



**Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Office of the Secretary**

6776 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21215
410-585-3346 – TOLL FREE 877-379-8636 • www.dpacs.maryland.gov

Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
PCTC - Q00G
Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation and Environment Subcommittee
Senator Michael Jackson Chair
January 31, 2025

Appropriations Committee
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee
Delegate Jazz Lewis, Chair
February 6, 2025

STATE OF MARYLAND

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GOVERNOR

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LT. GOVERNOR

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DATA, POLICY AND GRANTS

RENARD E. BROOKS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
PROGRAMS, TREATMENT &
RE-ENTRY SERVICES

Personnel Data

Issue: The fiscal 2026 allowance provides 12.20 additional positions that are transferred from other divisions of DPSCS. **DPSCS should discuss the sources and purpose of these transferred positions.**

Response:

The fiscal year 2026 allowance includes 12.20 additional positions that were transferred to the Police and Correctional Training Commissions (PCTC) from other divisions within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS). Nine PINs transferred to PCTC were part of DPSCS's ongoing effort to convert contractual positions into permanent merit roles, ensuring workforce stability and compliance with personnel standards. Two of the PINs were utilized to staff the new Certification and Compliance Unit. One PIN transitioned a temporarily assigned Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Instructor to a permanent role. These transfers are part of a strategic initiative to strengthen PCTC's role in developing and retaining a highly qualified public safety workforce, a cornerstone of Governor Moore's commitment to ensuring community safety. As part of this effort, the department implemented a contractual-to-merit employee conversion project, in accordance with union agreements, to promote workforce stability and retention. These reallocated

positions are essential for addressing long-term staffing needs and ensuring PCTC has the capacity to deliver high-quality training programs, support workforce development, and enhance administrative and programmatic needs.

The additional positions will enable PCTC to expand its training capacity, focusing on the evolving challenges of modern public safety, including crisis intervention, mental health response, and de-escalation techniques. By reinforcing administrative and operational functions, such as virtual training platforms and program management, these positions enhance PCTC's ability to operate effectively and meet the needs of Maryland's public safety agencies. With these resources, DPSCS is positioning PCTC to develop a skilled workforce capable of safeguarding communities while upholding the highest standards of professionalism and public service.

Fiscal 2019 - 2025 Expenditures

Issue: DPSCS should provide the total amount of MPTSC funding expended in fiscal 2025 to date and discuss which of the planned expenditures are being prioritized.

Response:

The FY 25 year-to-date expenses of the MPTSC Fund are \$136,467.62 and the encumbrances are \$579,411.08. There are several approved spending in FY 25 that are for year 1 and 2 of the CMLS Project, PSETC Firearms Simulators, to DGS for the A/E Services for Construction Design of the Simulation Training Environment, and the annual adjustment for salary turnover referenced in FY 25 BRFA. There are additional projected expenditures such as physical agility equipment, two-way radio replacement for police training, DOC Firearms Simulators, and the first phase of renovations for a dedicated commission meeting room. Ongoing priorities for the remainder of FY 25 outlined in the strategic plan also includes two new instructional training initiatives, additional speakers for the two speaker series programs, and professional development for staff. Below is a brief summary of the planned prioritized expenditures in FY 25.

Force Science - Methods of Instruction \$36,000: "During this intensive course, participants will be challenged by diving into paradigm-breaking scientific principles that can be immediately and directly applied to their academy or agency training program." Scheduled for May 2025.

Tactical Medic Training Program \$114,865.13 - Life-like manikins and supplies necessary to provide Tactical Medic training to students at PSETC and regionally. Two classes are being planned for FY2025. This is a collaborative training program with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. This will be an ongoing program at PSETC and at other locations throughout the State.

Speaker Series- Current Trends Legislative Initiatives Speaker Series, \$20,000: Speakers will be selected to address critical topics, such as artificial intelligence, officer health, wellness and resiliency, recruitment, and retention. We are currently in the planning stages for a Public Safety Health/Wellness Seminar at PSETC. This seminar is related to the Governor's 2024 GAPS Act – Growing Apprenticeships and Public Safety Workforce Act.

Leadership Speaker Series \$41,576.72 - Providing impactful speakers to discuss best practices to establish an effective leadership team. The next speaker has been tentatively scheduled for March 2025.

Professional Development - Annual Professional Development for PSETC Staff, \$30,000: Provide staff with the opportunity to attend training and national conferences designed to enhance knowledge and inspire thought

Classroom Technology- PSETC Classroom Technology Upgrades – Continuation \$100,000: All classrooms are being upgraded with the latest “smart board” technology and video capabilities for hybrid (virtual and in-person) training. Approximately \$45,000 has been expended covering 45 % of all classrooms. The remaining classrooms are projected to be completed by the end of FY25.

MIL0 Range Simulators: Two correctional and two PSETC firearms simulators to enhance firearms proficiency, de-escalation techniques, and critical thinking while immersed in a realistic environment. The two PSETC simulators for police training are awaiting purchase order approval (\$278,707) and the requisition for two Correctional Training simulators will be submitted this week (\$132,000).

Library Conversion for Police and Correctional Training Commissions Room - \$200,000 to convert the PSETC library to a professional space redesigned specifically for conducting large meetings. Preliminary construction planned for late FY25.

Future MPTSC Funding Spending Plans

Issue: DPSCS should discuss a new timeline and plan for initiatives supported with the MPTSC Fund.

Response:

The Joint Chairmen's Report submitted on August 8, 2025, included several projects being shifted into future years. The updated report provided a revised timeline and details of specific initiatives and planned expenditures of the MPTSC Fund through FY 28. The Strategic Plan identifies both short and long-term initiatives, with a focus on addressing gaps and improving law enforcement training. The plan was developed with the assumption of an annual fiscal appropriation of \$2 million and accrued interest. As a living document, the plan is reviewed annually with staff and the Police Training and Standards Commission to assess progress in meeting the Commission's goals and objectives for the current and upcoming fiscal

years. The Commission also considers legislative updates, mandated training, and new trends in law enforcement that may require shifting priorities in our timeline. Additionally, we must consider ongoing fixed budget commitments, legislative and contractual, that affect project planning and timelines. Those annual fixed expenses include, the Learning Management System license and maintenance costs (LMS - \$514,000 for 5 years beginning FY24) and RAVE Alert System (\$4,500). The recent legislated budget adjustments for the MPTSC Fund have also been considered, which include the transfer of accrued interest through FY28 and an annual DBM budget turnover cost of approximately \$300,000.

In light of additional budget reductions, the implementation of the Capital Construction Project for the Scenario-Based Simulation Environment is anticipated to be delayed. This project was originally included in the concept for the Public Safety Education and Training Center but was not completed due to funding limitations. A portion of the training fund has been encumbered (\$1.5 million) for the engineering and design portion of the project. DGS is currently reviewing six contract submissions. The construction phase of the project is estimated to be between \$6-\$8 million. As with large projects in the Strategic Plan, the funding for this project was planned over the course of multiple fiscal years, but will be pushed back.

Several projects are one-time funding expenses, but many are on-going programs that rely on funding allocations being rolled over into future fiscal years, such as classroom technology updates, capital projects, Innovation and Design Center (podcasts), and curriculum development and revision. Once the budget is approved, a final adjustment will be made to the Strategic Plan timeline.