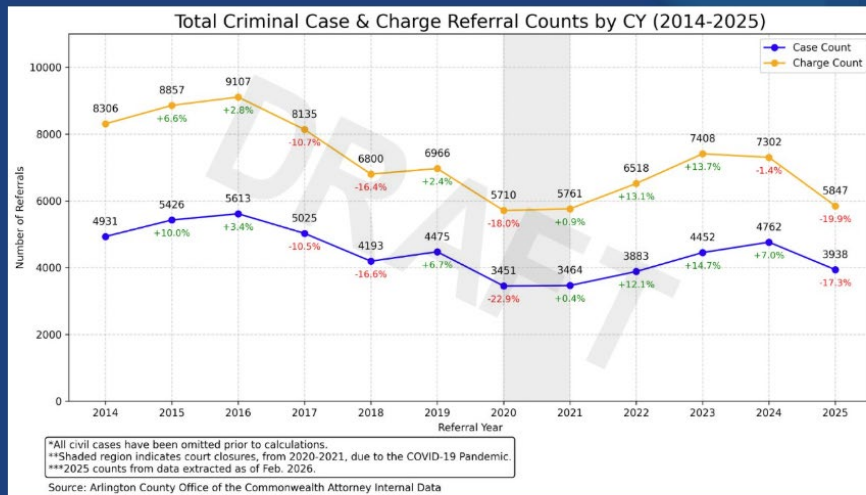


# Measures of Justice: Transparency

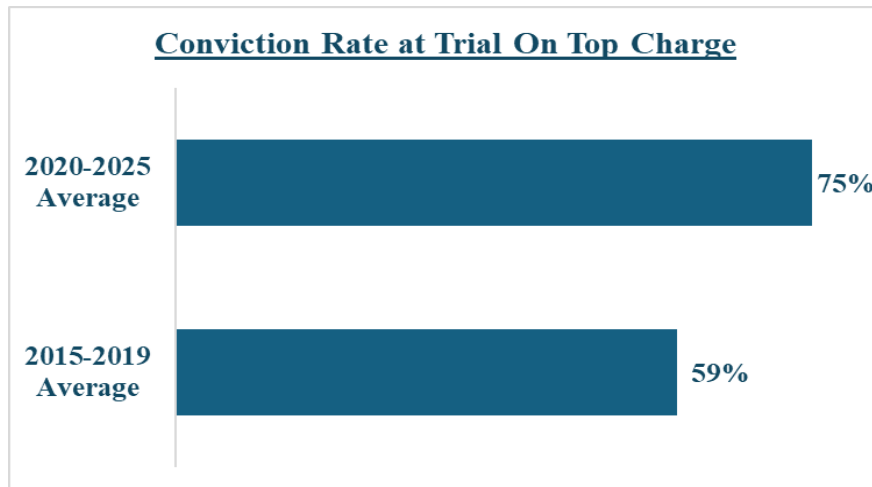
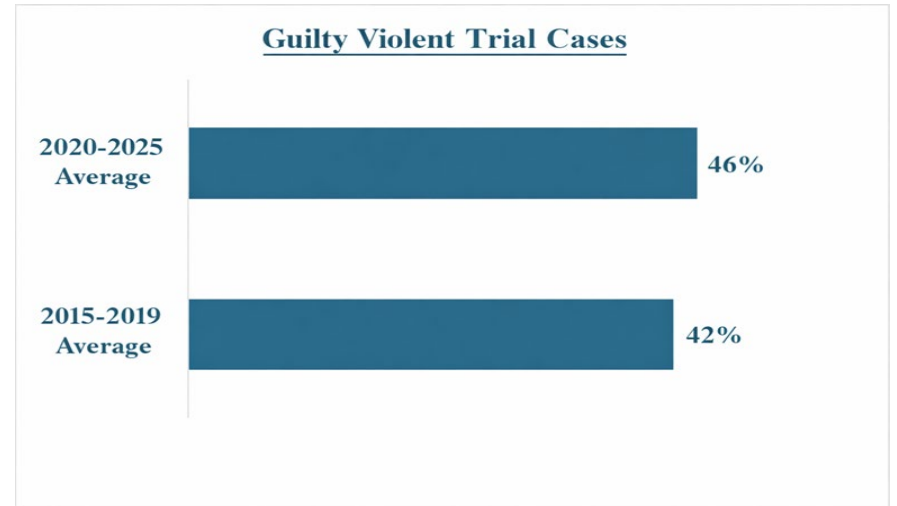
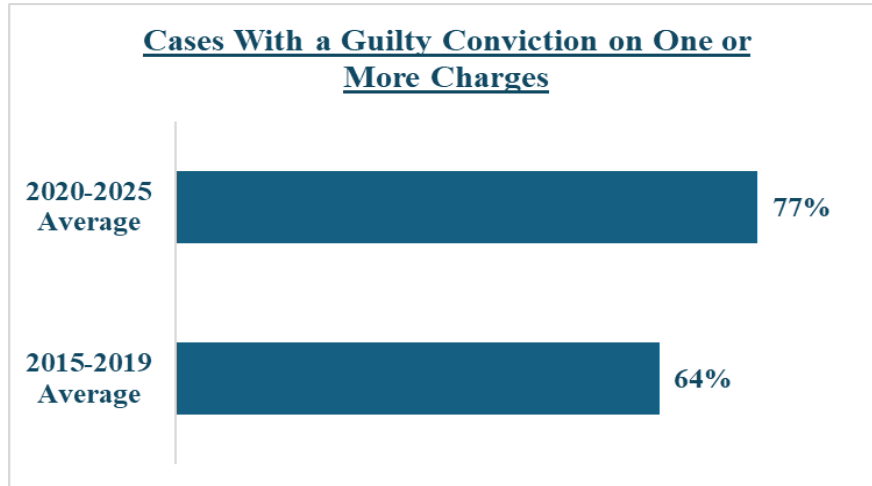
- Hosting a Data Walk in May 2026 to present community with accurate measures of our work.
- Transitioning to new case management system which will increase our ability to collect and share accurate data.

