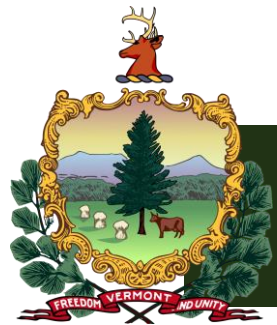


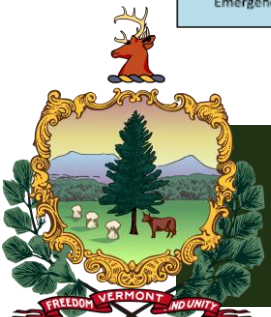
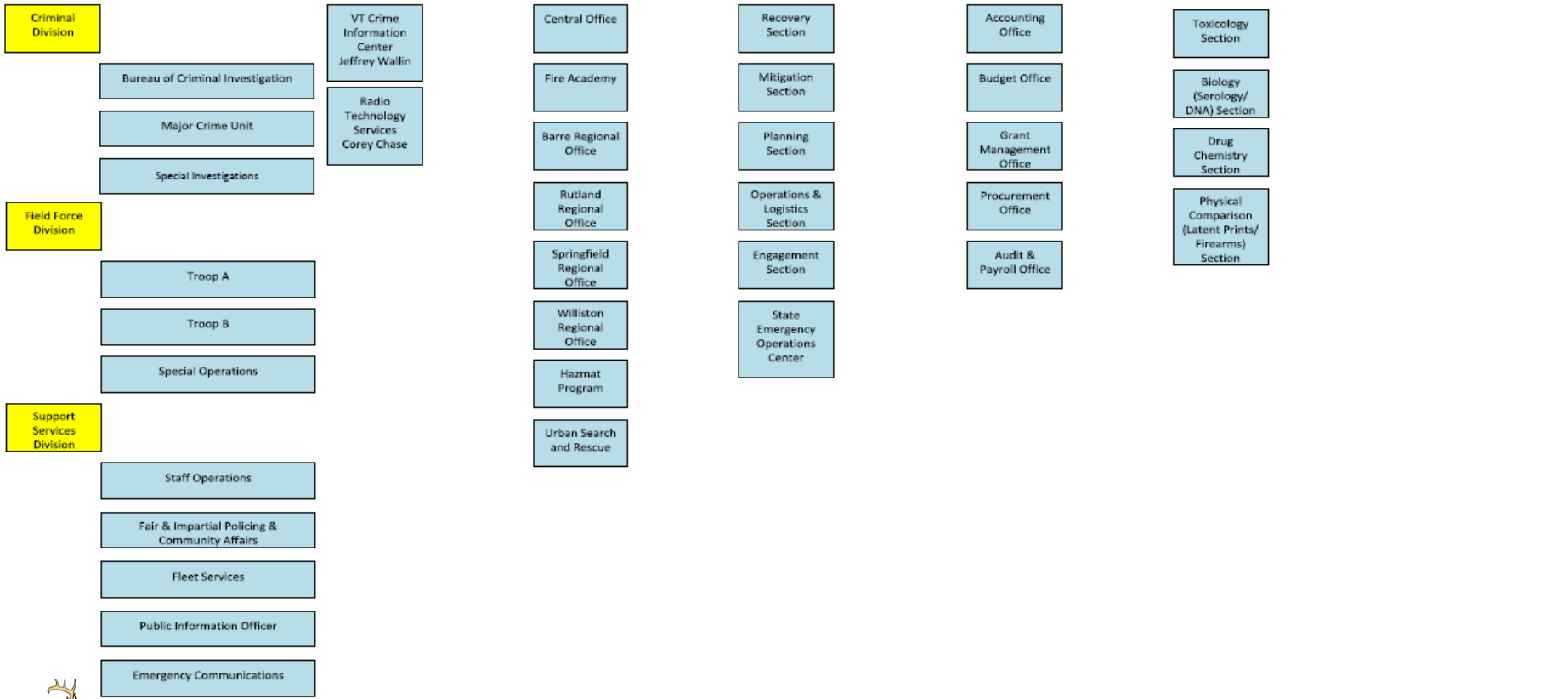
# Department of Public Safety

## *Overview*



 VERMONT

Department of Public Safety





# Colonel Matthew Birmingham

## Vermont State Police

### Divisions:

#### Field Force Division

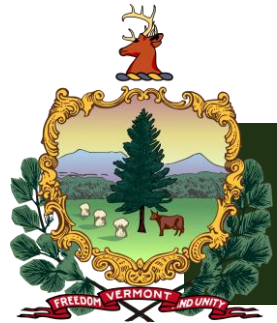
- Field Force
- Special Operations
- Traffic and Recreational Safety Programs

