



# Department of Law

Department Overview  
Senate Finance Subcommittee

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**TREG TAYLOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**CORI MILLS, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
CIVIL DIVISION**

**JOHN SKIDMORE, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

The Alaska Department of Law provides legal services to state government and prosecutes crime for the protection and benefit of Alaska's citizens.

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**MISSION** DEPARTMENT OF LAW

# Department of Law MANAGEMENT TEAM

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Deputy Attorney General  
John Skidmore  
Criminal Division



Attorney General  
Treg Taylor



Deputy Attorney General  
Cori Mills  
Civil Division



Director  
Angie Kemp  
Criminal Division



Director  
Amber LeBlanc  
Administrative Services Division



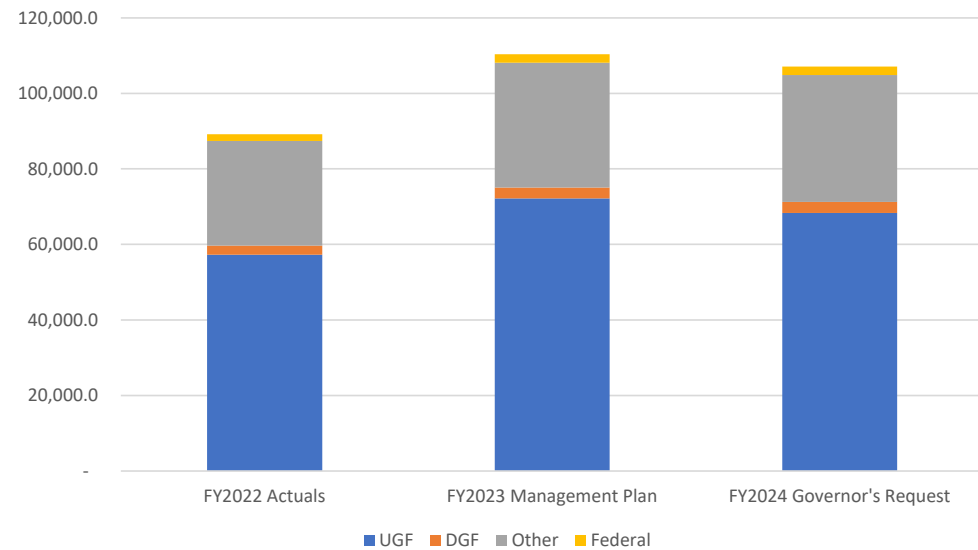
Director  
Stacie Kraly  
Civil Division

# Operating Budget Comparison

## DEPARTMENT OF LAW

### FY2022 – FY2024

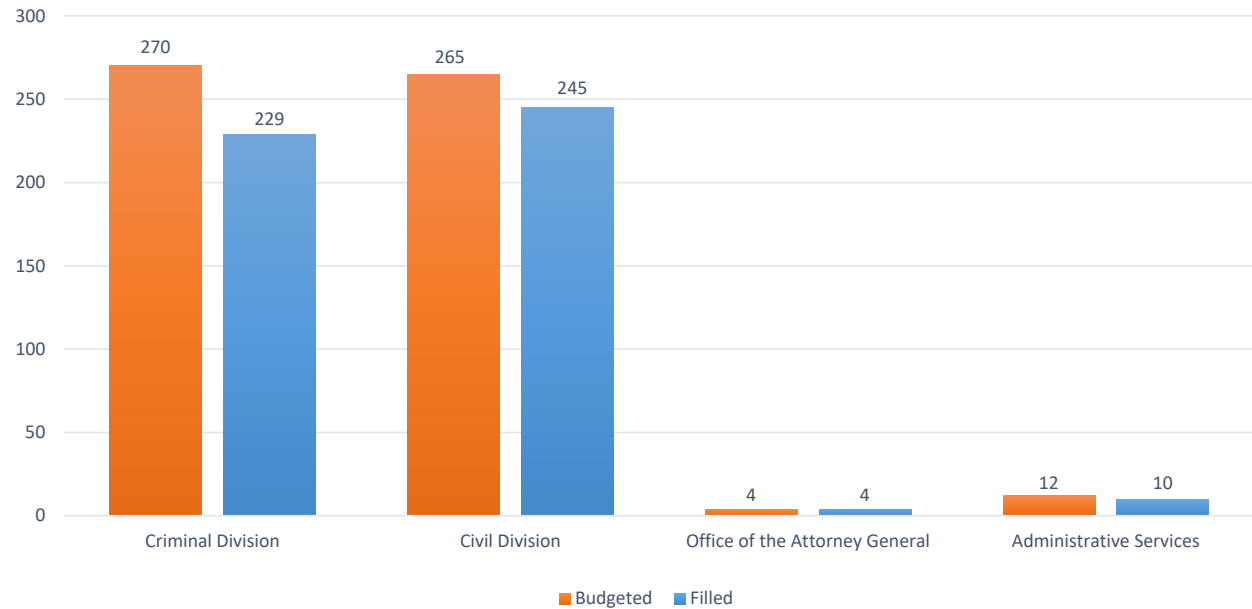
(amounts shown in thousands)



