



WES MOORE
GOVERNOR

ARUNA MILLER
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
MARYLAND STATE POLICE
1201 REISTERSTOWN ROAD
PIKESVILLE, MARYLAND 21208-3899
410-486-3101
TOLL FREE: 1-800-525-5555
TDD: 410-486-0677



COLONEL
MICHAEL A. JACKSON
SUPERINTENDENT

**W00A - Department of State Police
FY 2027 Operating Budget**

House Appropriations Committee
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee
Delegate Gabriel Acevero, Chair
February 25, 2026

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee
Senator Shelly Hettleman, Chair
February 27, 2026

The Department of State Police (DSP) appreciates this opportunity to provide responses to recommendations and requested updates contained in the Operating Budget Analysis prepared by the Department of Legislative Services (DLS).

On page 11 - DSP should provide the calendar 2025 completion rate for CDS cases, describe FSD's goals for case turnaround time, and comment on how the new Berlin laboratory being in operation will impact its analysis of forensic evidence, including CDS cases, in calendar 2026 and future years.

DSP Response: DSP's Forensic Sciences Division started 2025 with 823 pending cases. During the year, they received 6,073 cases and completed 6,075 cases. Therefore, the 2025 completion rate for CDS cases was 88%. The average turnaround time for cases completed in 2025 was 55 days.

While finalizing construction for the new Berlin Barrack, the Forensic Sciences portion was closed from 3/24/25 through 6/26/25. There was less of an impact than projected, the anticipated trend of increasing carry over from 2025 to 2026 was 805 (actual) vs 1,568 (anticipated). The DSP Forensic Sciences Division will continue to meet customers' needs with a goal of a 60-day turnaround time on CDS cases.

On page 19 - DSP should provide a status update on the finalization of the database [Gun Center Database], a new estimate of the project's total cost, and clarify if the database cost is over budgeted in fiscal 2027.

DSP Response: DSP expects the database to be operational by May 2026. Total cost to implement the database, to include hardware, software, and programming is approximately \$4.6 million. Beginning in FY27, annual costs to maintain the database is anticipated to be approximately \$1 million per year. With the cost of goods and services steadily increasing, this figure will grow in out-years.

On page 19 - In light of the State's fiscal condition, the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) recommends deleting the \$333,000 general fund appropriation for the Maryland Sheriffs' Association grant.

DSP Response: DSP is very in tune with the State's fiscal condition, but feels the return on investment that these training funds have provided to more than 160 law enforcement agencies throughout the State is well worth retaining in its annual budget.

On page 20 - DSP should comment on whether its remaining fiscal 2027 FTE positions are expected to have higher salaries and on why the savings are not greater."

DSP Response: Contractual salaries are but one part of the Object 02. The Department's reduction in contractual salaries and benefits accounted for \$257,889 in savings for FY27. DSP decreased the turnover rate of contractual positions to be more in line with the actual vacancy rate, therefore the total reduction in Object 02, as a whole, was just under \$100K.

On page 25 - As the department's ability to fill its workforce remains critical to its other responsibilities, DLS recommends that committee narrative be added for DSP to continue reporting quarterly personnel data in fiscal 2027. Through these reports, the department should also update the legislature on its progress in meeting the consent decree's requirements as additional information becomes available.

DSP Response: DSP concurs with this recommendation.

On page 27 - DLS recommends adding annual budget language restricting funds pending the receipt of the 2025 UCR and continuing to add this language until the contributing agencies are able to submit complete NIBRS data by November 1, and the department can consistently submit the UCR in a timely manner."

DSP Response: DSP concurs with this recommendation.

Operating Budget Recommended Actions:

- 1. Delete grant funding for the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (\$333,000).*

DSP Response: DSP is very in tune with the State's fiscal condition, but feels the return on investment that these training funds have provided to more than 160 law enforcement agencies throughout the State is well worth retaining in its annual budget.

- 2. Withhold \$100,000 of DSP's general fund appropriation until DSP submits the Crime in Maryland Uniform Crime Report to budget committees.*

DSP Response: DSP concurs with this recommendation.

- 3. DSP submit quarterly personnel measures reports to budget committees, to include recruitment and retention activities and specific vacancy/hiring data.*

DSP Response: DSP concurs with this recommendation.