

Responses to Unanswered Questions from AFA CJPS

- 1. Representative Sachs – Could you please provide more details on the positions being requested?**

Please see the attachment titled Detailed Position Request.

- 2. Senator Bennett – State Police are responsible for the security of the Governor, but the Capital Police are responsible for the security of the buildings. What is the justification for having a separate Capitol Police Unit?**

Please see the attachment titled Bureau of Capitol Police.

- 3. Representative Faye – More details on the 4 Public Service Manager positions.**

Please see the attachment titled Detailed Position Request.

- 4. Representative Ducharme – Can we get an update on the \$31 million EMS funding?**

The Grant has been split into two phases and two funding buckets, 12m and 19m respectively. The Stabilization Phase (Phase 1 of 2) of the EMS Grant funding is well underway, with over 147 applicants to the program so far. Nearly 8.4m has already been requested. The current application period closes at the end of March. Maine EMS has hired the Grant Program Manager and is currently more than halfway through the review process for those agencies that have submitted, with many applications arriving at the end of January. Agencies are requesting items like assisted CPR devices, Ambulances, and state of the art clinical equipment. As well as money for staff incentives and clinical training. Maine EMS has been busy building the Ch.25 Rules that will facilitate the second Phase (Sustainability) of the Grant for a planned rollout Summer of 2024. The funding from the EMS Stabilization and Sustainability Grant is being used to make a tangible difference in the communities that these EMS agencies serve.

- 5. Representative Salisbury – Representative Geiger request for Can we hear more about the Sexual Assault Kits Pilot Program?**

Please see the attachments titled Pilot Project Status and Summary as well as Project Narrative.

**Maine Department of Public Safety
Summary of 24/25 Initiatives**

Bureau	Committee	Page	Action	Initiative	Justification	State Fiscal Year 2025			
						Headcount	General Fund (010)	Highway Funds (012)	Total FY25
Capitol Police	AFA CJPS	A-120	New Headcount	Establishes 2 Capitol Police Security Agent positions effective December 8, 2024 and provides funding for related All Other costs.	Upon the completion of the renovation of the Cultural Building at the Capitol Complex, the occupying agencies (Archives, Library & Museum) have requested additional in-house security services from the Capitol Police. To accomplish this mission the Bureau will require the addition of 2 Security Agents. The requesting facility is due to re-open to the public in June of 2025. In order to be prepared to go live with the program on that date, the bureau will need to recruit, train and equip the new employees six months prior to the reopening.	2	159,312		159,312
Capitol Police	AFA CJPS	A-120	New Headcount	Establishes 3 Capitol Police Security Agent positions, one Lead Security Agent position, one Capitol Police Officer position and one Capitol Police Sergeant position, effective March 2, 2025, and provides funding for related All Other costs.	In the first regular session of the 131st, LD 1100 was passed to direct the Commissioner of DPS to commence screening all visitors to the Cross Office Building in the same manner and methods as the State House. DAFS secured a bond program for construction of a Cross Building Security center for this purpose. To operate this center the Bureau will require 3 new Security Agents, 1 Lead Security Agent, 1 Capitol Police Officer and 1 Capitol Police Sergeant. To be prepared for an estimated go live date the Bureau will need to recruit, equip and train this new staff six months prior to the reopening.	6	304,497		304,497
Capitol Police	AFA CJPS	A-120	New Headcount	Establishes one intermittent Capitol Police Officer positions and one intermittent Capitol Police Security Agent positions and provides funding for related All Other costs.	The Capitol Police has experienced a substantial increase in legislative requests for additional security on the chamber floor when in session and at committee hearings. The need for additional security decreases when the legislature is not in session. The department plans to meet this growing security challenge in a cost effective manner with the creation of these intermittent positions.	1	143,201		143,201
Emergency Medical Services	AFA CJPS	A-121	Continues and Makes Permanent Limited Period Position	Continues and makes permanent one Emergency Medical Education Training Coordinator position previously continued with Financial Order 002869 F4 and provides funding for All Other related costs.	Maine Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is currently collaborating with the Maine Departments of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Department of Labor to create learning opportunities for young persons (16-24) throughout the State of Maine to learn about and get involved with emergency medical services. Through this collaborative, DHHS was able to locate limited funding to support the creation of a position within Maine EMS to support these efforts. Unfortunately, the sustainability of that funding source is likely not viable; however, the need for this staff person will continue to persist. Creating the infrastructure and support mechanisms for Explorer Programs throughout the state will require ongoing support, refinement, education, training, and outreach. A dedicated staff person will be essential to maintaining this opportunity for young persons throughout Maine.	1	110,125		110,125
Emergency Medical Services	AFA CJPS	A-121	New Headcount	Establishes 4 Public Service Manager I positions and provides funding for related All Other costs.	Since the creation of the Maine Emergency Medical Service (EMS) system in 1986, it was built on a regionalized structure intended to facilitate communications, programming, and collaboration between the state-level and local services. Maine EMS has paid contractors to help provide this critical conduit within the EMS regions; however, funding for these contractors has dwindled over the past 30 years. The original funding amounts have vastly declined to approximately \$50K per year for each region. The current labor market does not account for a single contracted staff person dedicated to these efforts. Putting a regional administrator position in four regions will drastically increase the local collaboration with EMS entities across the State of Maine. It will also increase the state's bandwidth to facilitate quality improvement efforts, coordinate greater cooperation with other healthcare partners, and deliver resources locally for the EMS system.	4	511,716		511,716