	FY2022 Actuals	FY2023 Management Plan	FY2024 Governor's Request
UGF	57,247.1	72,170.6	68,331.8
DGF	2,430.1	2,873.2	2,900.5
Other	27,728.2	33,089.8	33,613.9
Federal	1,751.2	2,217.7	2,244.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,156.6</b>	<b>110,351.3</b>	<b>107,091.1</b>

# FY2023 Management Plan Budgeted vs. Filled Permanent Full Time (PFT) Positions by Division

Data as of 12/15/2022

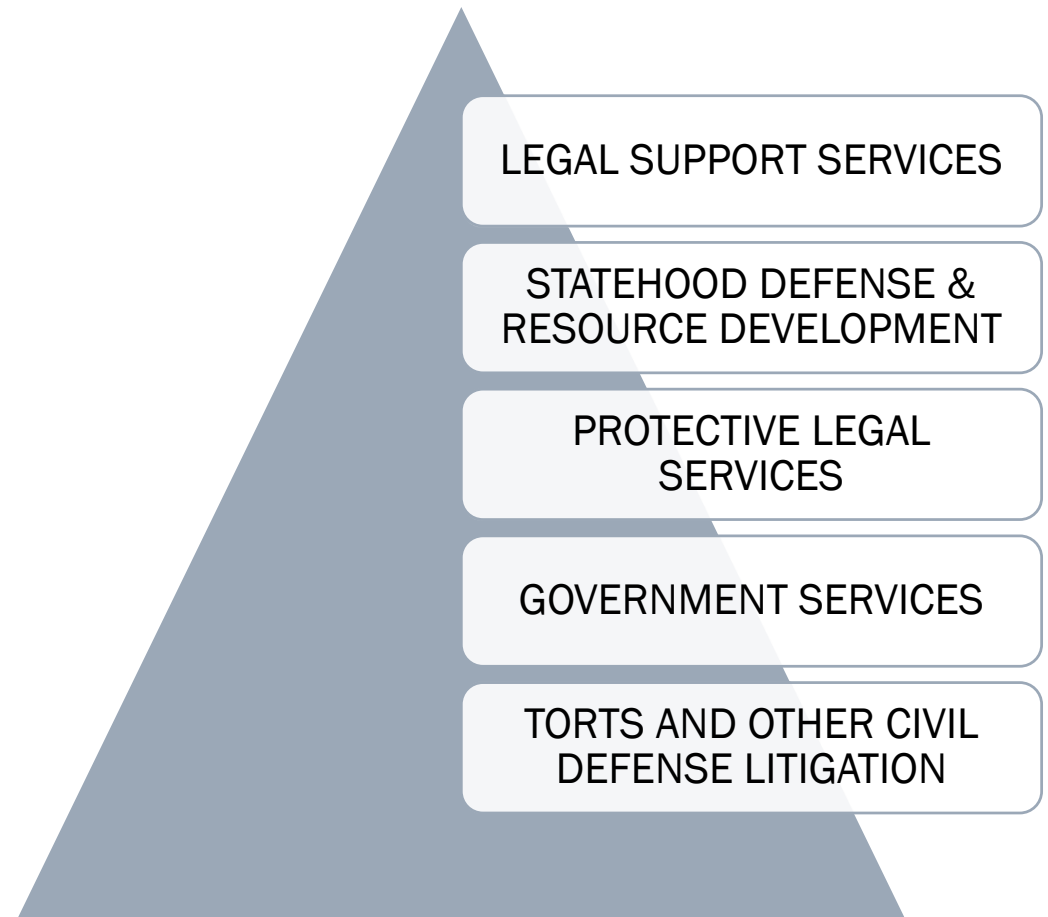


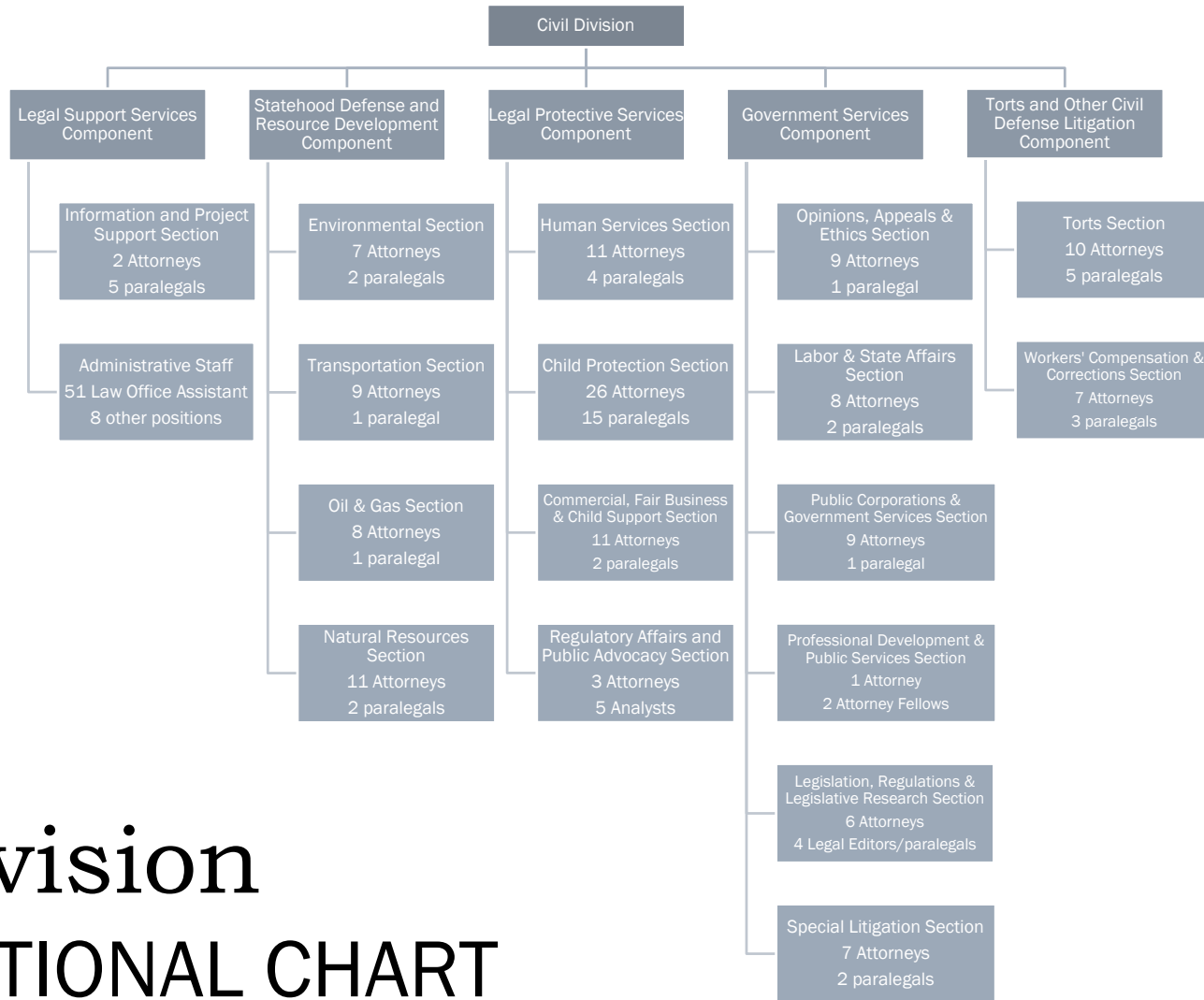
To protect Alaskans' safety and financial well-being, foster conditions for responsible development of our natural resources, protect the fiscal integrity of the State, and promote good governance