## CASE and CHARGES TREND

This line graph demonstrates the trend of total cases and charges per year from 2014 to 2025, including the growth/decay rate in percent from the year previous.

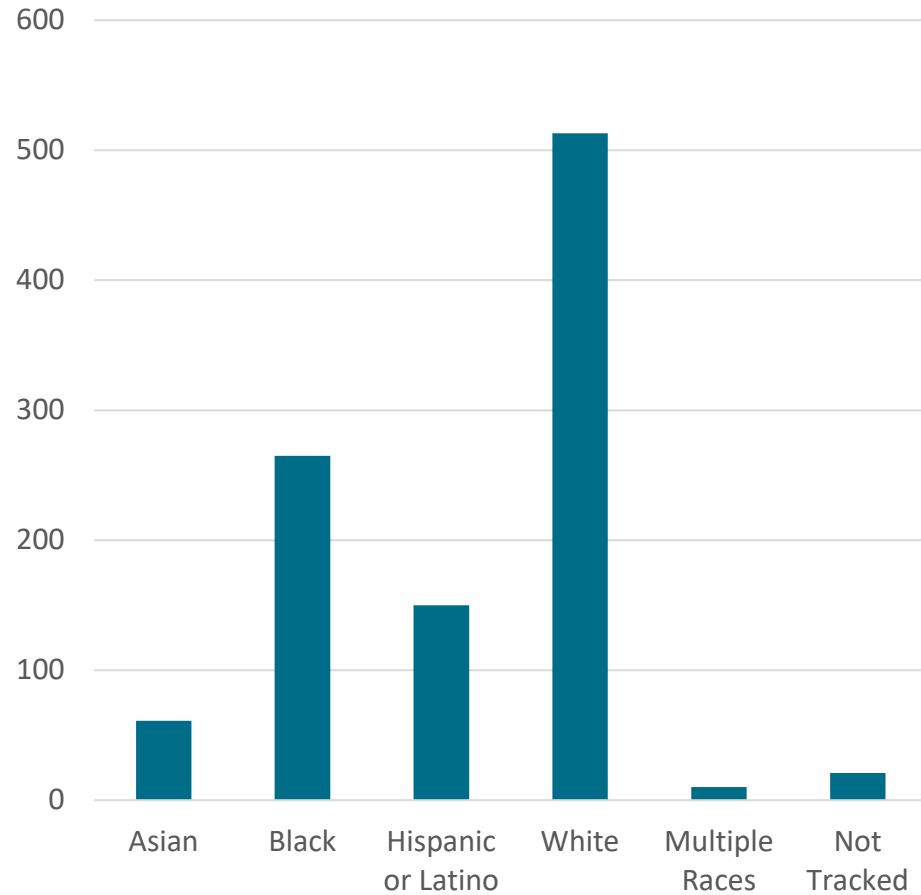


# Measures of Justice: Trials

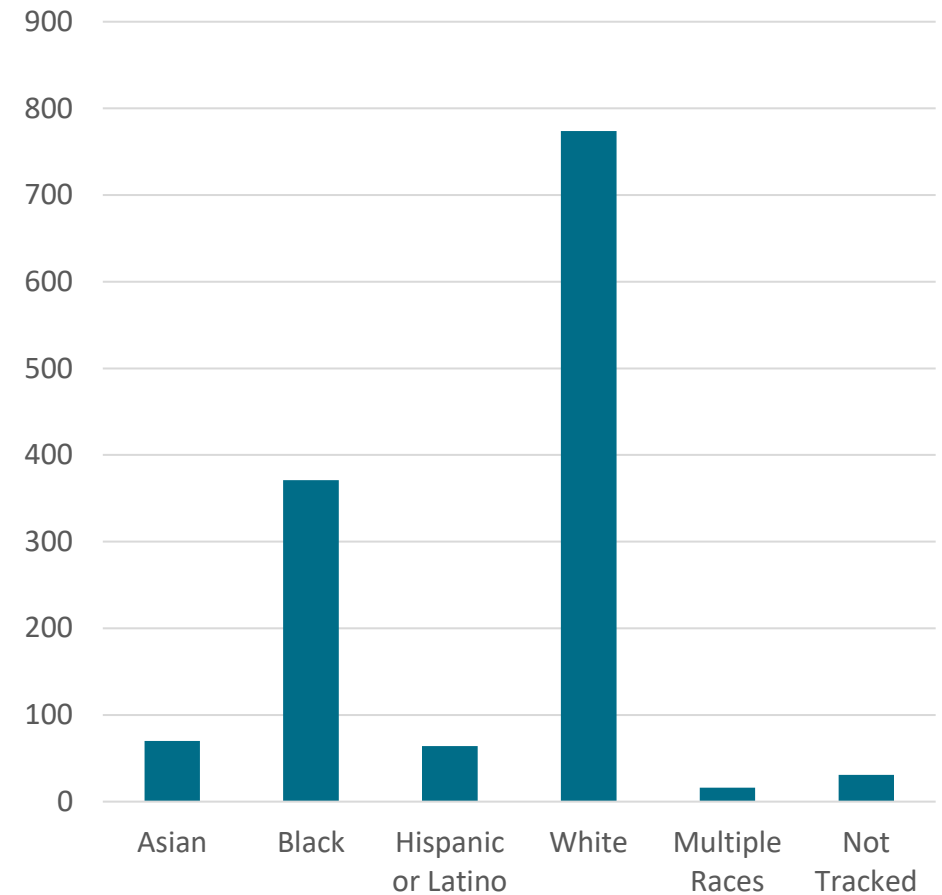


# Focus on Victims

1,090 New Victims Served in 2024



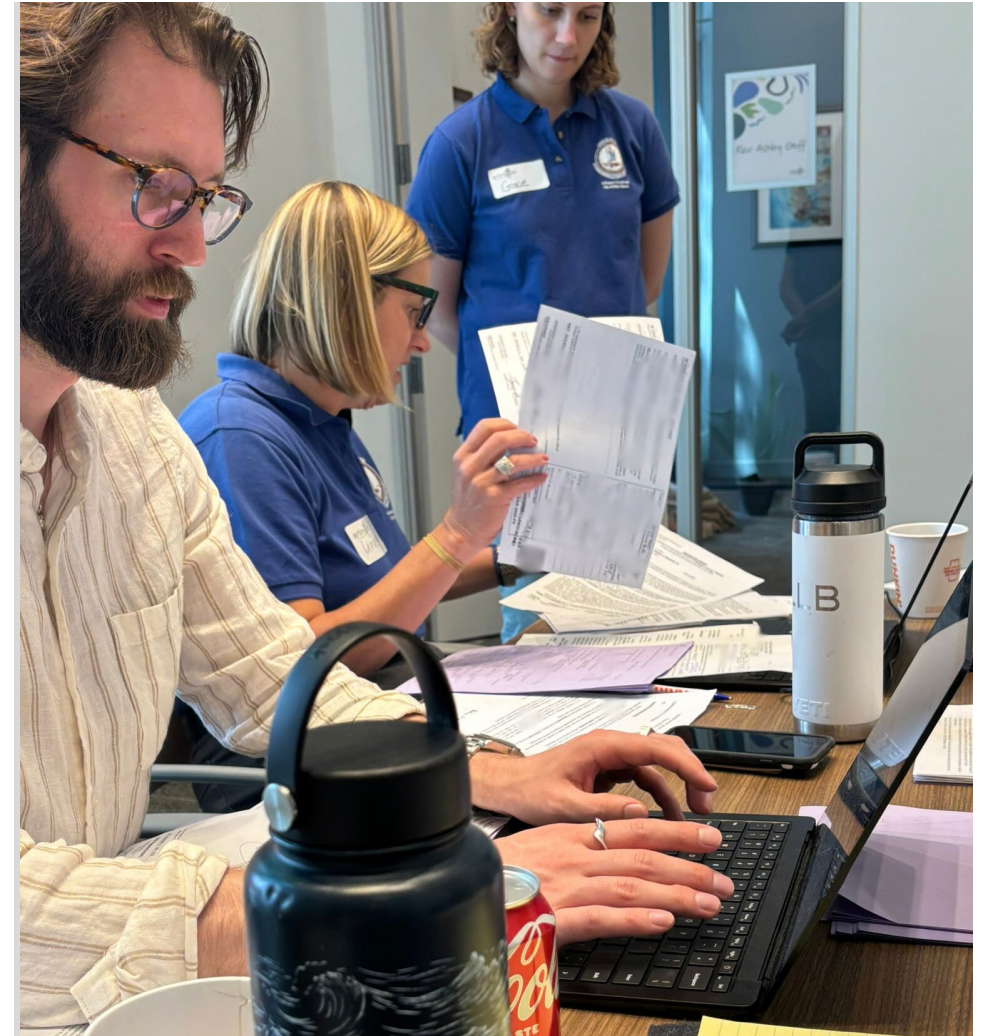
1,326 New Victims Served in 2025



