

Memo on VT Criminal Justice System FY24 budget asks outside of Governor Recommended

Attorney General and Court Diversion

AGO – convert some temporary staffing into 1 new exempt position in support of the AG
Court Diversion - \$54,000 – increase base to cover cost of not collecting Diversion fees for DLS

Office of the Defender General – multiple asks / suggest ODG prioritize

Public Defense:

Other Personal Services (case and trial-related expenses)	\$400,000
Restoration of funding for In-Person Training	\$ 26,500
Restoration of funding for In and Out-of-State Travel	\$ 28,347
Restoration of Central Office Administrative Services Coordinator	\$ 84,769
Bennington Juvenile Attorney (Step 4)	\$119,675
Reduce vacancy savings to more attainable level	<u>\$100,000</u>
Total Public Defense	\$759,291

Assigned Counsel:

Other Personal Services (case and trial-related expenses)	\$100,000
Increase for 8 Serious Felony Units from \$130,000 to \$150,000	<u>\$160,000</u>
Total Assigned Counsel	\$260,000

States Attorneys

Court reopening project – still have temporary positions instead of limited service positions.
In discussion with the Administration, they would not oppose the conversion of the temporary positions to limited service positions.

Request to staff up SAs offices to address ongoing back log – request is for a staff attorney, victims advocate, and support person in each of 14 offices. Request for a more fine tuned plan for the backlog challenge. Not received yet.

Sheriffs

Identified pressures but no specific asks.

Special Investigative Units

Identified pressures but no specific asks

Victim Advocates

Need to address why this budget did not receive at least a 3% increase as other departments.

Judiciary

Approved infrastructure funding (\$1.55 million) in FY23 BAA. Funding for the new network (\$4.68 million) awaiting a performance review from the Judiciary's IT folks.

One new judge and one new law clerk - \$344,000

Eleven new court staff positions - \$812,000

7 judicial assistant

1 financial analyst
1 language access specialist
2 access resource center specialists
Sheriffs and other security contractors – rate increases - \$698,000

Center for Crime Victims Services

CCVS did not receive the minimum 3% base increase as all other state departments did.
Statutory change to criminal offenses and some traffic offenses surcharge – Approx. \$250,000.
Help with ongoing special fund challenges.