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Summary of 24/25 Initiatives**

Bureau	Committee	Page	Action	Initiative	Justification	State Fiscal Year 2025			
						Headcount	General Fund (010)	Highway Funds (012)	Total FY25
State Police	AFA TRA	A-123	New Headcount	Establishes 16 State Police Trooper positions, 4 State Police Corporal positions, 3 State Police Detective positions, 8 State Police Sergeant-E positions and one State Police Major position and provides funding for related All Other costs.	These positions allow Maine State Police to maintain Resource Coordination Agreements with counties and municipalities and continue with rural policing throughout the state. These positions provide for 24/7 operations.	32	3,570,696	1,939,600	5,510,296
Total of Initiatives						46	4,799,547	1,939,600	6,739,147

Bureau of Capitol Police

Statutory Authority & Overview

The Bureau of Capitol Police was first constituted as the “State House Police” through an Executive Order by Governor Kenneth Curtis in 1967. Prior to this time the Capitol Complex was patrolled overnight and on weekends by non-sworn security guards under the Bureau of Public Improvements. In response to the terroristic bombing of the Central Maine Power Company headquarters in Augusta in May of 1976, more police officers were added to the Bureau. At the same time the Bureau was transitioned to the Department of Public Safety and was renamed the Bureau of Capitol Security. In 2009 the 124th Maine Legislature passed LD 915 which changed the name of the Bureau to the Bureau of Capitol Police. Within the same bill, fully trained Capitol Police Officers were afforded statewide police authority. Governor Baldacci signed the bill into law as enacted as Public Law, Chapter 317.

Capitol Police officers derive their current policing authority through the 2009 legislation and as outlined Title 25, Part 8, Chapter 351, Subsection 2908 (*Police Officers; powers and duties; cooperation*).

Major Functions & Responsibilities

The main mission of the Bureau of Capitol Police is to maintain order and compliance with state law and the various regulations promulgated for the Capitol Complex and Capitol Area as defined in Title 1, Chapter 21, Subsection 814 (2) *Capitol Area Defined*. The Bureau is tasked with full law enforcement responsibilities at state properties and facilities within the *Capitol Area*. The Capitol Police provides 24/7, 365 operations. Primary to that mission is the task of maintaining security and safety to the State House and Burton Cross Office Building which serve as the hub of Maine’s democratic process.

The Capitol Police is the State authority that grants “activity permits” for the use of State facilities and grounds within the statutory Capitol Area. Activities include civic engagements, rallies, and protests on a wide array of topics. The Bureau has developed a more detailed vetting process in recent years for this process as the potential for volatility at such events is now a legitimate concern based on the current political climate locally, nationally, and globally.

In 2011 the Legislative Council directed the Bureau to begin screening visitors to the State House for weapons and other contraband. The Bureau’s headcount expanded in kind as Security Screeners (now known as Security Agents) were brought online to accomplish this task. Additional police officers were also added to support the screening function using the model employed by the TSA at airports across the country.