#### Criminal Division

- Bureau of Criminal Investigation
- Major Crime Unit
- Technology Investigation Unit
- VT Intelligence Center and Homeland Security Unit
- Narcotics Investigation Unit

#### Support Services Division

- Fair & Impartial Policing
- Staff Operations
- Emergency Communications
- Fleet Services





# Director Jeffrey Wallin

## Vermont Crime Information Center

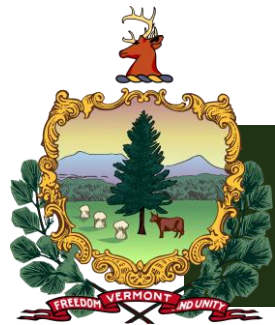
### Sections:

Fingerprint Section  
Record Check Section  
Criminal History Section  
Vermont Sex Offender Registry  
Audit & Training Section (NCIC, NIBRS Data)

### Subject Matters:

Fingerprint Supported Record Checks  
National Crime Information Center (Warrants, Protection Orders, etc.)  
Firearm Check Inquiries  
Expungement and Sealing Processing  
National Crime Statistics

*Programs above support every law enforcement agencies statewide and VCIC processes all fingerprint submissions for licensing and employment in Vermont*





## Director Corey Chase Radio Technology Services

### Subject Matters:

#### State Land Mobile Radio (LMR) networks

- Maintains networks for SOV agencies: DPS, AOT, ANR
- Maintains mobile and portable radios for SOV users
- Used by first responders from many non-SOV agencies

#### Tower sites

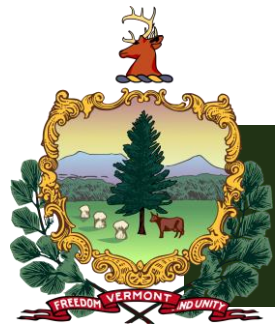
- Over 40 towers for LMR service, most on mountain tops
- Microwave network connecting towers
- Used by many local dispatch agencies for their LMR networks

#### DPS telephone system

- Over 700 lines including in PSAPs and DPS administrative offices

#### Interoperability

- VCOMM Interoperable LMR network for first responders
- Subject matter expertise support for local and county officials





## **Executive Director Michael Desrochers**

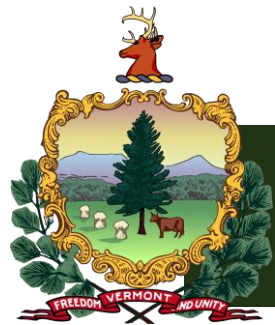
### **Division of Fire Safety**

#### **Sections:**

Plumbing & Electrical Licensing  
Building Codes – Permitting (numerous trades represented)  
HazMat Team  
Fire Academy – Pittsford  
Urban Search & Rescue (USAR)  
Fire Investigation Unit  
Public Education

#### **Subject Matters:**

Rental Housing  
Fire Safety Code  
Electrical/Plumbing/Boiler/Elevator Licensing  
Energy Efficiency  
Short Term Rental  
Fire Safety Training



 VERMONT

Department of Public Safety



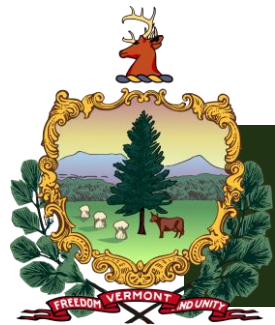
## Director Eric Forand Vermont Emergency Management

### Sections:

Engagement Section  
Operations and Logistics Section  
Planning Section  
Recovery Section  
Mitigation Section

### Subject Matters:

Management of Emergency Operations Center  
Disaster Recovery/Public Assistance  
Mitigation Project Management  
Municipal Outreach and Support  
Training/Exercise  
School Safety



 VERMONT

Department of Public Safety

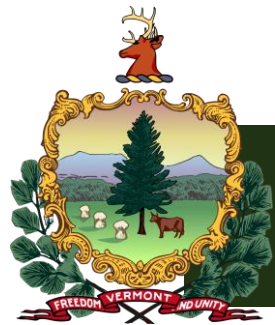


## Director Richard Hallenbeck Administration & Finance

### Sections:

Accounting Office  
Budget Office  
Grant Management Office  
Procurement Office  
Audit & Payroll Office  
Federal Grant Programs

- Manage 31 federal grant programs from FEMA, ARPA, DOJ, BJA, PHMSA, etc. Disbursed \$114M during SFY 2024. \$95M in disaster grant funding alone. \$99M was passed through to subrecipients, serving 219 communities, private non-profits, law enforcement agencies, etc.







