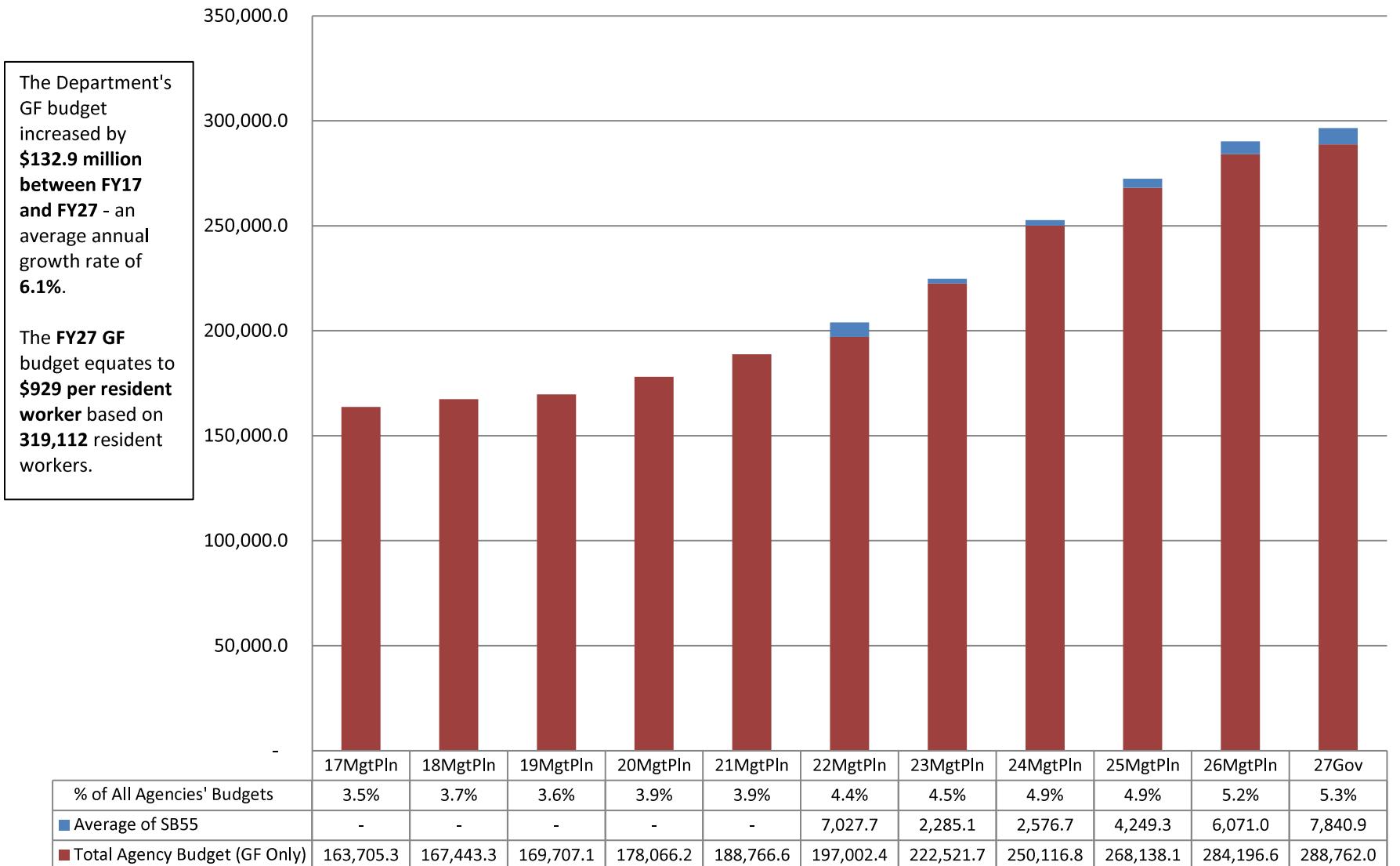


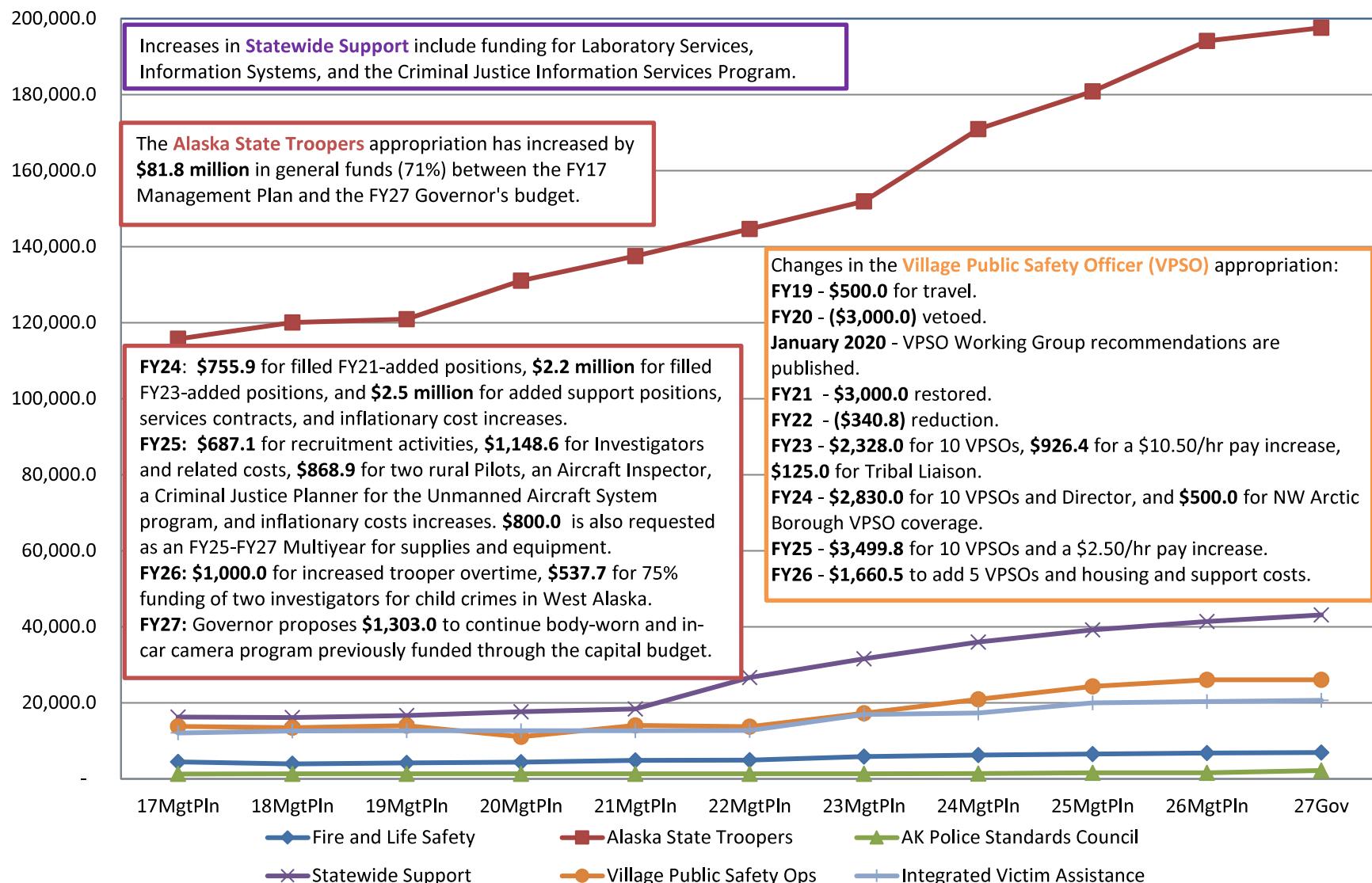
## Department of Public Safety Total General Fund Budget (\$ Thousands)



## Appropriations within the Department of Public Safety

(GF Only)

