

Department of Public Safety FY2027 Governor's Budget Overview and Midyear Status Report

Senate Finance Subcommittee

James Cockrell, Commissioner

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Department of Public Safety



FY2026 Midyear Status Update (\$ in thousands)

- **Talkeetna Post – Not Funded** – Call volume and Parks Highway traffic require continued deployment from Palmer/Wasilla and Cantwell posts
- **\$1,000.0 Funded State Trooper Overtime** – Overtime remains within authorized funding; reduced increment limits flexibility and increases operational pressure
- **Two Child Crimes Investigators** – Two positions funded; third investigator added to complete regional coverage model and support caseload demand
- **Five Village Public Safety Officers** – Programs currently employ 87 officers; rural operating costs continue to affect the ability to reach the 90 authorized positions



FY2026 Supplemental Funding (\$ in thousands)

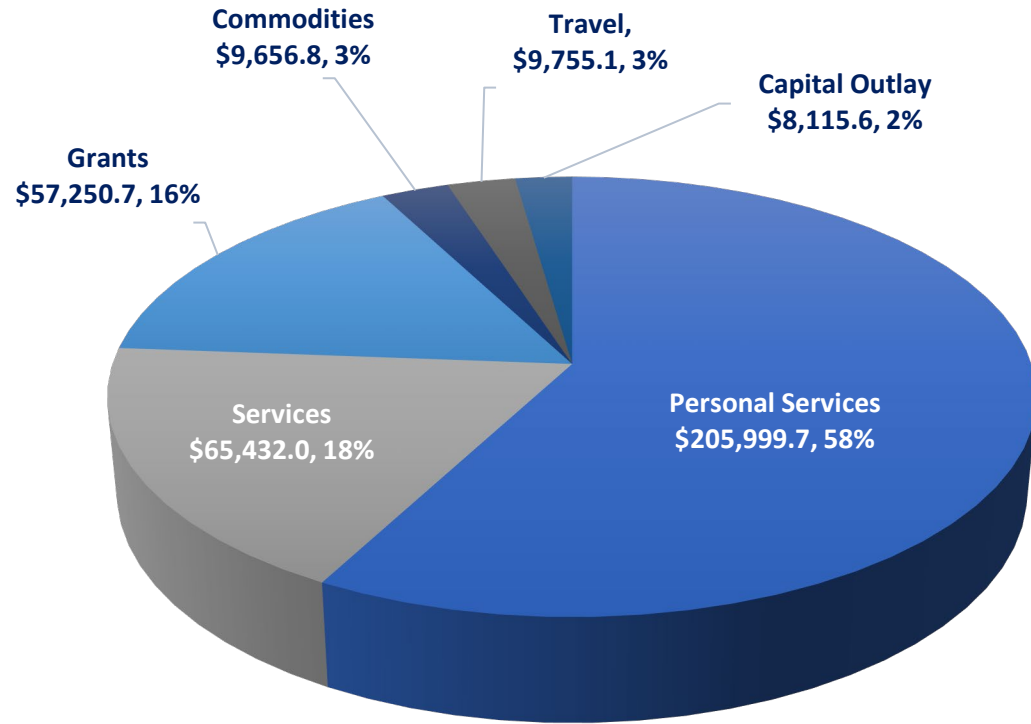
Component	Amount	Fund Source	FY2026 Budget Change and Operational Impact
Village Public Safety Operations	\$1,250.0	UGF	Address FY2026 operating shortfall in the Village Public Safety Officer programs to maintain current service levels

- **Rural Coverage Continuity** – Supplemental funding maintains presence in rural communities; internal reallocations reduced the funding gap; supplemental funding addresses the remaining shortfall
- **Cost Growth** – Higher retention, wages, rural travel, training, and equipment costs have outpaced base funding
- **Coverage Impact** – Without supplemental funding, active Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) grant-funded positions would be reduced

