



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

February 12, 2018

Memorandum

To: Senate Appropriations Committee

Subject: Additional Officer

The Sergeant at Arms currently has four authorized capitol police officer positions. Only three positions are currently funded and filled. We are requesting funding for the fourth officer position in our FY 2019 budget request.

We have had the fourth officer position since 2005. Officer Snyder was hired in October as the fourth officer. Officer Janiwicz died in September 2008 and Officer Dimick became Chief and the fourth position hasn't been filled since.

We would like to have two officers on for every shift. When we have an officer out with an illness, medical leave, vacation or training and a part time officer isn't available it leaves only one officer here. Our part time staff isn't always available because they work other full time jobs. With only one officer on duty, it doesn't allow for any breaks for the officer and it reduces our ability to respond in the event of an emergency. Having two officers on duty will allow for additional flexibility to balance normal security duties with potential emergency response needs. This will increase the odds of a more positive outcome in the event of any future security or medical situations. Officers that are here all the time are also more familiar with the legislators, lobbyists, staff and the day to day operations of the State House. This knowledge helps with the limited surveillance that we have here at the State House.