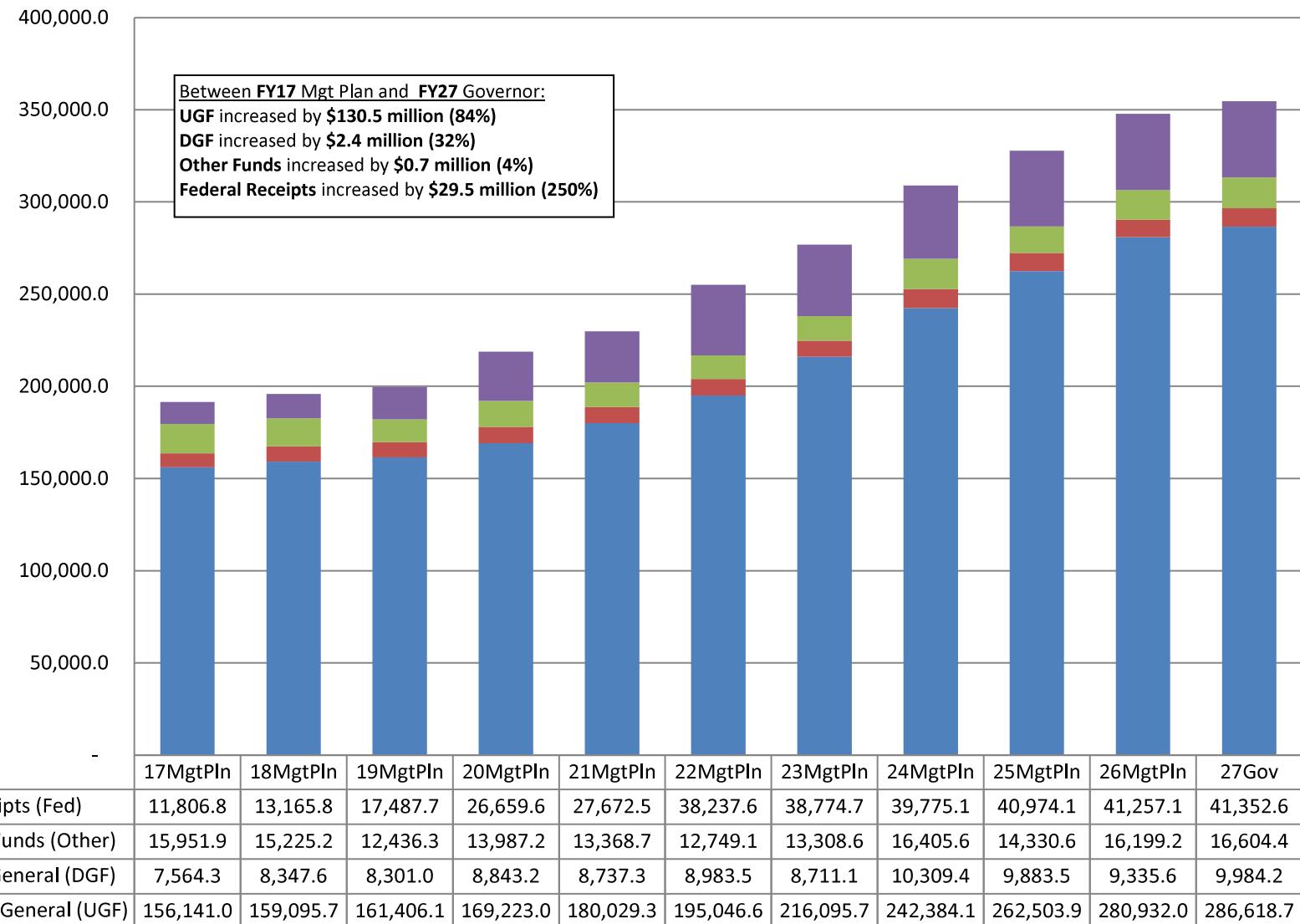
(\$ Thousands)