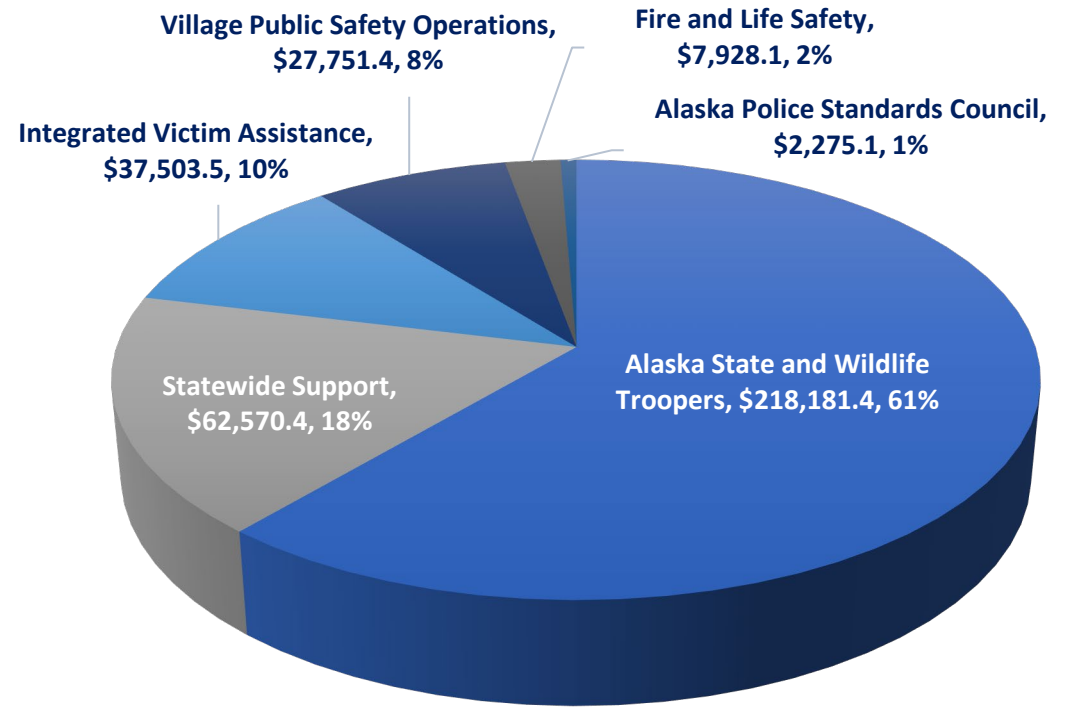
UGF: Unrestricted General Fund



FY2027 Budget Structure (\$ in thousands)



Financial Breakout



Appropriation Breakout

FY2027 Gov: 356,209.9 (2.0 % increase from FY2026)



FY2027 Governor's Budget- Key Changes (\$ in thousands)

Component	Amount	Fund Source	FY2027 Budget Change and Operational Impact
Operational Changes			
Alaska State Troopers Detachments	\$1,303.0	UGF	Annual operating costs for body-worn and in-car video systems
Village Public Safety Operations (Amended)	\$1,650.0	UGF	Align base funding with sustained operating costs
Program Support			
Alaska Bureau of Investigations	\$1,000.0	Other	Investigative support for domestic violence and sexual assault cases
Alaska Police Standard Council	\$550.0	DGF	Expand law enforcement and village police officer training
Fund Source Adjustments			
Violent Crime Compensation Board (VCCB)	-\$592.0	DGF	Reduction based on projected Restorative Justice Fund revenue
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA)	\$169.2 -\$169.2	UGF Other	Replace reduced Restorative Justice Fund distribution
Information Technology (IT) Position Updates			
Alaska Bureau of Investigations	\$26.3	UGF	Additional authority for the IT positions allocated to the component which are included in the classification study conducted by the Department of Administration (DOA)
Alaska Public Safety Communication Services	\$31.7	UGF	
Criminal Justice Information Systems	\$27.0	UGF	
Information Systems	\$275.8/\$12.9	UGF/Other	

UGF: Unrestricted General Fund DGF: Designated General Fund



Operational Realities of a 24/7 Statewide Public Safety Department

- **24/7 Coverage Model** – Continuous statewide operations require sustained law enforcement personnel, marine and aviation support, civilian staff, and infrastructure
- **Structural Funding Alignment** – Programs such as the Village Public Safety Officer and Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault have experienced cost growth beyond base funding assumptions
- **Recurring Costs** – Core service agreements, leases, interagency chargebacks, and contractual obligations reduce operating flexibility
- **Geographic Scale** – Operating across remote communities requires aviation, rural housing, and extensive logistics



Thank You

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