The policing/security posture of the Bureau for the State House, Cross Building and Blaine House has transitioned over the last decade to a more proactive approach as dictated by an

increase in threats and acts of violence at State Capitols and the US Capitol. The Bureau now coordinates routinely with other law enforcement partners both locally and nationally to identify potential threats to our Capitol and mitigate same prior to a threat being actualized here. As such, the Bureau regularly conducts investigative functions throughout Maine and nationally on occasion. Also in 2011, the City of Augusta commissioned a study on emerging policing challenges for the city. The International Chiefs of Police Association was selected to perform the study. In response to the final report on this study, Police Chief Robert Gregoire, requested that the state, through the Capitol Police, take a more prominent and consistent role in policing the vast inventory of State buildings, facilities, and parks within Augusta to ease the workload of the overburdened Augusta Police Department.

Secondary to State House and legislative security, the Bureau has been tasked over time with a multitude of additional responsibilities in support of numerous State agencies. In 2014 the Bureau was again expanded through Executive Order by Governor LePage to create a unit specifically tasked with law enforcement and safety operations at the Riverview Psychiatric Center. A memorandum of understanding between the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Health and Human Resources was enacted to support that unit.

Over time, the Bureau began tasks in support the HETL Labs, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Secretary of State's Office and numerous other State entities. The Bureau has taken the lead with state employee training on workplace acts of violence (active shooter) and other safety programs. In 2024 the Bureau will deliver training in several forms to over 5,000 state employees.



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Governor

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133 State House Station
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Lt. Michael Zabarsky
Director

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**Report of Lieutenant Michael Zabarsky
131st Second Regular Session**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINATION KIT
TRACKING SYSTEM PILOT PROJECT - SUMMARY DOCUMENT**

Senator Rotundo and Representative Melanie Sachs, of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury, of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, and other distinguished members, my name is Lt. Michael Zabarsky, also the Director of the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory. I am providing a summary of the sexual assault forensic examination kit tracking system Pilot Project underway in partnership with MECASA. The Department previously testified neither for nor against LD 2129, An Act to Establish a Statewide Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Kit Tracking System and Conduct an Inventory of Existing Forensic Examination Kits. The Department maintains its position of being neither for nor against LD 2129.

In the first regular session, LD 1484 established a Resolve requiring the Department to report on a pilot project initiated in partnership with MECASA to identify potential federal grant funding, kit tracking software, and any related recommendations regarding the establishment of such a pilot program. The pilot project is important for victims of sexual assault and all stakeholders working to implement a statewide tracking system for kits, which can be accessed by survivors, provide real-time kit related status and anonymity throughout the tracking and forensic analysis process.

On behalf of the Department, and in response to the Committee's recent request for a summary report on the Pilot Project, I am attaching MECASA'S STOP grant Program Narrative, *see attached*. The Pilot Project met quarterly objectives starting its work applying for and receiving

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STOP grant funds. A part-time project coordinator was hired to prepare and execute Memorandums of Understanding with Kennebec and Penobscot Counties, researching and meeting with stakeholders regarding potential kit tracking systems, and preparing reports and recommendations.

In the second quarter, the Department along with its stakeholders, identified viable kit tracking systems and recommended the Idaho State Police as the most fiscally prudent and adaptive program to meet our needs and national best practices. The software for this system is free and available to other law enforcement agencies. During February and March 2024, MaineIT is working with their development team to evaluate network system and security feasibility. That information is expected soon. It appears there are STOP grant funds available via MECASA that are sufficient to stand up the system and cover early technology costs. Therefore, no fiscal note for the system is anticipated.

The Department has identified a Forensic Chemist II position to manage the tracking system and provided a fiscal note. This position requires advanced of forensic chemistry knowledge and methodologies, quality assurance and quality control standards, and will be responsible to work with stakeholders including MaineIT, pull data for reports, train staff, forensic nurses, criminal justice agencies on statutory requirements, participate in meetings, and ensure processes comport with lab accreditation standards. This position is essential to commence and run the proposed kit tracking system.

In order to determine the impact on the lab of the proposed Statewide inventory provided in LD 2129, the Department just started a coordinated effort with partners to obtain this data. Based on statutory kit storage requirements, the Department believes that an inventory exists. However, the total numbers are not known or whether these kits need testing. Since LD 2129 mandates a statewide inventory, the Department is concerned that inventory process will result in casework. The Crime Lab has a backlog of kits and additional kits will have a chilling effect on

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being able to prioritize and process all kits at the lab in a timely fashion, detrimentally impact our turnaround time, and mandates to reduce to backlog. The Department reasonably believes that new minimum staff is needed: A Forensic Chemist I and a DNA Forensic Analyst are needed. The Department also needs time to hire and train new staff to process additional kits received due to the flow expected from the mandated inventory. Therefore, the Department is submitting a fiscal note for the positions needed.