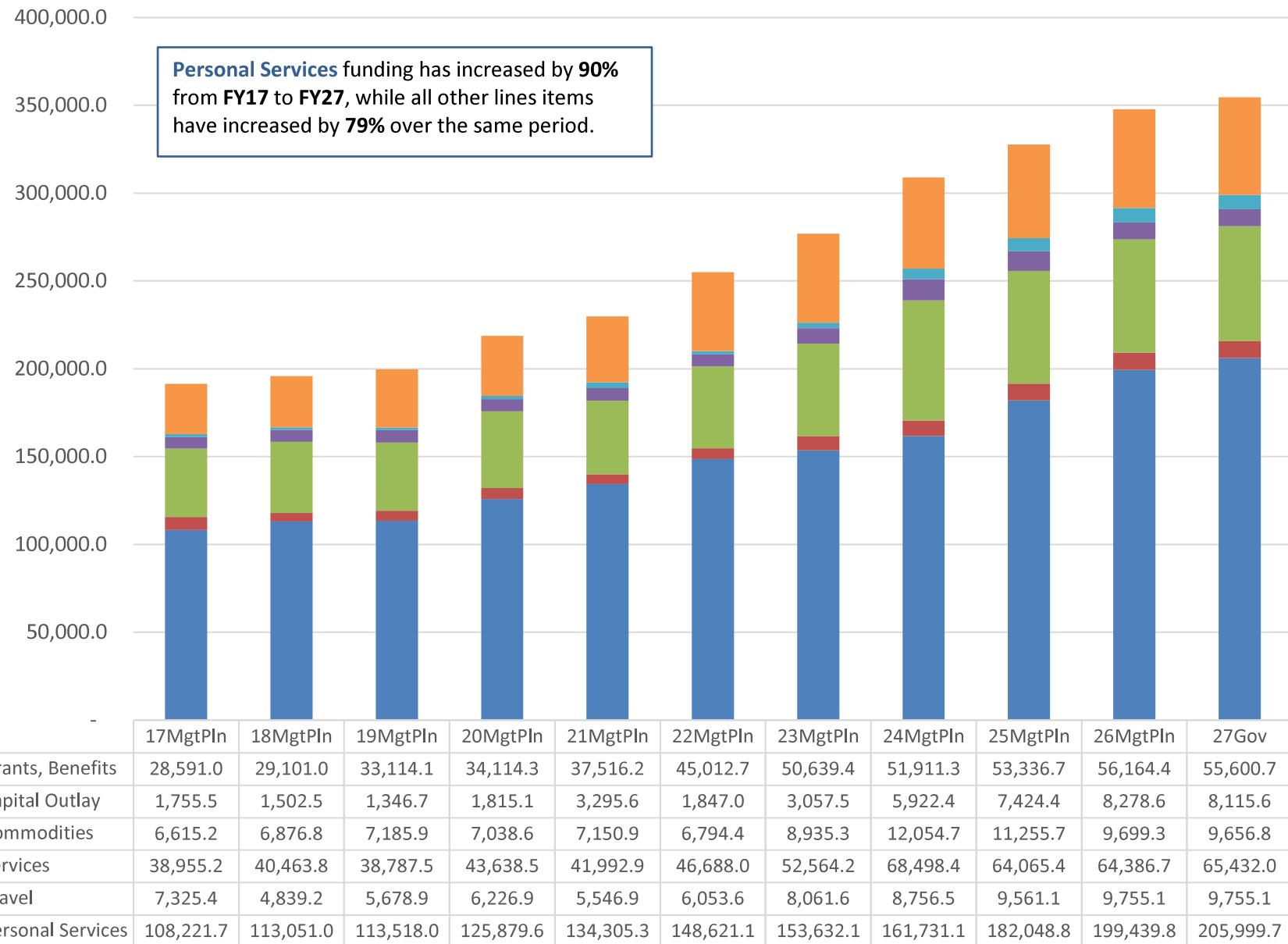
## Department of Public Safety

### Total Funding Comparison by Fund Group

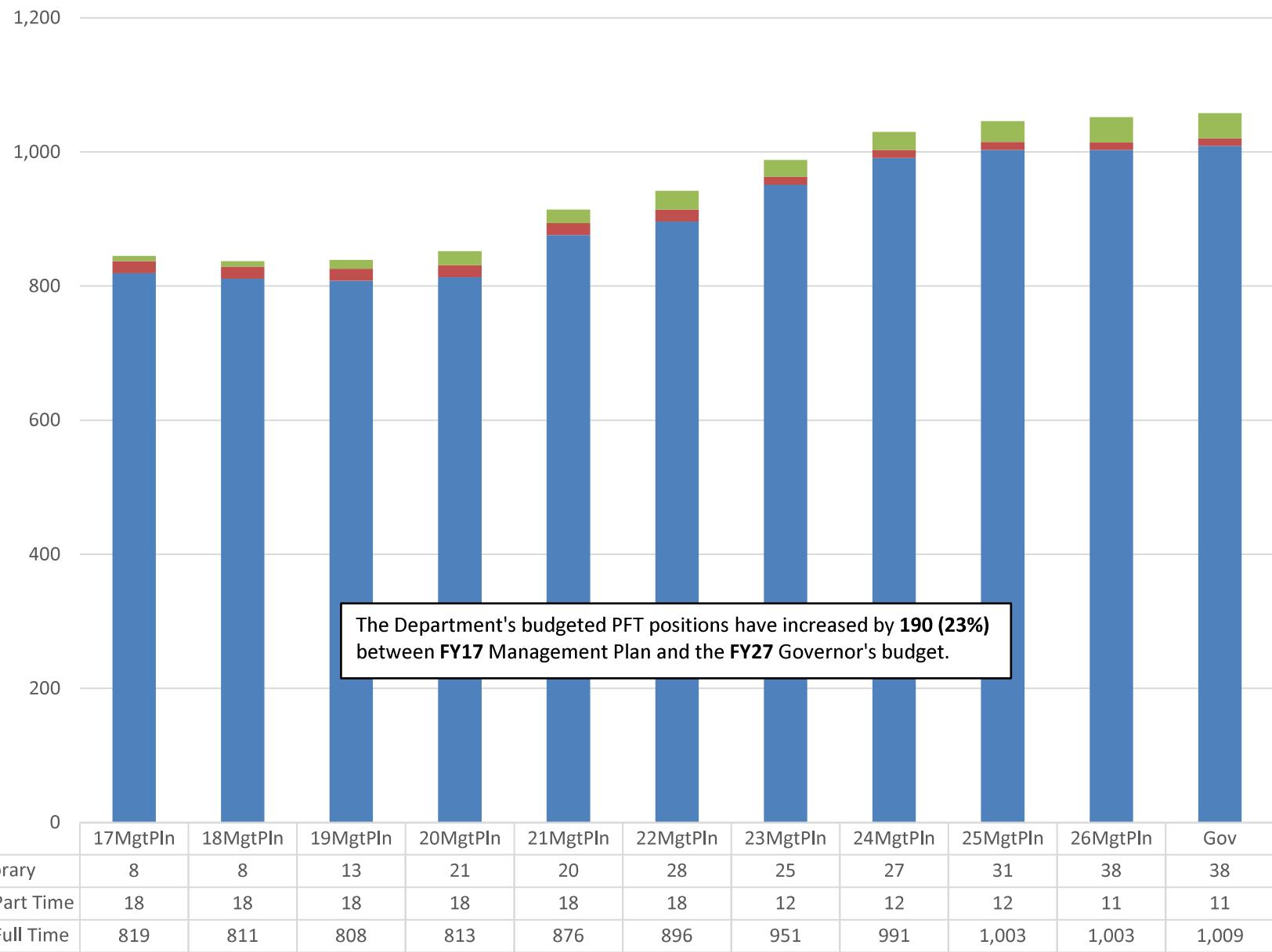
(\$ Thousands)



## Department of Public Safety Budget by Line Item



## Budgeted Positions in the Department of Public Safety



**2026 Legislature - Operating Budget**  
**Transaction Compare - FY27 Governor Structure**  
**Between AdjBase and Gov**

<b>Numbers and Language</b>
<b>Differences</b>
<b>Agencies: DPS</b>

**Agency: Department of Public Safety**

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
<b>Alaska State Troopers</b>													
<b>Alaska State Trooper Detachments</b>													
MH Trust: Increase Crisis Intervention Team and Behavioral Health Training and Programs for First Responders	Gov	IncOTTI	10.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Funding supports Crisis Intervention Team Training, behavioral health training, and wellness programs for the Alaska State Troopers within the Department of Public Safety (DPS). A Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is an innovative, community-based approach to improving the outcomes of these encounters with law enforcement. The CIT reduces arrests of people with mental illness while simultaneously increasing the likelihood that individuals will receive mental health services. The CIT training is important to support the crisis continuum of care. There is a \$10.0 increase this year for new staff to attend conferences out-of-state.													
1092 MHTAAR (Other)	10.0												
Continue Program for Body-Worn and In-Car Camera Operations and Equipment Previously Funded in the Capital Budget	Gov	Inc	1,303.0	0.0	0.0	1,303.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Body-worn and in-car camera systems are critical for documenting law enforcement interactions, preserving evidence, and increasing accountability. These tools enhance officer safety, improve prosecutorial outcomes, and strengthen public trust in law enforcement. Initial deployment was funded through a one-time capital appropriation, but sustained funding is necessary to avoid program interruption, cover equipment maintenance, data storage, vendor services, and small-scale operational gear such as uniforms and digital tools. Without funding, Alaska risks losing these standard tools for transparency and evidentiary documentation. Continuous operation of these systems is essential to meet public expectations, support agency readiness, and maintain standard tools for transparency and evidentiary documentation.													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	1,303.0												
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			<b>1,313.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,313.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Alaska Bureau of Investigation</b>													
Information Technology Classification Study Implementation	Gov	Inc	26.3	26.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Add authority to reflect job classification changes for information technology positions associated with the classification study conducted by the Department of Administration: \$26.3													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	26.3												
Provide Investigative Support to Department of Law in Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Cases	Gov	Inc	1,000.0	1,000.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Increase authority for investigative support to the Department of Law for domestic violence and sexual crimes. This request allows for six (6) long-term non-permanent State Trooper investigators to conduct follow-up investigations to help locate witnesses at the time of court hearings/trials, and in some cases to conduct complete investigation in sensitive matters. Investigators will help in domestic violence and sexual assault cases when prosecutors require additional investigation either to make charging decisions or to assist in trial preparation.													
1007 I/A Rcpts (Other)	1,000.0												
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			<b>1,026.3</b>	<b>1,026.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>** Appropriation Difference **</b>			<b>2,339.3</b>	<b>1,026.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,313.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**2026 Legislature - Operating Budget**  
**Transaction Compare - FY27 Governor Structure**  
**Between AdjBase and Gov**

<b>Numbers and Language</b>
<b>Differences</b>
<b>Agencies: DPS</b>

**Agency: Department of Public Safety**

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
<b>Alaska Police Standards Council</b>													
<b>Alaska Police Standards Council</b>													
Expand Training and Cert. Support for Law Enforcement and Village Police and Renew Training Records System Contract	Gov	Inc	550.0	0.0	0.0	550.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Increase authority to spend existing general fund program receipts on statutory responsibilities related to law enforcement training, certification, and records management. The Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC) administers training stipends, maintains officer certification, and provides standards oversight for police, corrections, probation, and municipal officers across Alaska. The APSC also supports regional and village law enforcement agencies through targeted scholarships and training support. This request includes \$150.0 to expand Village Police Officer (VPO) access to rural training programs such as those offered by Yuut Elitnaurviaq in Bethel, \$150.0 to implement a training records system that reduces administrative burden on agencies and officers, and \$250.0 to expand general training scholarship capacity.													
1005 GF/Prgm (DGF)			550.0										
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			550.0	0.0	0.0	550.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>** Appropriation Difference **</b>			550.0	0.0	0.0	550.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Integrated Victim Assistance</b>													
<b>Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault</b>													
Add General Funds to Replace Reduced Statutory Distribution of Restorative Justice Account Funding	Gov	FndChg	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Reduce Restorative Justice Fund (also known as permanent fund dividend (PFD) criminal funds) authority based on available revenue and replace with unrestricted general funds to maintain operational costs. These funds are available for appropriation due to the number of convicted felons and third time misdemeanants who are ineligible to receive a PFD based on estimates provided by the Department of Revenue, Permanent Fund Dividend Division.													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			169.2										
1171 Rest Just (Other)			-169.2										
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Violent Crimes Compensation Board</b>													
Decrease Authority Due to Reduced Restorative Justice Funds Used to Capitalize Crime Victim Compensation Fund	Gov	Dec	-592.0	-28.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-563.7	0.0	0	0	0
Reduce Restorative Justice Fund (also known as Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) criminal funds) authority based on available revenue. These funds are available for appropriation due to the number of convicted felons and third time misdemeanants who are ineligible to receive a PFD based on estimates provided by the Department of Revenue, Permanent Fund Division.													
1220 Crime VCF (Other)			-592.0										
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			-592.0	-28.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-563.7	0.0	0	0	0
<b>** Appropriation Difference **</b>			-592.0	-28.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-563.7	0.0	0	0	0

**2026 Legislature - Operating Budget**  
**Transaction Compare - FY27 Governor Structure**  
**Between AdjBase and Gov**

