

FY20/FY21 Key Issues - Department of Law

Forwarded by the Division of Legislative Finance

1. **HB 49 Impacts:** In FY20, the legislature provided \$1.6 million and 14 PFT positions to meet increased work load as a result of HB 49.
 - a. Has the Department been able to hire all of these positions, and where are they located?
 - b. Has this level of funding and staffing proved sufficient to meet the operational requirements that have resulted from the passage of HB 49?
2. **Personal Services:** Does the Department have adequate staffing levels and personal services funding to meet its mission, *outside* of the impacts of HB 49?
3. **Recruitment and Retention:** How is the department working to address recruitment and retention challenges?
 - a. Legislative intent requests a report to the legislature on January 31, 2020 on the status of a recruitment and retention plan to reverse the trend of high turnover of prosecutors and support staff in the Criminal Division.
4. **Utqiagvik District Attorney's Office:** What is the status of the Utqiagvik District Attorney's office reopening?
 - a. Have positions been filled?
 - b. Is the office established in Utqiagvik and actively handling cases?
5. **Outside Counsel:** Has the Department taken steps in FY20 to reduce reliance on outside counsel in response to legislative intent language?
 - a. Legislative intent requests that the Department of Law minimize the use of outside counsel.