The Department is committed to kit tracking and its success and appreciates the committee's work to provide a path forward. On behalf of the Department of Public Safety and the Maine State Police, I thank you for your time and am happy to answer any questions that you might have.

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Behavioral Health Items Included in the 24-25 Biennial Budget and Proposed by the Governor in the EFY 24 Supplemental Budget

Document	Change Package	Initiative/Text	General Fund	Other Special Revenue Funds	Federal Expenditures Fund	Federal Block Grant Fund	Grand Total	
24-25 Biennial Budget Part 1	C-A-1709	Continues and makes permanent one Developmental Disabilities Resources Coordinator position previously continued in Public Law 2021, chapter 398 funded 50% Mental Health Services - Children program, General Fund and 50% Office of MaineCare Services program, Federal Expenditures Fund. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$110,993		\$113,376		\$224,369	
	C-A-1710	Continues one limited-period Social Services Program Specialist II position previously continued by Financial Order 002290 F3 as a youth substance use disorder specialist. This position will end on June 14, 2025. This initiative also provides one-time funding for related All Other costs.	\$228,118				\$228,118	
	C-A-1716	Continues and makes permanent one Social Services Program Specialist II position, one Social Services Program Specialist I position and one Data and Research Coordinator position previously continued by Public Law 2021, chapter 635 and also transfers and reallocates the positions from 100% Mental Health Services - Children program, Federal Expenditures Fund to 50% Mental Health Services - Children program, General Fund and 50% Office of MaineCare Services program, Federal Expenditures Fund. This initiative also establishes 8 Social Services Program Specialist II positions, one Social Services Program Manager position and one Comprehensive Health Planner II position funded 50% Mental Health Services - Children program, General Fund and 50% Office of MaineCare Services program, Federal Expenditures Fund. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$1,431,108		\$1,107,713		\$2,538,821	
	C-A-1722	Provides funding to achieve parity with MaineCare cost-of-living adjustments for certain community behavioral health-related services.	\$872,113				\$872,113	
	C-A-1744	Provides funding for the proposed reorganization of 5 Clinical Social Worker positions to Social Services Program Specialist II positions.	\$154,961				\$154,961	
	C-A-1909	Continues and makes permanent one Public Service Manager III position previously continued in Public Law 2021, chapter 29 to serve as the deputy director of research and evaluation. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$377,492				\$377,492	
	C-A-1911	Continues and makes permanent one Public Service Manager III position previously continued by Public Law 2021, chapter 29 to serve as the deputy director of strategic planning. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$377,492				\$377,492	
	C-A-7117	Provides funding for cost-of-living increases per Public Law 2021, chapter 639, An Act To Codify MaineCare Rate System Reform, related to the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 50, Principles of Reimbursement for Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded; Section 67, Principles of Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities; Section 97, Appendix C, Principles of Reimbursement for Medical and Remedial Service Facilities; Section 97, Appendix E, Principles of Reimbursement for Community Residences for Persons with Mental Illness; and Section 97, Appendix F, Principles of Reimbursement for Non-Case Mixed Medical and Remedial Facilities.	\$8,580,588				\$8,580,588	
	24-25 Biennial Budget Part 2	C-A-7305	Establishes one Intensive Case Manager position and one Clinical Social Worker position effective July 1, 2023 and establishes one Intensive Case Manager position and one Social Services Program Specialist I position effective July 1, 2024 funded 100% Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center program, General Fund to expand outpatient services from 25 patients to 60 patients. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$640,261				\$640,261
		C-A-7711	Provides funding to administer a public education program as described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, section 15002, subsection 5 and for contracted support to administer the program.	\$500,000				\$500,000
C-A-7731		Provides one-time funding to contract for multidimensional family therapy training of 2 supervisors and 6 therapists in each of the 6 agencies identified as providers prior to the services being added to the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual in state fiscal year 2024-25.	\$1,515,731				\$1,515,731	
C-A-7736		Provides one-time funding to contract with the national purveyor of an evidence-based treatment foster care program for training and certification of Maine providers prior to the services being added to the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual in state fiscal year 2024-25.	\$2,520,000				\$2,520,000	
C-A-7907		Provides funding for mental health and substance use disorder services for uninsured clients to align with expected MaineCare rate increases under the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 65, Behavioral Health Services, and Section 17, Allowances for Community Support Services.	\$1,033,908				\$1,033,908	
C-A-7908		Establishes one Behavioral Health Program Coordinator position funded 100% Mental Health Services - Community program, General Fund and also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$199,651				\$199,651	
C-A-7914		Establishes one Social Services Program Specialist II position funded 100% Mental Health Services - Community program, General Fund to manage housing programs and provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$213,048				\$213,048	
C-A-7924		Provides funding for the Bridging Rental Assistance Program for a 2021 policy change that increased the 49% payment for a voucher holder's rent to 60%.	\$766,950				\$766,950	
		Establishes one Public Service Coordinator III position and provides funding to establish the forensics fellowship program. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$706,265				\$706,265	
AAAA		Establishes one Public Service Manager III position and one Social Services Program Manager position effective January 1, 2024 in the Housing First Program, General Fund to provide initial planning and administration for the delivery of support and stabilization services to residents of properties established or developed to provide permanent housing in the State.	\$410,721				\$410,721	
	Provides funding for mental health and substance use disorder services for uninsured clients to align with expected MaineCare rate increases under the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 65, Behavioral Health Services, and Section 17, Allowances for Community Support Services.	\$1,635,560				\$1,635,560		