<b>Numbers and Language</b>
<b>Differences</b>
<b>Agencies: DPS</b>

**Agency: Department of Public Safety**

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
<b>Statewide Support</b>													
<b>Alaska Public Safety Communication Services (APSCS)</b>													
Information Technology Classification Study Implementation	Gov	Inc	31.7	31.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Add authority to reflect job classification changes for information technology positions associated with the classification study conducted by the Department of Administration: \$31.7													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	31.7												
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			31.7	31.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Information Systems</b>													
Information Technology Classification Study Implementation	Gov	Inc	288.7	288.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Add authority to reflect job classification changes for information technology positions associated with the classification study conducted by the Department of Administration: \$288.7													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	275.8												
1007 I/A Rcpts (Other)	12.9												
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			288.7	288.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Criminal Justice Information Systems Program</b>													
Information Technology Classification Study Implementation	Gov	Inc	27.0	27.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Add authority to reflect job classification changes for information technology positions associated with the classification study conducted by the Department of Administration: \$27.0													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	27.0												
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			27.0	27.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>** Appropriation Difference **</b>			347.4	347.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>*** Agency Difference ***</b>			2,644.7	1,345.4	0.0	1,863.0	0.0	0.0	-563.7	0.0	0	0	0
<b>**** All Agencies Difference ****</b>			2,644.7	1,345.4	0.0	1,863.0	0.0	0.0	-563.7	0.0	0	0	0

## Column Definitions

**AdjBase (FY27 Adjusted Base)** - FY26 Management Plan less One-Time Items (OTIs), plus FY27 Position Adjustments (PosAdjs), Transfers In/Out of allocations (TrIns and TrOuts), Line Item Transfers (LITs), Temporary Increments (IncTs) initiated in prior years, adjustments to formula programs in language, and additions for statewide items such as Salary Adjustments (SalAdjs). The Adjusted Base is the base to which the Governor's and the legislature's Increments (Incs), Decrements (Decs), and Fund Changes (FndChg) are added.

**Gov (FY27 Gov (12/11))** - Includes FY27 Adjusted Base plus the Governor's operating budget requests submitted on December 11, 2025.

## Department of Public Safety

### Mission

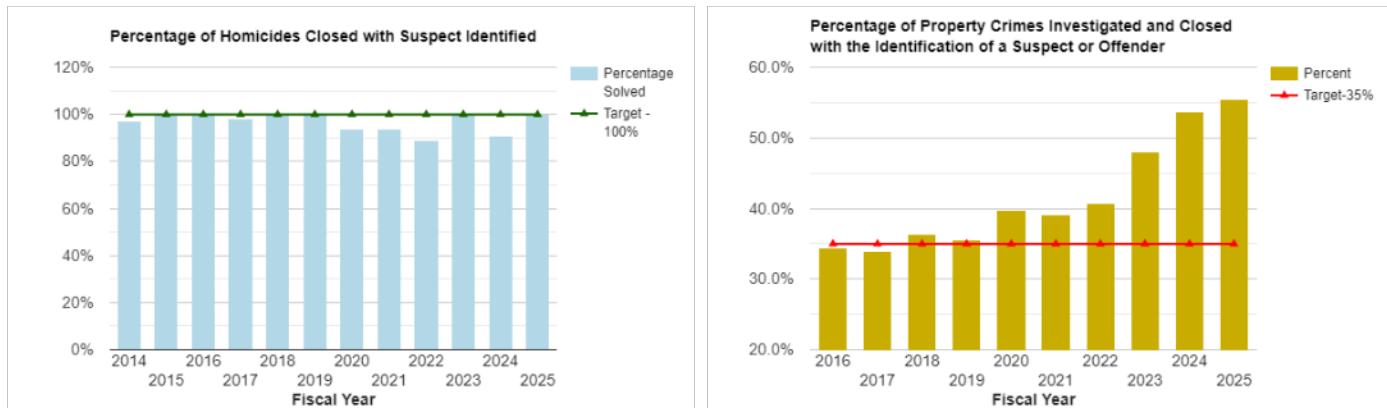
The mission of the Department of Public Safety is to ensure public safety and enforce fish and wildlife laws.

Core Services (in priority order)	UGF	DGF	Other	Fed	Total	PFT	PPT	NP	% GF
1 Law Enforcement Patrol & Investigations	82,527.0	75.0	1,249.5	10,055.1	93,906.6	457.9	0.0	36.0	28.5%
2 Rural Law Enforcement	44,021.5	2,036.0	616.7	3,045.0	49,719.2	10.4	0.0	0.0	15.9%
3 Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Programs	46,930.5	1,617.5	1,106.5	13,985.7	63,640.3	27.4	0.0	0.0	16.7%
4 Statewide Public Safety Programs	57,660.5	5,407.1	10,713.1	12,631.3	86,411.9	332.2	0.0	2.0	21.7%
5 Resource Protection	47,566.1	200.0	769.7	1,520.0	50,055.8	169.4	11.0	0.0	16.5%
6 Highway Safety	2,226.5	0.0	1,743.7	20.0	3,990.2	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.8%
<b>FY2026 Management Plan</b>	<b>280,932.0</b>	<b>9,335.6</b>	<b>16,199.2</b>	<b>41,257.1</b>	<b>347,723.9</b>	<b>1,003.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>38.0</b>	

### Measures by Core Service

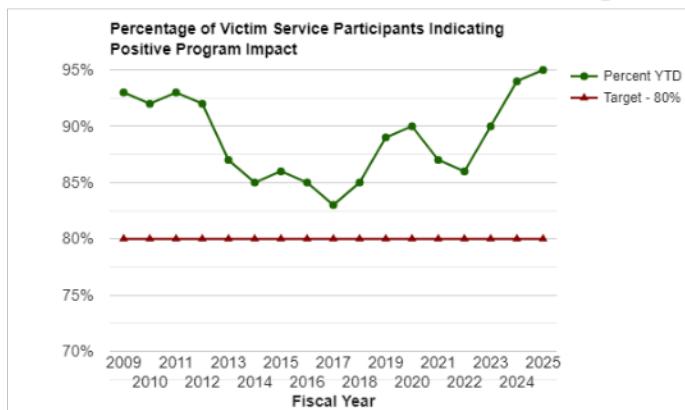
(Additional performance information is available on the web at <https://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

