



Memorandum

To: Senate Appropriations Committee

From: Tim Lueders-Dumont, SAS Executive Director and Annie Noonan, SAS LR & Ops Mgr.

Date: 3/18/2025

Re: Position request from SAS

During our budget testimony on 3/13/2025, the Department had the opportunity to share our documents and our request for permanent positions for our State’s Attorneys’ offices (SAO) to assist with the 23,5000 cases that our field offices are handling; and for additional Transport Deputies to transport defendants to and from court hearings. The estimated costs for the positions are listed below.

For general information, here is our current staffing:

State’s Attorneys’ office staffing includes:

- 14 elected State’s Attorneys – *State General Fund*
- 55 Deputy State’s Attorneys - *State General Fund*
- *The average caseload per attorney is 365 cases.*
- 1 Appellate Attorney – *State General Fund* – *filing approximately 45 appeals annually*
- 2 *federally-funded* Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors (National Highway Safety Traffic Admin); must focus on impaired driving (drug, alcohol), distracted or reckless driving, resulting in serious bodily injury or death.
- 2 *federally-funded* Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Prosecutors; must focus on DV/SA cases.
- 30 Administrative Assistants; plus 2 temps (term ends June 2025) – *State General Fund*
- 3 Legal Assistants; plus 2 limited service (term ends June 2025) – *State General Fund*.
- 26 (FTE) Victim Advocates; plus 1 limited service (term expires June 2025): All Victim Advocates (VA) are *State General Fund, but under the Victim Advocates budget*. The average caseload per victim advocate is 600.

SAS and Sheriffs are requesting six (6) additional State Transport Deputies, under the Sheriffs budget. This request is supported by the Vermont Dept. of Corrections and the Vermont Judiciary.

FY26 Staffing Requests and Estimated Cost

Position Title	FY26 costs (salary & benefits): TOTAL Estimated
6 Paralegals	\$650,000
6 Administrative support staff	\$570,000
1 Docket Manager	\$120,000
1 Fiscal Support staff	\$95,000
1 IT field support staff	\$90,000
1 PCR/Public Records/Training Attorney	\$150,000
6 Victim Advocates (<i>VA budget</i>)	\$750,000
4 Deputy State’s Attorneys: Convert from Limited Service to Permanent. Positions currently end on June 14, 2025.	NO Funds needed. These positions are currently in our FY26 Budget as Limited-Service with an end date of June 2025. The request is to change them to permanent status as of July 1, 2025.
6 State Transport Deputies (Sheriffs’ budget)	\$850,000

Vacancy Savings:

State’s Attorneys FY26 Vacancy Savings: \$649,126. We are requesting that the Legislature increase the State’s Attorneys base budget by \$400,000 in order to reduce the vacancy savings to a manageable number.

Sheriffs FY26 Vacancy Savings: \$673,170. We are requesting that the Legislature increase the Sheriffs base budget by \$350,000 in order to reduce the vacancy savings to a manageable number.

Victim Advocates FY26 Vacancy Savings: \$270,675. We are requesting that the Legislature increase the Victim Advocates base budget by \$200,000 in order to reduce the vacancy savings to a manageable number. ###