



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

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Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services  
Division of Pretrial, Detention Services Q00T04  
Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget  
Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

STATE OF MARYLAND

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Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Public Safety, Transportation and Environment Subcommittee  
Senator Shelly Hettleman Chair  
March 5, 2026

Appropriations Committee  
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee  
Delegate Gabriel Acevero, Chair  
March 4, 2025

**Emergency Closure of Maryland Reception, Diagnostic, and  
Classification Center**

**ISSUE:** The department should comment on its long-term plans for MRDCC and associated budget implications for resolving the facility's structural issues. DPSCS should also discuss how the other facilities are accommodating the transferred pretrial and incarcerated individuals and how the department plans to realign MRDCC's budget to those other facilities.

**Response:** Following a third-party assessment by CGL and Walker Consultants-prompted by an August 2025 garage concern-the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services immediately depopulated the Maryland Reception, Diagnostic and Classification Center (MRDCC). While the building remains structurally sound, serious life safety and operational risks, including inadequate fire suppression, exterior deterioration, and security vulnerabilities, exceeded the scope of short-term maintenance.

To ensure immediate safety, 393 incarcerated individuals were transferred to facilities with available capacity:

- 346 men were relocated, with the majority moving to the Metropolitan Transition Center, the Chesapeake Detention Facility, and for incarcerated individuals with emerging needs, the Jessup Correctional Institution.
- 47 women were relocated to the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women.

Moving forward, DPSCS will evaluate whether to repair or permanently decommission MRDCC based on safety, cost, and the systemwide needs of its 18 facilities. Concurrently, DPSCS and the Department of General Services are proactively reviewing all of the other State correctional facilities to identify existing deficiencies and implement short and long term viability solutions.

### **Personnel Data**

**ISSUE: DPSCS should comment on the reasons for the reduction in positions, including the types of positions and the impact on facilities.**

**Response:** DPDS positions were reallocated to support growing security needs throughout the agency. The majority of the positions were Correctional Officer positions transferred to the Intelligence and Investigative Division (IID) to support overall security in all facilities, including DPDS institutions. Many PINs were also promoted from Correctional Officer Is and IIs to Sergeant positions which has enabled DPSCS to increase promotional opportunities for the field.

### **Deadline for Duvall v. Moore Compliance Nears as Department Remains Noncompliant with Several Provisions**

**ISSUE: DPSCS should discuss the steps being taken to achieve greater compliance with the medical provisions of Duvall v. Moore and its plan to achieve compliance by June 2026.**

**Response:** DPSCS continues to work very closely with its contracted healthcare provider in demonstrating compliance with the Settlement Agreement. These efforts are too numerous to detail here in full. However, the efforts include: (1) routine scheduled weekly, monthly and annual meetings between clinical leadership, (2) robust auditing of the provision of medical care at BCBIC and the MTC Infirmary by DPSCS auditing teams, (3) significant auditing and quality improvement reporting by the healthcare vendor to DPSCS, and (4) collaboration between DPSCS, its healthcare vendor and legal counsel in ensuring the timely and complete production of documents and information to the Medical Monitor, preparation for upcoming site visits, and collaboration on written responses to the Medical Monitor.

The Settlement Agreement is currently set to expire on June 30, 2026. The State notified Plaintiffs' lawyers in the Duvall matter of the State's

willingness to agree to a one-year extension to the existing Settlement Agreement based upon (a) the extended absence of a medical monitor after the prior medical monitors resignation and, (b) the limited amount of medical monitoring occurring over the past year. The State intends to provide Plaintiffs' lawyers with a proposed Joint Motion for a one-year extension of the Duvall Settlement Agreement as early as Monday, March 2, 2026. However, it remains unknown whether the lawyers for Plaintiffs will agree to this one-year extension, as they requested a two-year extension.

### **DPSCS Renews CDF Contract**

**ISSUE:** The department should discuss the contract with USMS, including a justification for why the contract was renewed. Additionally, DPSCS should discuss how the new contract reduces the need for general funds and strategies that the department is using to reduce general fund need.

**Response:** CDF houses both federal detainees and some State detainees. Renewing this agreement with the USMS serves two purposes: 1) DPSCS continues its partnership with the federal government by providing a facility to house their detainees as DPSCS has done for over two decades and 2) the revenue received from the USMS would be used to offset a significant cost of operating CDF; a cost that the State would otherwise incur fully at a 100% without this agreement with the USMS.

With the USMS occupying just over 60% of the capacity at CDF and DPSCS occupying the remainder, it makes financial sense that they only pay a pro-rated amount for their occupancy; however, this new contract is based on historical spending of the last two fiscal years and reflective of changes in contractual obligations such as with inmate medical. The monthly per diem under the former contract was \$1.9M, which covered just about half of the operating expenses for CDF thus increasing the general fund need, whereas the monthly per diem under this new contract is \$3.012M - almost twice the amount of the old rate. With this significant increase, it is anticipated that the general fund need will be substantially lower than it had been the last few years.

### **Recommended Actions:**

- (1) Adopt narrative requesting a report on the Status update on compliance with Duvall v. Moore decree**

**Response:** The Department concurs with this recommendation. Please note the settlement agreement is set to expire in June, 2026, unless an extension is agreed upon.