#### 1. Law Enforcement Patrol & Investigations

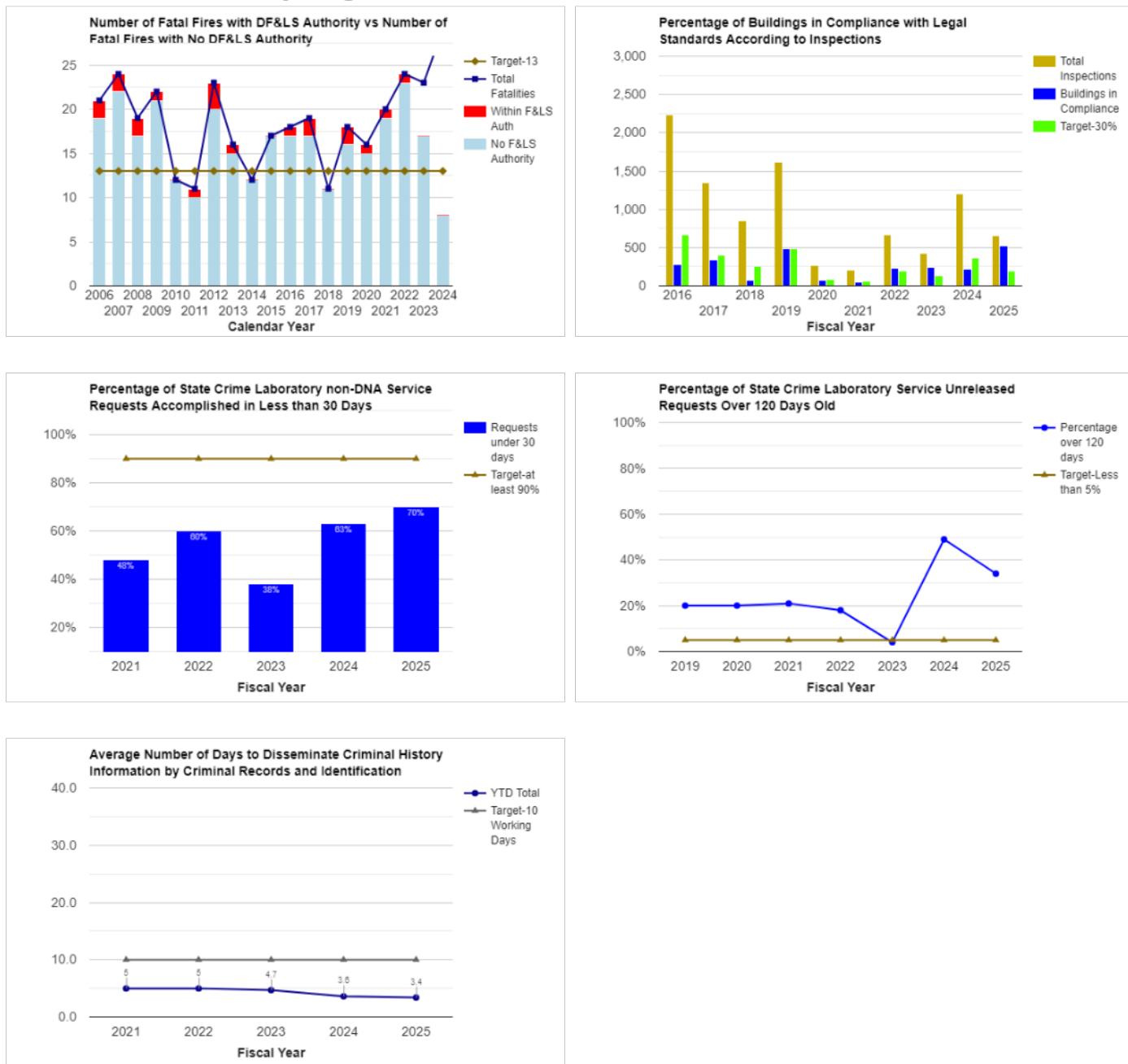


#### 2. Rural Law Enforcement

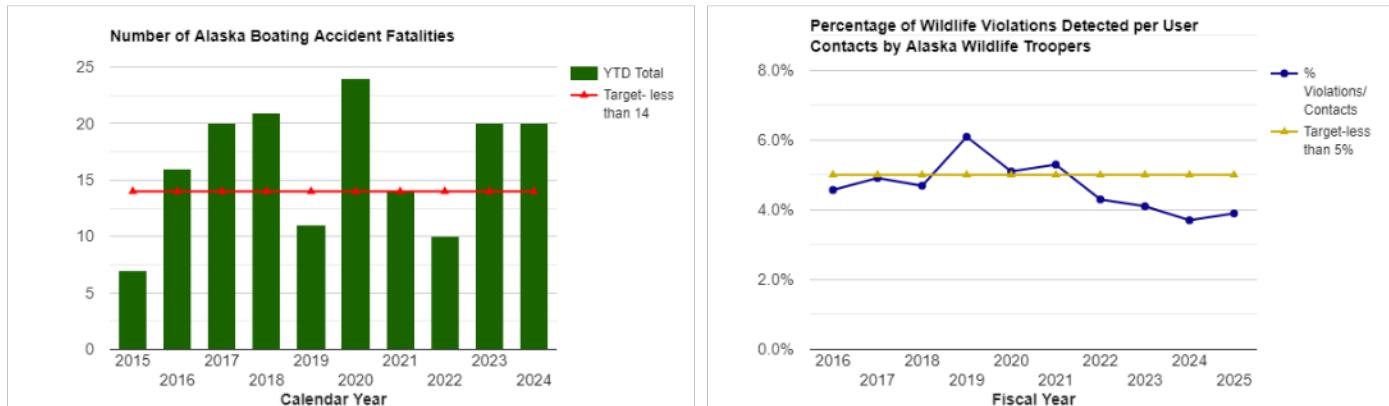
#### 3. Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Programs



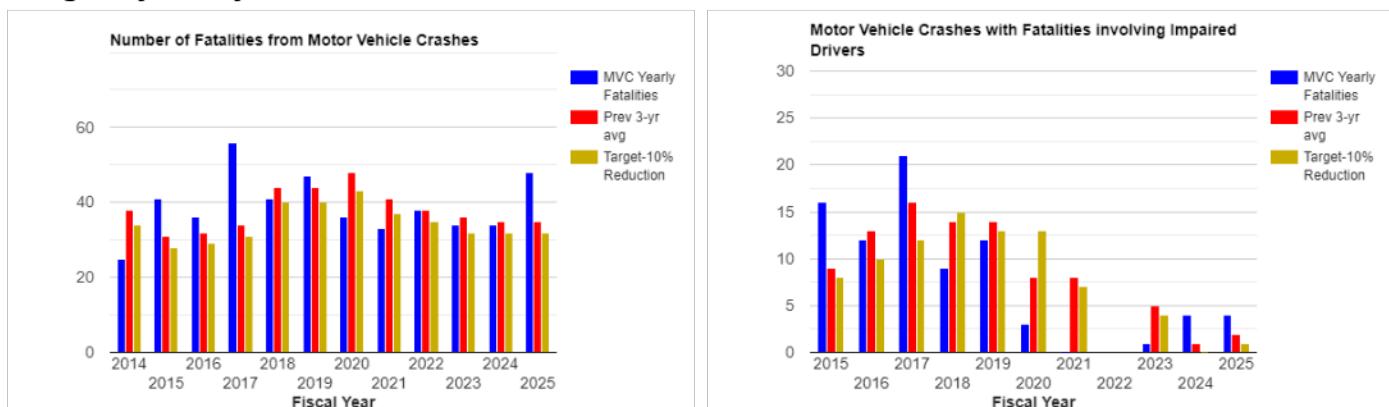
## 4. Statewide Public Safety Programs



## 5. Resource Protection



## 6. Highway Safety



## Major Department Accomplishments in 2025

### Law Enforcement Patrol and Investigations:

The Alaska State Troopers (AST) sustained high operational readiness across every region, improving data systems, training, and wellness support which strengthens response and public trust. The AST hired 45 trooper recruits and 10 Court Services Officers, increasing academy classes and stabilizing staffing. The Alaska Bureau of Investigation (ABI) maintained a 100 percent homicide clearance rate, advanced 12 cold cases with seven new suspects identified, and delivered statewide technical assistance for major crime, child exploitation, and cyber investigations. The ABI's Digital Forensics Lab examined nearly 500 devices from 31 agencies, while the Financial Crimes Unit and Special Crimes Investigation Unit handled complex financial, human trafficking, and organized crime cases. The Criminal Justice Information Systems Program processed more than 50,000 dispositions, improved repository accuracy through the Judgment Correction Project, and expanded the online criminal history portal for public access. Together these accomplishments strengthened Alaska's investigative capacity and improved coordinated justice outcomes.

### Rural Law Enforcement:

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) strengthened its rural public safety network through coordinated enforcement, air operations, and community programs. The Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) programs achieved their strongest coverage in more than a decade, with 92 officers serving 156 villages and the regional programs expanded armed operations. The introduction of Regional Public Safety Officers (RPSO) added

supervisory depth and improved coordination with trooper detachments. Roving officers and cross regional deployments maintained consistent coverage during vacancies and emergency events. The ABI increased its rural presence through the Bethel based West Coast Major Crime Unit, dedicated sexual abuse of a minor investigators, and partnerships with advocacy centers. The Aircraft Section flew nearly 6,000 hours supporting search and rescue, prisoner transport, and law enforcement, while the small unmanned aerial systems program conducted nearly 900 flights that extended reach into areas inaccessible by traditional aircraft. Search and Rescue operations assisted or recovered more than 670 individuals, issued three Silver Alerts, and continued prevention efforts through avalanche and backcountry safety education.

#### **Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs:**

The Division of Integrated Victim Assistance and the Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (ASCDL) integrated to become Alaska's central hub for coordinated victim centered response. Navigators supported 490 cases with more than 3,850 victim contacts, ensuring access to transportation, forensic exams, and trauma informed services. The training unit delivered 57 sessions to more than 1,600 participants, including over 1,000 law enforcement officers, and translated key victim information into nine languages to increase accessibility for Alaska's diverse communities. The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) maintained full funding for 35 subgrantees, stabilized staffing, and improved data accuracy and grants management through upgrades to the grant management software. The Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) received 860 new applications, distributed nearly \$1 million in victim compensation, and improved timeliness through delegated eligibility determinations. The ASCDL implemented the nation's first Forensic Science Hit Outcome Program, modernized its deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) management system, and maintained national accreditation while improving case turnaround times.

#### **Statewide Public Safety Programs:**

Department-wide programs advanced modernization and reliability across systems that support every level of public safety. The Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) network maintained uninterrupted communications for more than 18 million radio calls and 29 million push to talk activations, upgraded equipment at 84 coverage sites, and implemented Time Division Multiple Access to double system capacity during emergencies. Information Systems progressed the multi-year Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) modernization of the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN), replaced end of life network equipment, and expanded broadband access through satellite technology at remote sites, improving digital evidence transfer, dispatch, and mobile data operations. The Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC) trained and certified more than 700 officers, expanded regional and distance learning options, and maintained accountability through case reviews and certification actions. Administrative Services supported department programs with fiscal management, procurement, grants, facilities, and housing, collecting more than \$22 million in federal funds, completing multiple federal audits with no findings, and advancing projects critical to field operations.