## **Director Dr. Trisha Conti Vermont Forensic Laboratory**

### **Subject Matters:**

**Chemistry (Seized Drugs, Clandestine Labs)**

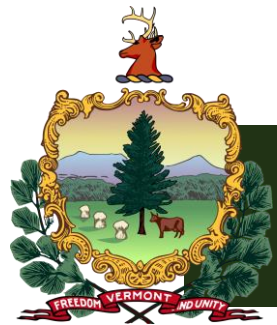
**Biology (Serology, CODIS, DNA, Sex Assault Kits, Forensic Nurse Examiners)**

**Toxicology (DUI/DUID, DRE Program)**

**Physical Comparison (Firearms, Toolmarks, Latent Prints, ABIS)**

**Quality (Audits, Accreditation)**

**Evidence (Chain of Custody, Evidence Storage)**



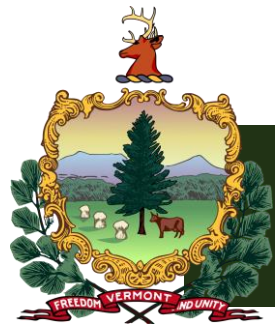
 VERMONT

Department of Public Safety



**Director TBD**  
**Animal Welfare**

- **New division to Department of Public Safety**
- **Hiring of new director anticipated for January 2025**
- **First year priority to develop a comprehensive statewide animal welfare plan**
- **Legislative report due 8 months from director's start date**





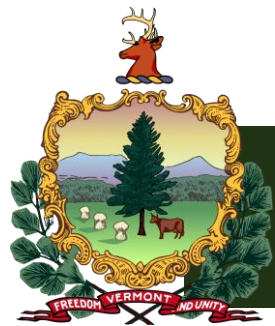
## New Initiatives

### Base:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Manager Position 95k Federal Funds, 5K General Funds.
- 500K for State Police radio replacement cycle

### One time:

- 920K for replacement of State Police radios at end of life
- 600K in matching funds for the Cybersecurity Grant Program



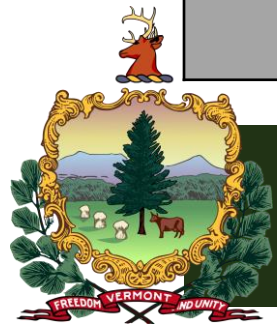


## New language

The State Police appropriation is proposing a move of line-item budgets from Transportation Funds to General Funds. 19 V.S.A. § 11a which includes a provision to spend 2.1M annually on State Police vehicles would be struck under this proposal. The below language is added to ensure the legislative intent of spending 2.1M on State Police vehicles remains intact. Proposed language is below:

### Sec. E.209 PUBLIC SAFETY – STATE POLICE

(c) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209 of this Act, \$2,100,000 is allocated exclusively for the purchase, outfitting, assignment, and disposal of State Police vehicles.

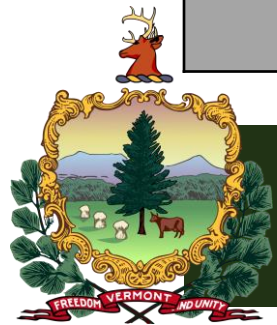




## Position Changes

**11 State Police Positions have been converted from Sworn Law Enforcement Officers to Civilian.**

**Animal Welfare Position funding is not included in the budget proposal because the Animal Welfare Fund was not available in the Vantage budget system. (Estimated budget need is 140K in Special Fund 21129)**

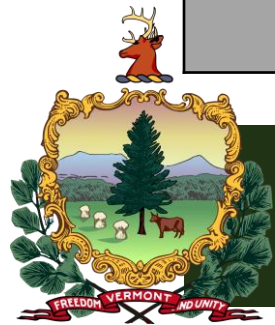




## Federal Funding Reductions 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant

The FY 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Award was reduced after several years where the funding did not change significantly with the lone exception of FY 2022.