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**CORE SERVICES** CIVIL DIVISION

# Civil Division Proposed Restructuring





# Civil Division

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# Why the Change?

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The new budget components:

- improve tracking and management of the division's section and workloads
- reduce administrative burden on the Administrative Services Division
- are budget-neutral
- provide more flexibility in realigning resources to priority needs when necessary

The Legal Support Services component includes the Deputy Attorney General, the Civil Division Director, and the sections that fully support satellite offices in how each section gets its work done.

This splits information support into billable and non-billable groups, which allows the division to better allocate its resources and recoup costs when appropriate.

## Legal Support Services

### Civil Division

Statehood Defense and Resource Development includes the sections that provide legal advice and representation to the major departments related to those efforts:

Department of Transportation

Department of Fish and Game

Department of Natural Resources

Department of Environmental Conservation

Department of Revenue

# Statehood Defense & Resource Development

Civil Division

Protective Legal Services includes the sections that support services to keep Alaskans safe (Department of Health, Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Commerce and Economic Development, the Alaska Housing Corporation and the Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy).

# Protective Legal Services

## Civil Division

Government Services are grouped based upon the functioning of the state (Department of Administration, Department of Labor, Department of Education and Early Development), numerous boards and commissions (Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, Alaska Student Loan Corporation).

This component includes special litigation and opinion, appeals and ethics sections that support all state agencies, and the legislation, regulations, and legislative research section, which manages both bill drafting and the regulations projects for all state agencies.

## Government Services

### Civil Division

Torts and Other Civil Defense Litigation provides legal defense to state agencies and employees when third parties sue the state for damages or when a state employee bring a Workers' Compensation claim. This work also includes defending and advising the Department of Corrections.

# Torts and Other Civil Defense Litigation

Civil Division

# State Fiscal Preservation

## EXAMPLES OF FY2022 REVENUE GENERATION AND PROTECTION

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### Human Services

- \$2,000.0 in awards for reimbursements for Medicaid Third-Party Liability (TPL)
- \$6.7 in annuity collections for TPL
- \$518.6 in Medicaid Estate/Trust recovery
- \$594.3 in Medicaid audit settlements and judgements
- \$333.5 in recovery of Medicaid expenditures from post-conviction litigation

### Natural Resources

- Collected \$1,400.0 in damages associated with sinking of Faulkner Walsh's barge *The Delta Chief*

(amounts shown in thousands)

# State Fiscal Preservation

## EXAMPLES OF FY2022 REVENUE GENERATION AND PROTECTION

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### Public Corporations & Government Services

- Obtained \$25,000.0 (less attorneys' fees) in Allianz/Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation securities fraud settlement
- Saved ~\$80,000.0-86,000.0 annually in dismissal of U.S. Department of Education Impact Aid action

### Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy

- \$6,200.0 in quantifiable consumer benefits in FY2022 for reduction in utilities costs
- An additional \$1,070.0 is anticipated in a pending case

