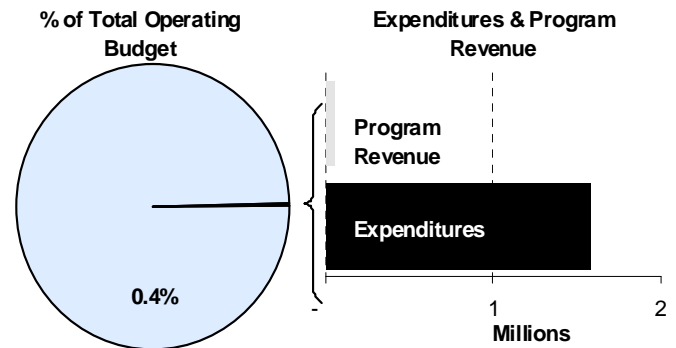
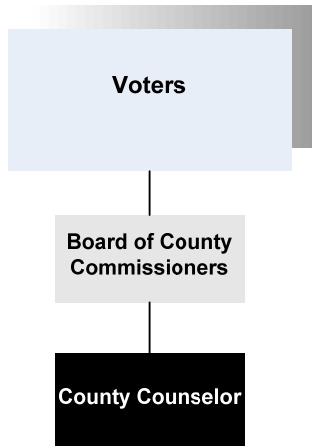




Rich Euson
 Sedgwick County Counselor
 525 N. Main, Suite 359
 Wichita, Kansas 67203
 316-660-9340
reuson@sedgwick.gov

Mission:

- Provide high quality, non-partisan legal services to the County Commissioners, elected and appointed officials, departments and advisory boards.



Program Information

As set out in Sedgwick County Charter Resolution Number 46, the County Counselor provides legal advice and representation to the Board of County Commissioners, County elected and appointed officials, County management and advisory boards on civil matters affecting the County and Fire District 1. Services include drafting and reviewing resolutions, contracts and other legal documents, giving advice and rendering opinions as requested, and prosecuting and defending the County’s interests before State and Federal courts and administrative agencies. The County Counselor provides similar services to the Wichita Area Technical College (WATC) and its governing body.

The County Counselor also represents the County in administrative hearings before the Kansas Court of Tax Appeals (COTA), which is set out in Kansas Administrative Regulation 94-2-10. This Administrative Regulation also states the procedures that must be followed by the County Counselor when representing the County Appraiser and/or the County Treasurer in all

ad valorem valuation and tax matters being heard by COTA. In doing so, the Counselor defends not only the County’s own ad valorem values, but all of the taxing jurisdictions within the County. In the past these cases were handled in an informal manner, but the process has become more formalized, requiring additional time and resources from the County Counselor’s Office.

The County Counselor also prosecutes violations of all County resolutions in County Court, which is prescribed in Kansas Statutes 19-4701 through 19-4739. These violations include code enforcement and nuisance citations, traffic infractions, or misdemeanors committed within unincorporated areas of Sedgwick County.

County Court enforces violations issued by the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (JIAC) to parents who failed to pick up their children from JIAC. County Court also handles citations for illegal dumping and trespassing in the “Big Ditch” area. For convenience, fines may be paid online on the County website www.sedgwickcounty.org under County Fine Violation Payment Center.



Department Sustainability Initiatives

The County Counselor’s Office promotes and supports the creation of wealth and employment opportunities in our region by providing legal services to the aforementioned clients. These services come into play in many areas of economic development and grant applications being submitted by the County. In turn, the County Counselor’s Office assists the organization in sustaining and developing resources both internally and externally.

Work is also being undertaken to mitigate the Department’s impact on the environment. The Department actively recycles paper and aluminum cans, and reuses paper and other office supplies when possible. Recycled toner cartridges are purchased and are in turn recycled. The County Counselor’s Office also carools when feasible and is working to cut down on mileage by performing business by other means when possible.

The County Counselor’s Office is intricately involved in ensuring that services and assistance are provided in a fair and equitable manner. Specifically, the County Counselor’s Office routinely trains County supervisors on County policies and local and federal laws that support diversity, anti-discriminatory practices and other processes intended to provide access to all citizens.

To ensure the financial and institutional viability of the organization, the County Counselor’s Office uses internal resources for litigation when possible. The Office also provides training to departments on legal issues that affect the organization’s day-to-day and long term operations, in an effort to avoid wrong-doing and potential litigation. For example, training is conducted for detention recruits, commissioned deputies, and reserve officers on civil liability and use of force, as well as training commissioned deputies on adult entertainment regulations on a routine basis. Training is

also provided to the appraisers on property tax law and new security officers in writing citations as needed. Overall, these trainings and efficient work methods conserve resources for the County.

