



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.dpscs.maryland.gov

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Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Community Supervision - Q00C
Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget
Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation and Environment Subcommittee
Senator Shelly Hettleman, Chair
February 12, 2026

Appropriations Committee
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee
Delegate Gabriel Acevero, Chair
February 18, 2026

Delays Continue in Acquiring New Risk Assessment Tool

Issue: The department should comment on whether the risk assessment tool contract was awarded and give an update on the status of implementation.

Response:

The risk assessment tool contract has not been awarded at this time. The procurement remains in the pre-award phase and is currently under legal review as contract terms and required documentation are finalized.

Once legal review is complete, the Department will transmit the final contract documents to the vendor for review and signature. After vendor execution, the contract package will be submitted to the Department of General Services' Office of State Procurement for review and placement on a Board of Public Works (BPW) agenda. Following BPW approval, the contract will be executed and a Notice to Proceed issued.

Implementation of the risk assessment tool has not yet begun and will not commence until after contract execution and issuance of the Notice to Proceed. Even then, implementation will require additional time for data gathering, configuration, and rollout activities before the tool can be fully deployed.

Since February 2025, the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) and the Office of Procurement Services have continued to coordinate on scope refinement, documentation, and required approvals. In parallel, DPP has taken preparatory steps by incorporating training in case management, Risk-Needs-Responsivity, and EPICS 2 trainer certification to establish a train-the-trainer model for evidence-based skills training. This program equips Parole and Probation Agents with a set of discrete, evidence-based skills to use during routine client interactions, including relationship-building, active listening, motivational engagement, behavioral analysis, cognitive modeling, problem-solving, and the effective use of reinforcement. DPP approved trainers will then train additional staff, with EPICS II training scheduled to be deployed during the 2026 in-service training for DPP Agents, Supervisors and Drinking Driver Monitor Program Monitors.

Recommended Actions

- **DLS recommends adopting committee narrative requesting a report by October 1, 2026, on DPP efforts to improve the safety of community supervision agents and the progress of the implementation of BWCs for parole and probation agents.**

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.

- **DLS recommends adopting committee narrative requesting that the annual report on DPP caseloads for parole and probation agents be submitted by September 15, 2026.**

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.

- **DLS recommends adopting committee narrative requesting that the annual report on the implementation of new DPP risk assessment tools be submitted by September 1, 2026.**

Response: The Department concurs with the recommended action.