### Environmental

- \$1,800.0 in settlements and fines

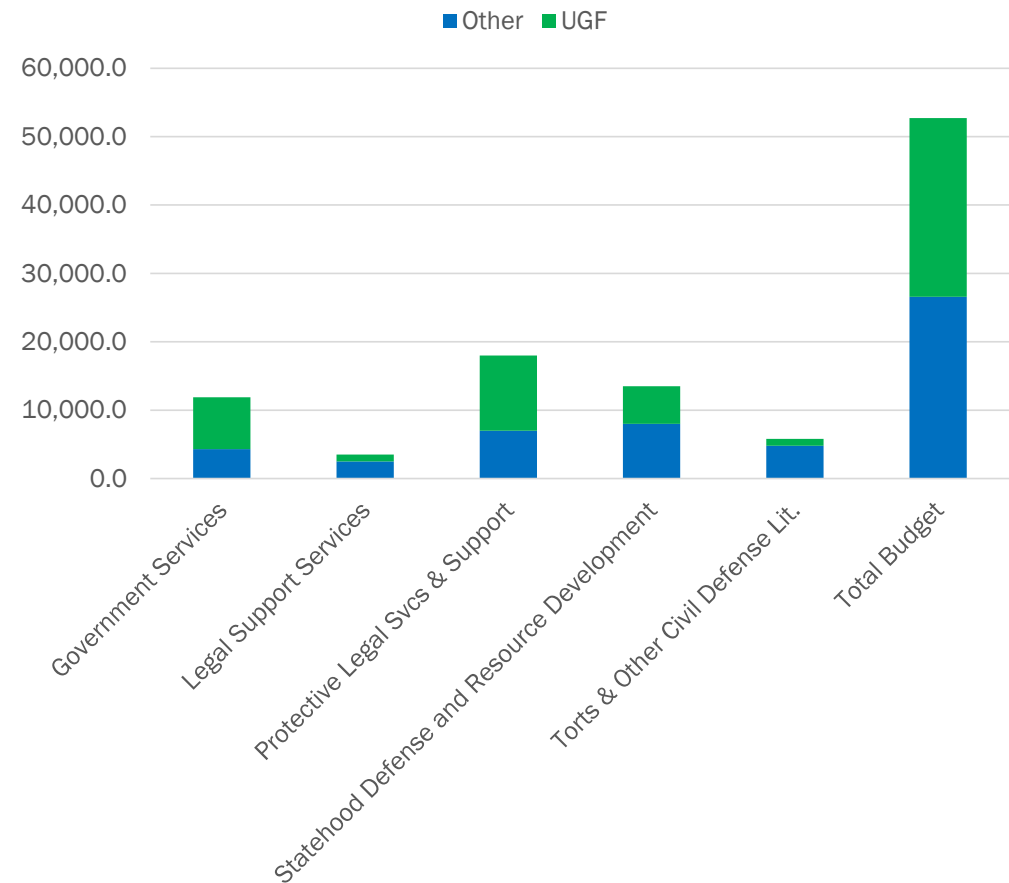
(amounts shown in thousands)



# Civil Division's UGF vs Other Fund Sources

FY2024 Governor's  
Proposed Budget

(amounts shown in thousands)



# Primary General Fund Uses

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CIVIL DIVISION

# Defending State's Management and Ownership Rights over Natural Resources

Photos courtesy of:  
Department of Law  
Natural Resources Section



## Child Protection



Photo by Michał Parzuchowski  
Courtesy of Unsplash

- Section fully staffed for the first time in several years
- In FY2022, the average caseload per attorney was 50-85 cases; variables include location and severity
- Attorneys continue to conduct most hearings via Zoom or telephone; initiatives move back to in-person hearings may strain existing resources
- While there continues to be some delay in permanency, the backlog created by the pandemic is decreasing

## Promoting Good Governance

\*formerly good governance

Appeals & Ethics

Special Litigation

Legislation

Employment Litigation

Advising the Governor

Public Corporations

The mission of the Criminal Division is to seek justice, promote public safety, and further public respect for government through prompt, effective, and compassionate prosecution of cases.