EFY 24 Supplemental Budget	F-A-1701	Establishes one Social Services Program Manager position effective July 1, 2024 to support so-called High Fidelity Wraparound services for children funded 50% Other Special Revenue Funds and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund in the Office of MaineCare Services program through March 31, 2025 and funded 50% Mental Health Services - Children's program, General Fund and 50% Office of MaineCare Services program, Federal Expenditures Fund beginning April 1, 2025. This initiative also provides funding for related All Other costs.	\$14,323	\$54,059	\$68,730		\$137,112	
	F-A-1944	Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Psychiatric Social Worker II position to a Social Services Program Specialist II position to more accurately reflect the needs of the State Forensic Service and the duties to be assigned.	\$4,350				\$4,350	
	F-A-1945	Adjusts funding between accounts within the Mental Health Services - Community program, Federal Expenditures Fund to separate the continuum of care program into its own distinct account and provides additional funding to align allocation with available resources.			\$465,198		\$465,198	
	F-A-2143	Provides funding for annual cost-of-living increases per Public Law 2021, chapter 639 related to the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Sections 2, 13, 17, 26, 28, 65 and 92.	\$8,172,301	\$274,956	\$15,080,867	\$525,083	\$24,053,207	
	F-A-2152	Provides funding for a new comprehensive foster child assessment service in the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 23 pursuant to Public Law 2019, chapter 162.	\$339,478		\$543,013	\$26,750	\$909,241	
	F-A-2153	Provides funding for new mobile crisis rates and services to be included in the MaineCare Benefits Manual beginning January 1, 2025. This is a preliminary estimate for 6 months and will be annualized in fiscal year 2025-26 and updated in future years, as needed, once actual rates are finalized and utilization of these services is more certain.	\$633,034		\$1,879,789	\$289,070	\$2,801,893	
	F-A-7947	Provides one-time funding to establish a behavioral health crisis receiving center in Lewiston open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to support the long-term behavioral health needs of the community.	\$950,000				\$950,000	
	F-A-7948	Provides ongoing funding to support a behavioral health crisis receiving center in Lewiston open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to support the long-term behavioral health needs of the community.	\$450,000				\$450,000	
	F-A-7949	Provides funding for required mental health assessments of foreseeable harm pursuant to Public Law 2019, chapter 411, commonly referred to as Maine's Yello Flag Law.	\$422,400				\$422,400	
			Enacted Items	\$22,274,960	\$0	\$1,221,089	\$0	\$23,496,049
			Proposed Items	\$10,985,886	\$329,015	\$18,037,597	\$840,903	\$30,193,401
		Grand Total	\$33,260,846	\$329,015	\$19,258,686	\$840,903	\$53,689,450	