#### **Resource Protection:**

The Alaska Wildlife Troopers (AWT) continued their dual mission of resource protection and rural public safety, enforcing fish and game laws while providing emergency response in coastal and remote communities. Ninety commissioned wildlife troopers operated from 32 locations statewide, conducting more than 49,000 resource contacts and 62,000 other public safety contacts. Marine Enforcement vessels patrolled more than 63,000 miles and conducted over 2,000 boardings, supporting enforcement of high value fisheries such as Bristol Bay and Cook Inlet and assisting in multiple maritime rescues. The fleet completed critical maintenance on the Patrol Vessel (P/V) Stimson and P/V Camai and added a new patrol vessel in Bristol Bay, increasing coverage during peak seasons. Aircraft logged more than 1,900 flight hours supporting enforcement, logistics, and emergency response.

#### **Highway Safety:**

Troopers advanced the Strategic Highway Safety Plan through targeted patrols along the Seward, Sterling, and Parks Highways and other high traffic corridors. The Highway Interdiction Team seized fentanyl, methamphetamine, cocaine, cash, and vehicles linked to trafficking networks operating along Alaska's roadways. The DPS worked with the Department of Health through Project Hope to distribute naloxone kits statewide and provide overdose response training for troopers and partner agencies. Training delivered through the Advanced

Training Unit, and the APSC emphasized emergency vehicle operations, crash reconstruction, de- escalation, and duty to intervene. Technology improvements to dispatch and digital evidence systems shortened case processing times and strengthened coordination between law enforcement and prosecutors.

## **Key Department Challenges**

### **Law Enforcement Patrol and Investigations:**

Requests for service continue to rise while complex cases consume significant investigative hours. Cybercrime, child exploitation, and financial crimes require advanced training and specialized tools. Vacancies and turnover reduce the number of experienced Field Training Officers and limit capacity in rural hubs where sustained presence is essential. The Digital Forensics Lab operates at full capacity, forcing prioritization of the highest risk offenders, and the Financial Crimes Unit remains staffed by one investigator despite high dollar losses to victims.

### **Rural Law Enforcement:**

Recruitment and retention for the VPSOs face challenges due to housing limits, travel issues, and high living costs. Turnover among officers and the RPSOs reduces service continuity and places strain on remaining staff. Aircraft maintenance in rural locations is delayed by limited vendors and hangar space, which increases costs and reduces availability during severe weather. Geography and seasonal conditions continue to drive long response times and higher prisoner transport costs.

### **Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs:**

The Federal Victims of Crime Act funding has declined, creating volatility that constrains stability for victim services and prevention programs. Multiple federal audits and monitoring reviews require extensive documentation within short timeframes, stretching small administrative teams. Loss of national technical assistance providers increases the burden of policy interpretation and compliance. Recruiting and retaining skilled forensic scientists is challenging in a competitive market, and required continuing education is often expensive and out-of-state. The VCCB faces fluctuating revenue and sustained demand, which complicates planning and timeliness goals.

### **Statewide Public Safety Programs:**

The Alaska Public Safety Communication Services maintains an aging statewide network that demands regular lifecycle renewal while working to keep experienced technicians on the team. Supply chain delays and a small pool of specialized vendors slow tower, power, and radio repairs. Information Systems continue to manage dependencies tied to legacy APSIN while moving CJIS modernization forward, all with limited network staffing and an increasing number of pending upgrades.

Compliance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) CJIS Security Policy version 6.0 will require department-wide updates to systems and procedures. The CJIS program experiences recurring outages in legacy systems that create significant delays, and vendor and licensing costs continue to rise. The APSC balances higher training demand and increased case workload with limited agency capacity to release officers. Administrative Services needs modern reporting and projection tools that interface with the State's accounting system (Integrated Resource Information System (IRIS)), greater capacity to pursue federal opportunities, and a centralized electronic grant file solution, while deferred maintenance in rural housing and leasing portfolios remains a persistent pressure.

### **Resource Protection:**

With only 90 wildlife troopers covering vast geography, enforcement capacity is stretched. Seasonal operations require temporary duty reassessments that leave some posts unstaffed. Stocks of concern require presence even when user activity is low to protect sustainability. Marine fleet readiness is challenged by corrosion, shipyard periods, and turnover among civilian vessel crew, which directly affect patrol schedules and contact rates.

## **Highway Safety:**

Sustaining proactive highway patrols depends on staffing and grant funding. Court procedure changes increase administrative workload for case filings and reduce available patrol time. Dispatch vacancies affect 24-hour coverage in some regions. Rural bandwidth limitations slow digital evidence transfers for traffic cases and delay case processing. Ongoing drug trafficking across corridors contributes to impaired driving and crash risk, which requires sustained interdiction and education efforts.

## **Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2027**

### **Law Enforcement Patrol and Investigations:**

Criminal justice data modernization will begin to show measurable gains in timeliness and accuracy. Replacement of the legacy Alaska Public Safety Information Network will shorten arrest and disposition processing, reduce outage related backlogs, and improve background check turnaround for the public and partner agencies. The ABI will deepen integration with the Alaska Criminal Intelligence Center (AKCIC) to expand genetic genealogy use in appropriate cold cases, improve case intelligence and victim notification. Digital evidence tools deployed will speed evidence transfer to prosecutors and reduce delay times between arrest, charging, and court.

### **Rural Law Enforcement:**

Rural training opportunities will improve with increased attention on DPS-led training in Bethel and Kotzebue training centers, reducing travel barriers and time away from home for the VPSOs, Village and Tribal Police Officers. The RPSO coverage is expected to grow as more regional programs adopt the position, strengthening day-to-day supervision, report quality, and coordinated response with trooper detachments. Targeted use of roving VPSOs will preserve service during vacancies and high demand periods. Aviation training and risk management programs will sustain readiness for prisoner transport and search and rescue, while small unmanned systems will add low-cost resources where “eyes on scene” for conventional aircraft cannot safely operate.

### **Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs:**

The division will expand navigator coverage and publish clearer information about available services while continuing training for law enforcement in trauma informed response, victims' rights, and referral practices. The result is faster case processing and better access for victims. Prevention work will be guided by refined measures that track youth engagement across funded programs rather than event counts, producing more meaningful indicators of progress. The CDVSA will operate a larger prevention cohort under its three-year cycle and maintain stronger data quality through system upgrades. The VCCB will reduce decision times through delegated eligibility reviews and will continue restitution recovery and medical cost negotiation to preserve fund capacity. Laboratory Services will deploy the new breath alcohol instruments statewide and complete training of newly hired DNA scientists, which will stabilize sexual assault case turnaround and improve consistency in impaired driving prosecutions.

### **Statewide Public Safety Programs:**

Public safety radio reliability will increase as lifecycle refresh work continues across coverage sites and as specialized maintenance contracts come online for towers, high voltage power, and other complex field services. After the CJIS modernization project is completed, IT results will transition to consistent departmental IT improvements. With core subprojects delivered, the department will focus on compliance, and a reduction of technical debt. Cloud adoption will expand where it improves resilience and access, and interfaces with the Alaska Court System will strengthen data exchange for criminal history. The APSC will expand regional delivery to reach smaller agencies and sustain distance learning options that allow participation without travel. Administrative Services emphasize process control, audit readiness, and proactive facilities and housing management that protect frontline operations.

**Resource Protection:**

Marine enforcement capacity will grow through operator training that raises proficiency across the fleet and through scheduled repowering and inspection projects that reduce downtime. Routine maintenance on medium and small craft will be prioritized to maximize patrol days during fisheries openings. Continued collaboration with federal partners will amplify enforcement coverage and improve maritime safety outcomes across remote waters.

**Highway Safety:**

Traffic safety results will benefit from sustained targeted patrols on high crash corridors and improved evidence handling for roadway cases. Digital evidence management will reduce the time to charging decisions by streamlining the collection, storage, and analysis of evidence; and records system improvements will support faster reporting and analysis for highway safety planning. Interdiction teams will continue coordinated operations that remove impaired drivers and drugs linked to roadway fatalities, while training in emergency vehicle operations, crash investigation, and de-escalation will keep officer and public safety at the center of daily practice.