Department Accomplishments

In 2010, through the prudent use of settlement negotiations, mediations, administrative hearings, and bench and jury trials, the County Counselor’s Office was able to dispose of 12 lawsuits, six KHRC/EEOC/HUD matters, and four 12-105b claims, as well as assisting with the disposition of five cases handled by outside counsel and several matters handled through Risk Management. In addition, one habeas corpus case was dismissed and 370 economic units were concluded before the Court of Tax Appeals.

Staff members within the County Counselor’s Office were nominated to and recognized by professional associations, including the Wichita Bar Association and Wichita Area Chapter of Association of Legal Administrators. Staff also contributed an article to the Journal of the Kansas Bar Association.

Budget Adjustments

Changes to the County Counselor’s 2012 budget reflect a 7.3 percent decline in expenditures due primarily to reductions in contractual services for outside legal professional services. Due to decreased Sedgwick County Court fines and successful efforts to collect past-due payments, revenues reflect a 48.5 percent decline to \$48,144 in 2012.

Alignment with County Values

- **Commitment -**
The County Counselor and staff are individually and collectively dedicated to their jobs and the organization in providing quality services to meet client/customer needs
- **Professionalism-**
The County Counselor’s Office is a professional office and promotes the same through honesty, respect and pride in its work product, adhering to a high standard of ethical conduct and competence

Goals & Initiatives

- **Assist County departments and leadership by prevention and avoidance of legal claims**
- **Render sound legal advice in a prompt and responsive manner**
- **Provide training to County Officers and Managers**

Significant Adjustments From Previous Budget Year

	Expenditures	Revenue	FTEs
• Reduction in contractuals including outside legal professional services	(117,400)		
• Increase in commodities including equipment and supplies	14,050		
• Reduction in other revenue due to decreased collections of past-due Sedgwick County Court fines		(45,354)	
Total	(103,350)	(45,354)	-

Budget Summary by Category

Budget Summary by Fund

	2011			2012		2011	2012	
	Actual	Adopted	Revised	Budget	% Chg. '11-'12		Revised	Budget
Expenditures								
Personnel	1,225,906	1,283,172	1,307,941	1,287,243	-1.6%	General Fund-110		
Contractual Services	445,288	398,620	396,938	279,538	-29.6%			
Debt Service	-	-	-	-				
Commodities	8,285	5,850	5,850	19,900	240.2%			
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-				
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-				
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-				
Total Expenditures	1,679,479	1,687,642	1,710,729	1,586,681	-7.3%	Total Expenditures	1,710,729	1,586,681
Revenue								
Taxes	-	-	-	-				
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-				
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-				
Other Revenue	59,558	93,498	93,498	48,144	-48.5%			
Total Revenue	59,558	93,498	93,498	48,144	-48.5%			
Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs)	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	0.0%			

Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	Expenditures				2012 % Chg. '11-'12	Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs)		
		2010 Actual	2011 Adopted	2011 Revised	2012 Budget		2011 Adopted	2011 Revised	2012 Budget
Counselor's Office	110	121,510	129,127	131,388	129,945	-1.1%	2.10	2.10	2.10
General Legal Services	110	1,430,216	1,320,623	1,339,176	1,218,370	-9.0%	10.60	10.60	10.60
Sedgwick County Court	110	127,753	137,892	140,165	138,366	-1.3%	2.80	2.80	2.80
Ext. Counsel Contingency	110	-	100,000	100,000	100,000	0.0%	-	-	-
Total		1,679,479	1,687,642	1,710,729	1,586,681	-7.3%	15.50	15.50	15.50



Personnel Summary by Fund

Position Title(s)	Fund	Band	Budgeted Personnel Costs			Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
			2011 Adopted	2011 Revised	2012 Budget	2011 Adopted	2011 Revised	2012 Budget	
Judge Pro Tem	110	EX FLAT	14,400	-	14,400	0.50	0.50	0.50	
County Counselor	110	B534	130,596	133,190	128,257	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Deputy County Counselor	110	B532	103,817	105,958	102,034	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Assistant County Counselor	110	B431	108,406	110,635	106,538	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Chief Attorney	110	B429	352,452	359,736	346,413	4.00	4.00	4.00	
Senior Attorney	110	B327	63,791	65,111	62,700	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Administrative Officer	110	B321	40,271	41,104	39,582	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Administrative Assistant	110	B218	138,285	140,769	135,556	4.00	4.00	4.00	
Office Specialist	110	B115	50,834	51,624	49,712	2.00	2.00	2.00	
Subtotal					985,192		15.50	15.50	15.50
Add:									
Budgeted Personnel Savings (Turnover)					-				
Compensation Adjustments					-				
Overtime/On Call/Holiday Pay					7,201				
Benefits					294,850				
Total Personnel Budget*					1,287,243				

* The 2011 personnel budget accommodates one additional payroll posting period. The budget is not reflective of an individual employee's annual salary due to the timing variance between the posting of payroll and the employee's receipt of compensation.