\*All victims receive support, independent of charging decisions.

# Measures of Justice: Conviction Integrity

- Hosting biannual **Expungement Clinics**
- Assisting victims of **identity theft** with correcting their criminal records
- Past and future conviction **integrity**
- Addressing **Police Misconduct**



# Measures of Justice: Diversion

## Restorative Justice: Heart of Safety Partnership with Restorative Arlington

- 225% growth in referrals from 2023 to 2025.
- Addressing racial disparities
- Funding and capacity challenges
- Restorative Arlington – increased referrals require more capacity

## Rehabilitation: Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR)

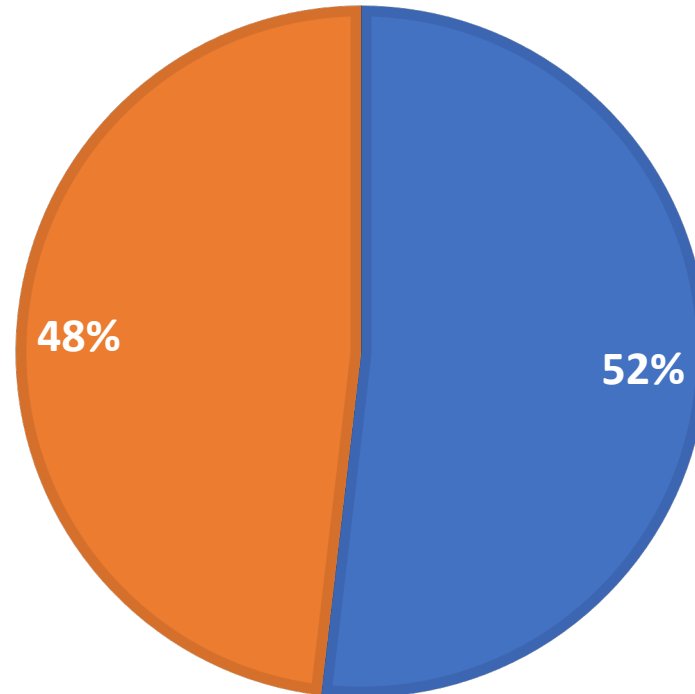
- Began work under the 5-year, \$1 million DOJ grant.
- 125 total participants from 2024-2025; Currently 35 participants.
- Wrap-around, intensive support for high system utilizers.