FY	EMPG Award Amount
2020	3,063,060
2021	3,061,159
2022	3,503,868
2023	3,071,660
2024	2,762,968

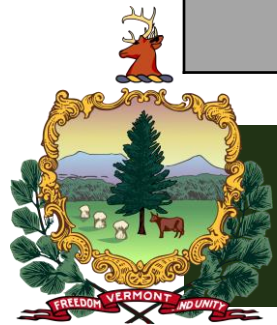




## Federal Funding Reductions 2024 Homeland Security Program Grant

The FY 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program Grant (HSGP) Award was reduced significantly.

FY	HSGP Award Amount
2020	5,192,569
2021	5,102,500
2022	5,347,500
2023	5,647,500
2024	4,362,750





## **Federal State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFR) Flood Resilient Communities Fund (FRCF)**

### **FRCF – ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Fund**

**The Flood Resilient Communities Fund was established by the Vermont Legislature under Act 74 using ARPA funding with the intent of improving landscape and community resilience and reducing the future public safety and water quality impacts of climate-related flood hazards in Vermont, focusing on buyouts of flood-vulnerable properties found ineligible for FEMA funding and other community flood-reduction projects. All funding was obligated by the end of calendar 2024 and project implementation is underway.**





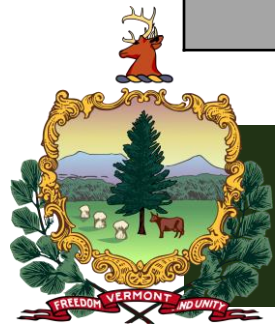


## Carryforward Funds

State Police, Dept. ID 2140010000: Balance of \$ 247,452.85: Funds will be used for Drug Task Force subaward obligations (to local municipalities) that will be paid out in FY25. A look ahead shows the 405k that is appropriated annually for the Community Drug Interdiction Program (CDIP) will no longer be sufficient to support the work in FY26 and 156K has been included in the DPS FY26 Budget Proposal for this purpose.

DPS-Hiring Incentives and Loan Repayment, Dept ID 2140892402 Balance of \$435,589.81: These funds will be used to implement improved recruiting for the Vermont State Police.

DPS-High Flood Risk, Dept ID 2140892301 Balance of \$7,396,889.26: These funds will be used to provide state match for FEMA funds to purchase properties identified for high flood risk.



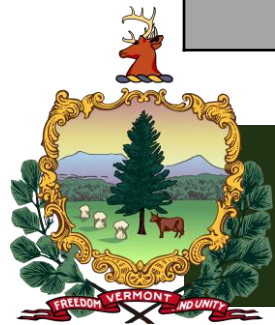


## Carryforward Funds

DPS-Regional Dispatch Model, Dept ID 2140892302 Balance of \$911,297.25: These funds will be used to implement the regionalization of dispatch.

DPS-Regional Dispatch Facility, Dept ID 2140892303 Balance of \$4,500,000: These funds will be used to implement the regionalization of dispatch.

Note regarding the two one-time funds for regional dispatch: In accordance with Act 78 Sec. B.1100(b)(3), there is an additional amount of 5.5M that shall be held in reserve until approval to expend the funds is authorized by further enactment of the General Assembly





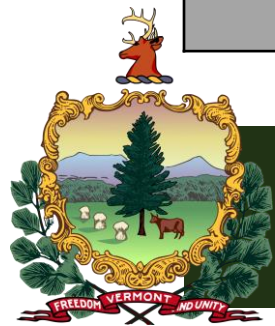
**Single Audit Findings  
FEMA Public Assistance  
Public Safety had one finding in the FY23 Single Audit**

**Criteria:**

Per the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA), prime (direct) recipients of grants or cooperative agreements are required to report first-tier subawards of \$30,000 or more to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System (FSRS).

**Condition:**

The Department of Public Safety (Department) was not in compliance with FSRS reporting requirements. Subawards and subaward modifications were not reported timely or accurately to FSRS.





**Single Audit Findings  
FEMA Public Assistance  
Public Safety had one finding in the FY23 Single Audit**

**Cause:**

The Department's procedures were not sufficient to ensure that subawards were reported timely or accurately to FSRS. Internal controls did not prevent or detect the errors. (Department procedures required entry in FSRS at the required reporting threshold but did not require reporting subsequent obligations to the subgrant)

**Corrective Action Plan:**

The Procedure for compliance with FFATA reporting requirements will be updated to include the following language: Once a subaward has been executed and the cumulative obligated project worksheets have reached the \$30,000 reporting threshold, then the Financial Administrator must enter the subaward in FSRS as outlined above. Subsequent project worksheet obligations shall be treated as award amendments and must be entered into FSRS no later than the last day of the month following the month in which the project worksheet was obligated.