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# MISSION CRIMINAL DIVISION

# While we seek justice, we do not:

- Prosecute federal crimes
  - Prosecute municipal crimes
  - Investigate criminal conduct
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## MISSION CRIMINAL DIVISION

# The Duty of a Prosecutor

The primary duty of a lawyer engaged in public prosecution is not to convict, but to see that justice is done.

-Canons of professional ethics: Canon 5. American Bar Association (1908).

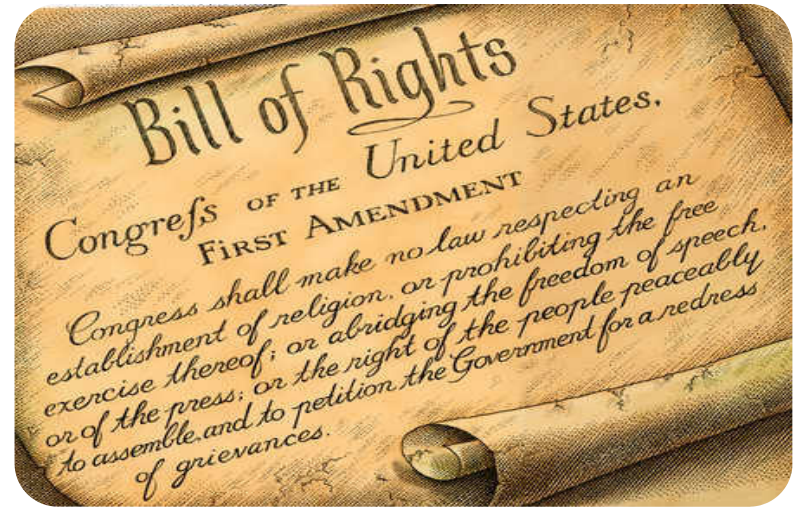
The prosecutor may prosecute with earnestness and vigor – indeed he should do so. But, while he may strike hard blows, he is not at liberty to strike foul ones. It is as much his duty to refrain from improper methods calculated to produce a wrongful conviction as it is to use every legitimate means to bring about a just one.

-Justice George Southerland, *Berger v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 88 (1935).



Investigation assistance  
Formal referral  
Screening  
Pretrial litigation  
Pretrial resolution  
Trial  
Post-Trial Litigation

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It is the duty and obligation of the District Attorney to ensure that every citizen's constitutional rights are safeguarded at every step of the criminal prosecution.

## CORE SERVICES CRIMINAL DIVISION



**Nome**  
John Earthman



**Fairbanks**  
Joe Dallaire



**Bethel**  
Mark Clark



**Palmer**  
Melissa Howard



**Anchorage**  
Brittany Dunlop



**Kenai**  
Scot Leaders



**Kodiak**  
Gustaf Olson



**Juneau**  
Jessalyn Gillum



**Ketchikan**  
Alex Kramarczuk



**Appeals**  
Tamara DeLucia



**Special Prosecutions**  
Jenna Gruenstein

# Statewide Services

Criminal Division

9 District Attorney offices  
4 satellite offices (Utqiagvik, Kotzebue,  
Dillingham, Sitka)  
Criminal Appeals  
Special Prosecutions  
Central Office

# FY2024 Governor's Proposed Budget Changes

## DEPARTMENT OF LAW

(amounts shown in thousands)

- **Software and Storage for Audio/Visual Evidence in Criminal Cases, 400.0 UGF**  
As state and local law enforcement expand their use of multimedia evidence collection and maintenance, the prosecutors and staff must also receive, review, and store the same evidence. This increment will allow the Criminal Division to process, review, and store digital evidence more efficiently.
- **One Time Request to Expand Internet Connectivity for Rural Prosecution Offices, 350.0 UGF**  
With upgrades, the Criminal Division can transition several division rural community offices onto the division's cloud-based case management system, improve workflows within the cases, and eliminate the need to maintain local servers within those offices.
- **Address Increasing Lease Costs, 250.0 UGF**  
This increment is necessary to accommodate rate increases to State owned facilities Department of Law occupies.

# Thank you

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ANY QUESTIONS?