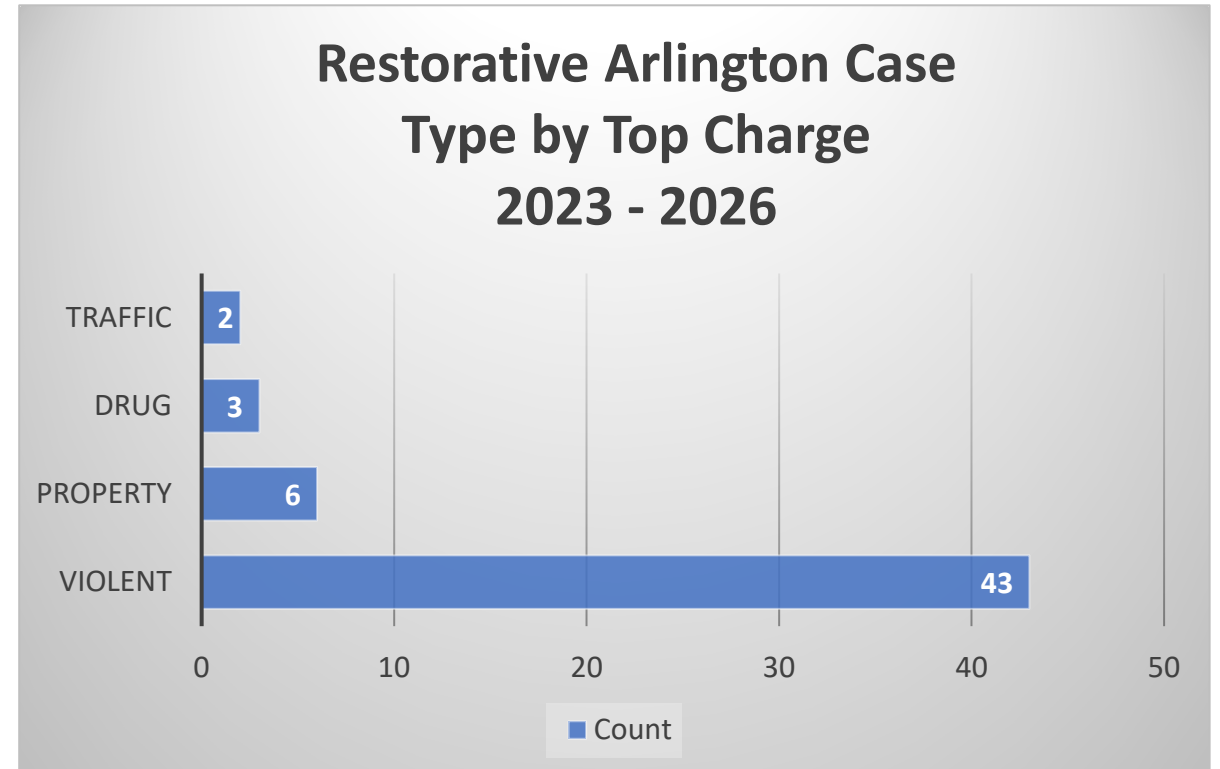
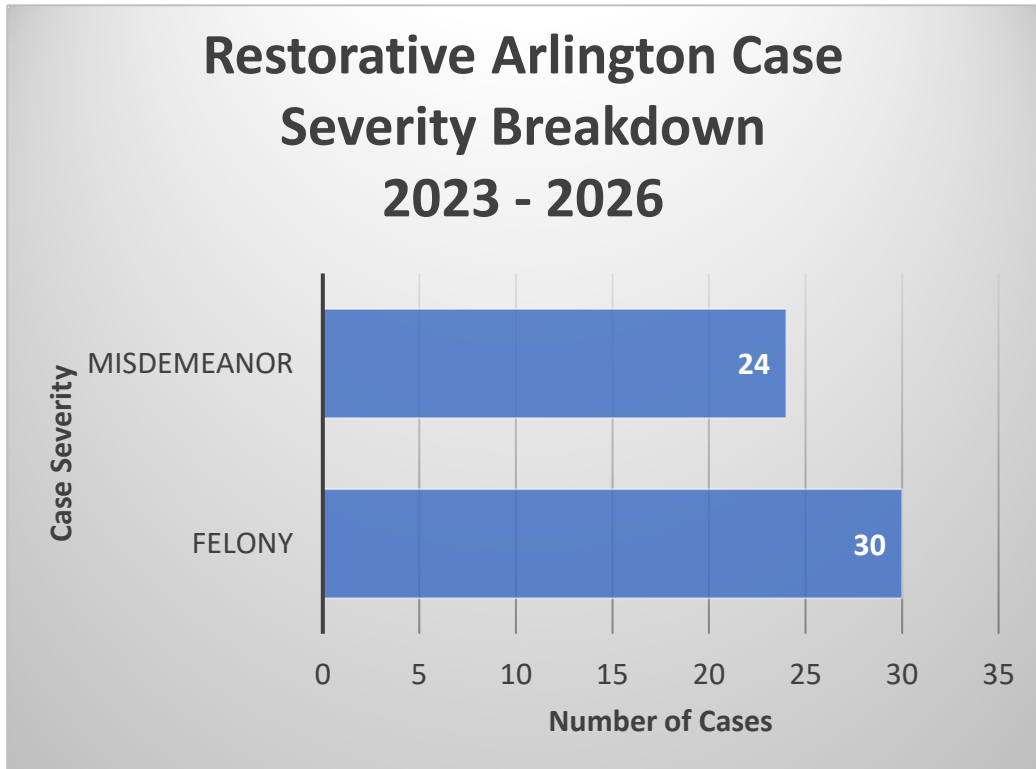
# Approximately Equal Share of Juvenile and Adult Defendants Participate in Restorative Arlington