**Contact Information**

**Commissioner:** James E. Cockrell  
**Phone:** (907) 269-5086  
**E-mail:** [james.cockrell@alaska.gov](mailto:james.cockrell@alaska.gov)

**Administrative Services Director:** Dianna Thornton  
**Phone:** (907) 465-5501  
**E-mail:** [dianna.thornton@alaska.gov](mailto:dianna.thornton@alaska.gov)

## DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

### 12. Department of Family and Community Services

Operating Bill (CCS HB 53(brf sup maj fld H), Sec. 1)

#### **COMPLIANCE MAY BE DETERMINED AT A LATER DATE**

*It is the intent of the legislature that the Department shall submit a report of transfers between appropriations that occurred during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 to the Co-chairs of the Finance committees and to the Legislative Finance Division by September 30, 2026.*

A report of transfers between appropriations that occur during FY2026 will be provided to the Co-Chairs of the Finance committees and the Legislative Finance Division by September 30, 2026.

### 13. Children's Services / Family Preservation

Operating Bill (CCS HB 53(brf sup maj fld H), Sec. 1)

*It is the intent of the legislature that the Department, in collaboration with the Department of Public Safety, consider how to maintain funding for Child Advocacy Center services when preparing its FY27 budget submission to the legislature.*

The Department of Family and Community Services (DFCS) is actively collaborating with the Department of Public Safety to ensure continued financial support for the Child Advocacy Centers. Two grant solicitations, managed by the DFCS, have been issued to make full use of the \$5.5 million appropriation for FY2026.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

### 23. Statewide Support / Commissioner's Office Operating Bill (CCS HB 53(brf sup maj fld H), Sec. 1)

#### PARTIAL COMPLIANCE

*It is the intent of the legislature to direct public safety funds to areas of the state that do not have the tax base to provide needed policing services to their communities. The Department of Public Safety executives are urged to meet with officials from three organized, non-unified boroughs in the state, Kenai Peninsula, Fairbanks North Star and Matanuska-Susitna, who do not currently offer adequate local public safety services and encourage them to take the steps necessary to police their respective boroughs rather than relying on the State to provide those services. The Department shall submit a full response to the Co-chairs of the Finance committees and to the Legislative Finance Division by December 20, 2025, outlining the communication, feedback or actions taken by each borough.*

The Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Deputy Commissioner met with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and spoke about this legislative intent on August 2, 2025. The DPS provided crime density maps, coverage areas, and deployed Trooper numbers and contract policing was discussed at a macro level. The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner will be meeting with the Fairbanks North Star Borough and Kenai Peninsula Borough during the first week of December. The DPS will provide a full response to the Co-chairs of the Finance committees and to the Legislative Finance Division by December 20, 2025.

**Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment:** The Department of Public Safety submitted a letter on December 19, 2025 (included in this packet as **Attachment 14**) that describes the three meetings the agency attended with the Mat-Su, Kenai Peninsula, and Fairbanks North Star Boroughs. The letter describes communication efforts but does not adequately outline any feedback or actions taken by the boroughs.



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Public Safety**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
James E. Cockrell

5700 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-1225  
Main: 907.269.4542

December 19, 2025

The Honorable Andy Josephson  
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 505  
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Calvin Schrage  
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 410  
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Neal Foster  
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 511  
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Lyman Hoffman  
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 518  
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Bert Stedman  
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 516  
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Donny Olson  
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 508  
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: HB 53 (Chapter 10, SLA 25) Department of Public Safety (DPS) Intent Language Response

Dear Finance Committee Co-Chairs,

In the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 operating budget, the Legislature requested that the DPS meet with leadership from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Kenai Peninsula Borough, and Fairbanks North Star Borough. Specifically, the Legislature stated:

“It is the intent of the legislature to direct public safety funds to areas of the state that do not have the tax base to provide needed policing services to their communities. The Department of Public Safety executives are urged to meet with officials from three organized, non-unified boroughs in the state—Kenai Peninsula, Fairbanks North Star, and Matanuska-Susitna—who do not currently offer adequate local public safety services and encourage them to take the steps necessary to police their respective boroughs rather than relying on the State to provide those services. The Department shall submit a full response to the Co-chairs of the Finance Committees and to the Legislative Finance Division by December 20, 2025, outlining the communication, feedback, or actions taken by each borough.”

In response, the DPS engaged with the leadership of each borough and allowed them to identify the appropriate participants. Key outcomes from each meeting are summarized below.

**Matanuska-Susitna Borough**

On August 2, 2025, the DPS’ Deputy Commissioner Leon Morgan, B Detachment Commander Andrew Gorn, and Communications Director Austin McDaniel met with the Borough Assembly,

Mayor, and Borough Manager during a public Assembly work session focused on public safety. Representatives from the Cities of Wasilla and Palmer were also present. The DPS provided Alaska State Trooper (AST) staffing data and five years of crime data mapped to borough boundaries. The data showed that a significant share of AST activity occurs just outside Wasilla and Palmer. Deputy Commissioner Morgan addressed questions related to staffing, response times, and operations. The group also discussed the potential for contract policing and future partnerships for office space in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

### **Kenai Peninsula Borough**

On November 17, 2025, Commissioner James Cockrell, A Detachment Commander Michael Zweifel, and Communications Director Austin McDaniel met with Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor Peter Micciche.

The DPS shared AST staffing data for the borough and five years of mapped crime data. The data showed that a significant amount of AST activity occurs in areas adjacent to the City of Soldotna and City of Kenai. The DPS leadership explained that there are no current plans to increase AST staffing within the metropolitan areas of the borough. Any future growth in public safety coverage in these areas would need to be initiated and supported locally.

### **Fairbanks North Star Borough**

On December 3, 2025, Deputy Commissioner Morgan, D Detachment Deputy Commander Jess Carson, and Communications Director Austin McDaniel met with Borough Mayor Grier Hopkins and Assembly Chair Scot Crass.

The DPS provided staffing and crime data showing high levels of activity outside the Cities of Fairbanks and North Pole. As in the other meetings, the DPS noted that there are no current plans to expand AST staffing in these urban areas unless the borough takes the lead in pursuing additional coverage.

The DPS did not meet with other organized, non-unified boroughs, as the Legislature's request was specific to the three noted above. The department believes these discussions and the summary provided fulfill the intent language included in the FY2026 operating budget.

Please let us know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



James Cockrell

Commissioner

Department of Public Safety

cc: Alexei Painter, Director, Legislative Finance Division

Lacey Sanders, Director, Office of the Governor, Office of Management and Budget

Jordan Shilling, Director, Office of the Governor, Governor's Legislative Office

**Department of Public Safety  
FY26 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
1	Alaska State Troopers / Dispatch Services	Denied Request for Increased Costs for Dispatch Services Contracts in Kenai and Wasilla	N/A	A request of \$123.8 UGF was denied. Was the department able to maintain the contract? Were any services from the contract, or elsewhere in this allocation/appropriation, reduced as a result?
<b>Agency Response</b>				The Department was able to maintain dispatch services for both Kenai and Wasilla through contract extensions and existing authority. The Wasilla dispatch contract was extended for one year at the current cost, and the Kenai Borough contract was amended to reflect expanded service coverage. All payments for FY2026 have been issued and encumbrances are set up for remaining obligations. The department anticipates cost increases in future contracts and will continue working with partners to plan for those anticipated contract
2	Alaska State Troopers / AST Detachments	Trooper Overtime Pay: Letter of Agreement for Alternate Work Week	N/A	<p>An LOA for Troopers schedules was filed allowing 12 hour days for 7 days every pay period:</p> <p>A) Is this a new LOA or has this schedule existed in the past? Are all Troopers expected to be on this schedule or is this an opt-in situation?</p> <p>B) Is the overtime required by this schedule already included in the budgeted cost of each trooper? Was additional funding needed/granted at the time this schedule was initially implemented? The LOA claims savings of \$931.0, was this already factored in to the FY26 Request for additional trooper overtime?</p> <p>C) Are there any negative safety implications from Troopers working such long hours?</p> <p>D) What alternatives were considered prior to implementing this alternate workperiod schedule? Are there ways to reduce necessary overtime without impacting performance or public safety?</p>

