

Multnomah County District Attorney's Office Access Attorney's Program



Every community across Multnomah County deserves to be safe and feel safe.

Yet, two years into a public health crisis that has contributed to a tinderbox effect impacting public safety, felt both locally and nationally, many do not. Currently, our communities feel a disconnect with the criminal justice system. Localized, trusted messengers are largely absent from community spaces. We cannot have safety unless we build trust and we cannot build trust without forming relationships. The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office Attorney Access Program (MAAP) is premised on all three.

The MAAP program will:

- Get attorney's out of the courthouse and into community, organized by County District 1-4
- Provide a hands-on resource for neighbors and businesses to address local safety concerns
- Co-locate with community based partners, prioritizing those by and for people of color
- Host and attend local events to identify issues and priorities in the District they serve
- Deploy supplemental attorney resources based on with priority for areas with high concentrations of poverty, communities of color and victims of crime
- Participate in equity and cultural competency training prior to engaging impacted communities to ensure better outcomes
- Ensure MAAP attorneys handle cases within the discrete District that they serve

Fully fund MAAP in 2022

Multnomah County District Attorney Mike Schmidt is requesting \$2,786,568 (16 FTE) to fully fund the MAAPs program which includes eight prosecutors and eight support staff from a victim advocates to data analysts. MAAP would be a first of its kind investment to expand access to attorneys in the community they live in with a focus on criminal justice impacted communities. Fully fund MAAP for a safer, more equitable Multnomah County.