RESTORATIVE ARLINGTON REFERRALS BY DEFENDANT AGE  
2023 - 2026

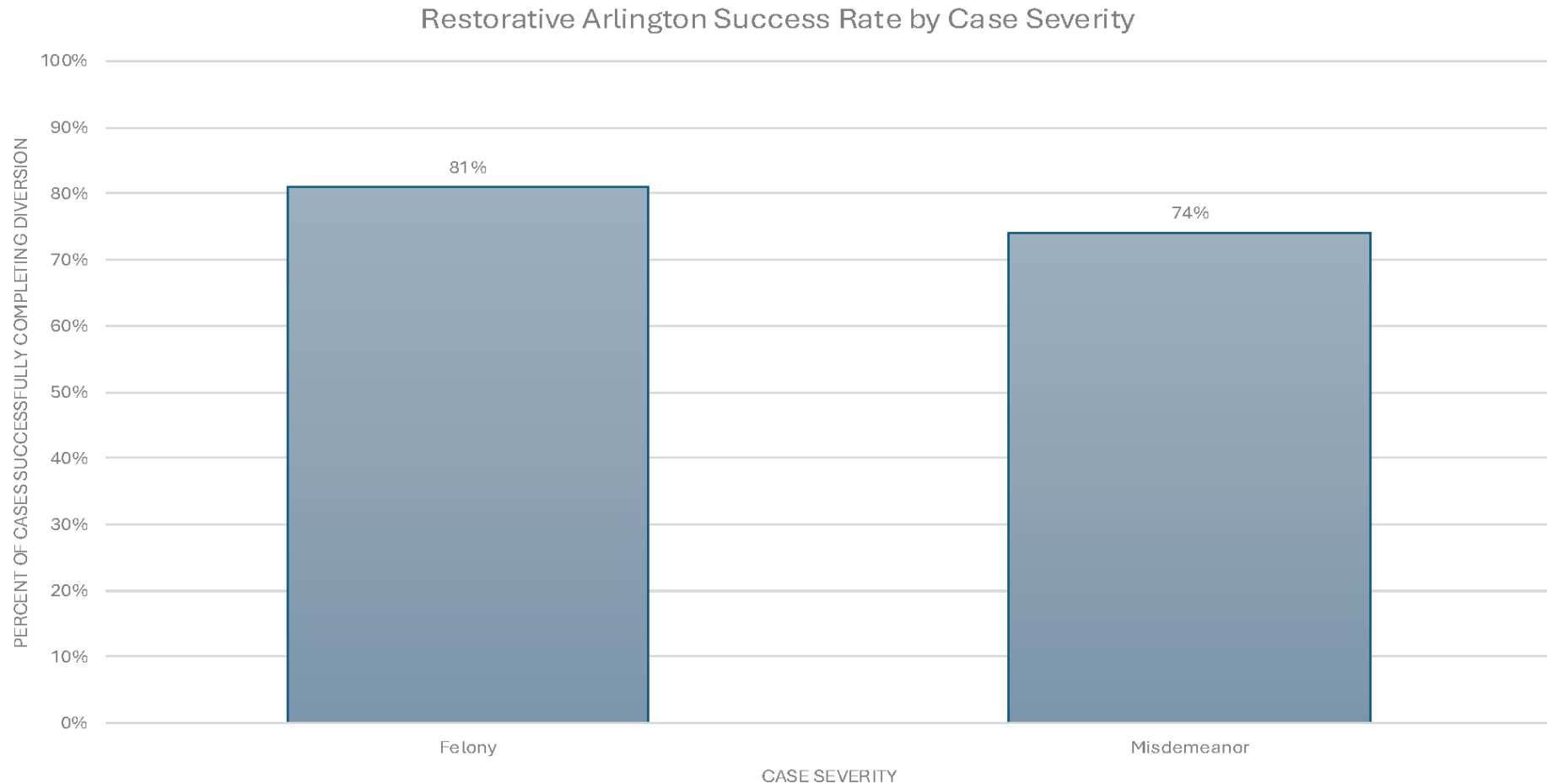
■ Adult ■ Juvenile



# Case Severity



# Felony Cases Have A Roughly Equal or Slightly Higher Success Rate Than Felony Cases in Restorative Arlington



# Restorative Justice from the Survivor Perspective

100% of persons harmed reported the following in exit Surveys:

- Restorative Plan **reflected their needs**
- Would **recommend** the RCC program to a loved one
- Believed that person responsible **understood the impact** of their actions on their life.
- RJ Facilitators **prepared** them for conference.
- Gained a **sense of relief** through participating in the process.
- It was **meaningful** to talk directly with the person responsible about the harm they caused
- RJ Facilitators were **trustworthy**, and genuinely **supportive** in finding ways to meet their needs.
- The other participants **really listened** during the RJ Conference
- **Felt heard** and that they were treated with respect by RJ Facilitators during the conference, and during the conference



# Summary of Proposed Changes

|          | FY 2026<br>Adopted | FY 2027<br>Proposed | Change     | %<br>Change |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|
| Expenses | \$7,670,044        | \$7,905,911         | +\$235,867 | +3%         |
| Revenue  | \$2,671,111        | \$2,725,242         | +\$54,131  | +2%         |
| Staff    | 49.0 FTEs          | 50.0 FTEs           | +1.0 FTE   |             |

# FY 2027 Budget Highlights

- **Enhancing Transparency and Public Trust:** Make Director of Community Engagement position a permanent FTE (\$139,928), building and maintaining trust for reporting and cooperation, communicating accurate information to the community
- **Restorative Arlington:** Federal grant to Restorative Arlington ended in September 2025, and victims continue to want to pursue restorative justice in cases. Request \$250,000 to contract for Restorative Justice services.
- **Improved Office Function:** Create Paralegal Supervisor position (\$100,000) to supervise expanded paralegal team and right-size responsibilities of office administrator.

# Key Budget Considerations

- Increases in our fixed costs as contracts for critical needs, such as case management software and Evidence.com, are due to expire and prices rise with renewals.
- Reducing costs to the County by diverting people from jail and reducing recidivism.
- Inequity of pay between new ACPD recruits and new attorneys: ACPD new recruit salary starts at \$90,000; attorneys with Bachelors degrees, J.D.s, and licensed to practice law start at \$82,000. Retention and morale problem.

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