• Counselor's Office

Administration in the County Counselor's Office is responsible for all aspects of Counselor's operations shared in common, such as management, budgeting, purchasing and reception for the department.

Fund(s): General Fund 110

63001-110

	2010 Actual	2011 Adopted	2011 Revised	2012 Budget	% Chg. '11-'12
Expenditures					
Personnel	118,846	124,977	127,238	126,595	-0.5%
Contractual Services	2,577	4,050	4,050	3,250	-19.8%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	87	100	100	100	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	
Total Expenditures	121,510	129,127	131,388	129,945	-1.1%
Revenue					
Taxes	-	-	-	-	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	
Other Revenue	3	-	-	-	
Total Revenue	3	-	-	-	
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	0.0%

Goal(s):

- Assist County by prevention and avoidance of legal claims
- Render sound legal advice in a prompt and responsive manner

• General Legal Services

The County Counselor provides in-house legal services to the Board of County Commissioners, elected and appointed officials, and advisory boards. Services include advising with oral and written legal opinions, representation in legal proceedings and the review and preparation of contracts, resolutions, policies and procedures and mitigation of all cases of liability against the County, including claims originating from the County jail. Primarily supported by County revenues, nearly half of the budget authority funds legal professional services (funding set aside for payment to attorneys hired to handle special situations) and case settlement.

Fund(s): General Fund 110

63003-110

	2010 Actual	2011 Adopted	2011 Revised	2012 Budget	% Chg. '11-'12
Expenditures					
Personnel	984,148	1,027,513	1,047,748	1,028,042	-1.9%
Contractual Services	438,793	288,860	287,178	171,678	-40.2%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	7,274	4,250	4,250	18,650	338.8%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	
Total Expenditures	1,430,216	1,320,623	1,339,176	1,218,370	-9.0%
Revenue					
Taxes	-	-	-	-	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	
Other Revenue	20	365	365	21	-94.2%
Total Revenue	20	365	365	21	-94.2%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	0.0%

Goal(s):

- Assist County by prevention and avoidance of legal claims
- Render sound legal advice in a prompt and responsive manner



• Sedgwick County Court

County Court is authorized by K.S.A. 19-101(d) and was created to enforce County Codes and resolutions through the criminal prosecution of violators. It was created by BoCC resolution in 1991, when it handled only Animal Control cases. Since its creation, more “enforcing” departments have become aware of its functional authority and have begun to seek prosecution for violations of the County Code. The County Counselor is responsible for prosecution of all cases filed in County Court.

Fund(s): General Fund 110

63004-110

	2010	2011	2011	2012	% Chg.
	Actual	Adopted	Revised	Budget	'11-'12
Expenditures					
Personnel	122,912	130,682	132,955	132,606	-0.3%
Contractual Services	3,918	5,710	5,710	4,610	-19.3%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	924	1,500	1,500	1,150	-23.3%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	
Total Expenditures	127,753	137,892	140,165	138,366	-1.3%
Revenue					
Taxes	-	-	-	-	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	
Other Revenue	59,535	93,133	93,133	48,123	-48.3%
Total Revenue	59,535	93,133	93,133	48,123	-48.3%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	0.0%

Goal(s):

- Provide and oversee an effective County Court system that prosecutes and adjudicates violations of County codes and resolutions

• External Counsel Contingency

The external counsel contingency provides budget authority for legal professional services, primarily for payment to attorneys engaged to represent the County in lawsuits and situations requiring special expertise.

Fund(s): General Fund 110

63005-110

	2010	2011	2011	2012	% Chg.
	Actual	Adopted	Revised	Budget	'11-'12
Expenditures					
Personnel	-	-	-	-	
Contractual Services	-	100,000	100,000	100,000	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	-	-	-	-	
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	
Total Expenditures	-	100,000	100,000	100,000	0.0%
Revenue					
Taxes	-	-	-	-	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	
Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	
Total Revenue	-	-	-	-	
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	

Goal(s):

- Assist the County in resolution of lawsuits and other matters requiring special expertise