**Department of Public Safety  
FY26 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
<b>Agency Response</b> A twelve hour alternate work schedule has been in place since 2017 and continues to be used selectively based on post needs, staffing levels, and calls for service. Participation varies by location and is determined by detachment commanders. Overtime costs are associated with positions and are not driven by the alternate schedule itself, as the additional hours are compensated at the regular rate. Extended shifts are common in law enforcement and can reduce shift changes while providing additional days off. Alternative schedules, including five eight and four ten models, remain available and are used where operationally feasible. The department continues to evaluate schedules to balance staffing needs, officer wellness, and public safety.				
3	Alaska State Troopers / Alaska State Trooper Detachments	Add Funding to Increase Budgeted Hours of Overtime per State Trooper	Total: \$1,000.0 \$1,000.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Please provide an update on the use of Trooper overtime to date. Is the agency projecting to exceed the budgeted amount of overtime this fiscal year?
<b>Agency Response</b> Alaska State Troopers is experiencing higher utilization of budgeted overtime during FY2026, supported in part by the additional funding included in the operating budget. Overtime use typically increases during peak service periods, holidays, and required annual training. The department continues to monitor overtime expenditures closely and manages staffing and scheduling to minimize overtime where possible while maintaining public safety coverage.				
4	Alaska State Troopers / Alaska State Trooper Detachments	Denied funding to Purchase One Transit Van for Crime Scene Response	N/A	A request of \$65.0 UGF was denied. Please provide an update on the transportation status of forensic technicians in Palmer and Soldotna. Were you able to procure a van or make other changes, despite lack of additional funding?
<b>Agency Response</b> The department was not able to procure a replacement transit van for forensic technicians due to the denial of additional funding. Technicians continue to operate using existing vehicles to meet service needs.				
5	Alaska State Troopers / Various	Denied funding to Address Cost Increasing Law Enforcement Supply and Equipment Costs	N/A	A request of \$800.0 UGF between AST Detachments and Wildlife Troopers was denied. How was equipment and supplies procurement affected; did the agency reduce procurement or were these costs absorbed? Were any other services reduced in order to maintain funding for this item?
<b>Agency Response</b> To address rising costs for equipment and supplies, the department prioritized purchases related to officer safety and core operations. Some procurement quantities were reduced, and non essential purchases were deferred. Additional cost containment measures included reductions in travel and careful review of discretionary expenditures. These steps allowed the department to continue providing essential services while managing within available funding.				

**Department of Public Safety  
FY26 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
6	Alaska State Troopers / Alaska Bureau of Investigation	Add 75% Funding for Two New Temporary Troopers in Kotzebue for Child Crimes Investigations in Western Alaska	Total: \$527.7  \$537.7 Gen Fund (UGF) 2 TMP Positions <b>Inc</b>	<p>Have these new positions been recruited for and filled? Please provide details of progress and the hiring date.</p> <p>What is the current caseload for child crimes investigators in Western Alaska, and how does this compare historically?</p>
<b>Agency Response</b> <p>Two long term non permanent investigator positions were established and filled in Nome due to housing availability. Both positions were filled with hire dates of September 2025. The two investigators are currently managing a combined caseload of 23 open investigations. Historically, these cases were handled by patrol, which limits the availability of comparable historical caseload data specific to dedicated child crimes investigators in the region.</p>				
7	Alaska State Troopers / Alaska Bureau of Investigation	Pilot Program for New Investigative Genealogy Testing on Unidentified	Total: \$50.0  \$50.0 Gen Fund (UGF) <b>IncOTI</b>	<p>Please provide an update on this pilot program. Have any samples successfully identified to date? Does the agency feel this program may warrant future investments?</p>
<b>Agency Response</b> <p>The investigative genealogy pilot program remains an important tool for advancing unidentified human remains and cold case investigations, providing identification for 56 previously unidentified remains. While testing is resource intensive, the pilot has demonstrated potential value in supporting Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons and homicide cases. Future investment would be evaluated based on results, case outcomes, and available funding.</p>				
8	Alaska State Troopers / Aircraft Section	Denied Request to Add Funding for Increased Costs of Repair, Utilities, Fuel, and Parts for Aircraft Operations	N/A	<p>A request of \$400.0 UGF was denied. Is the agency projecting to exceed the budgeted amount of aircraft operations this fiscal year?</p>
<b>Agency Response</b> <p>Aircraft operations costs are trending higher than initially anticipated due to maintenance needs and fuel price volatility. The Aircraft Section continues to actively manage expenditures and prioritize essential maintenance to support safe operations. The department is monitoring costs closely and adjusting operational planning as needed to remain within available funding.</p>				

**Department of Public Safety  
FY26 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
9	Village Public Safety Operations / Village Public Safety Operations	Add Funding for Five New Village Public Safety Officers and Additional Village Public Safety Officer Housing and Support	Total: \$1,660.5  \$1,660.5 Gen Fund (UGF) <b>Inc</b>	<p>Have these new positions been recruited for and filled? Please provide details of progress and the hiring date.</p> <p>Please describe how much of the funding was used for officer housing and/or support, and what the funding was used for. Please also discuss the current retention rates for VPSOs, and how many communities have requested but do not currently have an assigned VPSO.</p>
<b>Agency Response</b>				
<p>VPSO positions have fluctuated between filled and vacant throughout the reporting period. At the time of this report, there are 85 VPSOs statewide with 5 vacancies. Several positions are actively moving through the hiring process, including candidates pending final background screening and clearance. Because the VPSO program operates through 10 regional grantees, each of which serves as the employer, hiring timelines and processes vary by grantee and staffing levels may fluctuate. As a result, precise hiring dates cannot be reliably projected. In its oversight role, the Department tracks filled and vacant positions and conducts formal assessments on a quarterly basis. Currently, there are up to 7 potential candidates in the early stages of the hiring process across multiple grantees who may fill existing vacancies later in the fiscal year.</p>				
<p>The majority of program funding is allocated to personnel costs, which represent the largest component of each VPSO position. The remaining approximately 25% supports housing, travel, standard supplies, and safety equipment. This proportion varies by region and community. Costs associated with housing, travel, and safety equipment have increased in recent years and fluctuate based on geographic location, community infrastructure, and individual officer needs.</p>				
<p>From a retention standpoint, turnover in FY25 was approximately 32%, which is below the program's 10 year average turnover rate of approximately 36%. Despite ongoing turnover challenges, the program experienced net staffing growth during FY25. Retention and turnover continue to be influenced by regional housing availability and community infrastructure, which vary significantly across the state. FY26 retention and turnover trends will be more accurately assessed near the end of the fiscal year. To date, 186 communities have requested a VPSO. Of those, 62 communities are currently served, leaving 124 communities without an</p>				
10	Statewide Support / Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	Decrease Funding Due to Reduced Recidivism Reduction Fund Revenue	Total: (\$387.1)  (\$387.1) RcdvsmFund (DGF) <b>Dec</b>	<p>How was the CDVSA affected by this reduction? Please provide detail on any impacts to grant distributions.</p> <p>What is the status of federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding?</p>

**Department of Public Safety  
FY26 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
	<b>Agency Response</b> The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault mitigated the reduction in Recidivism Reduction Fund revenue by transferring unrestricted general funds from their services allocations to their grants allocation providing to continued prevention grant distributions. This allowed the council to maintain core grant activities despite the reduction. The council was notified of its federal Victims of Crime Act award in September 2025, totaling approximately \$3.0 million. VOCA funding continues to fluctuate year to year and remains significantly lower than prior peak levels. The council continues to prioritize core victim services and manage grants within available resources.			
11	Statewide Support / Commissioner's Office	Denied Request for Additional Funding for Project Manager Previously Added for Oversight of Capital and Special Projects	N/A	A request for \$151.1 UGF was denied. Was the Department able to absorb those costs and retain the Project Manager position? Is the position currently filled?
	<b>Agency Response</b> Following the denial of additional funding, the department did not fill the project manager position. Oversight of capital and special projects continues to be managed within existing staff capacity.			
12	Statewide Support / Laboratory Services	Denied Request for Crime Lab Equipment Replacement	N/A	A request for \$347.0 UGF was denied. Is the lab equipment still operating and if so, are there concerns about functionality? Was accreditation of the lab affected?
	<b>Agency Response</b> In FY2025, the Division of Victim Services and Forensic Science reallocated internal funding on a one time basis to support critical laboratory upgrades, including DNA quantification systems and the Tubewriter application. The Tubewriter system is operational, and the DNA quantification systems are undergoing final validation and are expected to be fully integrated into operations in FY2026. These upgrades improved efficiency and accuracy, but continued investment will be important to sustain modernization efforts and meet ongoing forensic demand.			
13	Statewide Support / Laboratory Services	Denied Request for Crime Lab Supplies DNA Reagent	N/A	A request for \$124.6 UGF was denied. Please describe the impacts of not receiving this funding. Was processing of DNA tests impacted? Has the Department been able to meet the six month statutory requirement for DNA sexual assault examination kit testing?
	<b>Agency Response</b> In FY2025, the laboratory temporarily offset increased reagent and supply costs by reallocating funds from vacant personnel positions, allowing essential testing to continue without disruption. This approach was a one time solution. The department has met statutory turnaround requirements to date, and sustained funding will be important to maintain performance levels and avoid future delays.			