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Annual Accountability
Report 1995-96

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SC COMMISSION ON INDIGENT DEFENSE

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ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995-1996

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STATE DOCUMENTS

Program: Administration

Program Mission:

The Office of Indigent Defense establishes and monitors programs and services for the delivery of legal representation of indigent defendants in State Court. The office establishes criteria to be used in the determination of indigency and qualifications for services of the offices of Public Defenders and administers appropriate distribution of funding for indigent defense. Additionally, the office establishes and supervises training programs for the Public Defender offices across the State as well as implementing a central reporting system for the accurate compilation of statistical data regarding the operation of Public Defender Offices and serves as a clearing house and distribution source for publications and materials involving indigent criminal defense.

Program Objectives:

- To establish and monitor programs and services for the delivery of legal representation of indigent defendants in State Courts;
- To establish criteria to be used in the determination of indigency and qualifications for services from the offices of Public Defenders;
- To administers appropriate distribution of funding for indigent defense;
- To establish and supervise training programs for the Public Defender offices;
- To implement a central reporting system for the accurate compilation of statistical data regarding the operation of Public Defender Offices;
- To serve as a clearing house and distribution source for publications and materials involving indigent criminal defense.

Performance Measures:

- Compiled and analyzed statistical data relating to costs of capital and non capital cases in this state;
- Distributed \$ 5.3 million to the state's Public Defender offices for operating expenses, \$1.8 million in private attorney fees and for expenses in capital cases, \$1 million in private attorney fees and for expenses in non capital cases, and \$183,000 for transcripts in indigent appeals;
- In conjunction with the SC Public Defender's Association, aided and participated in training programs for the state's Public Defenders;
- Compiled and analyzed statistical data relating to the operation of the state's 39 Public Defender Offices;
- Provided resources and information when requested to the state's Public Defender offices and to private appointed attorneys representing indigent defendants.

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