



Priority
① Actually budget
② fulfill promise
③ Quality of life

State of South Carolina

Office of the Governor

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Fact Sheet – Law Enforcement Budget Preview

Overall:

- Provides for more than 425 new law enforcement officers between DPS, Corrections, DJJ, DNR and SLED.
- Dedicates almost \$31.7 million in recurring dollars to officers and other critical needs at DPS, Corrections and DJJ, and provides more than \$22.2 million in one-time money to DPS, Corrections and DJJ for equipment, facilities and maintenance.

Department of Public Safety – *The Need for Resources*

- In 2000, the state had 961 troopers on the road. Due to tightening budgets, today we only have 788 troopers patrolling our highways – an 18% drop over the past four years. We have not had the funds to add a new state-funded trooper class in over two years.
- South Carolina’s Mileage Death Rate (MDR), calculated at 2 traffic related fatalities per 100 million miles driven, is significantly higher than the national average MDR of 1.5. The Highway Patrol’s response time to collisions has increased over 20% - from 28 minutes in 2001 to nearly 35 minutes last year. Our traffic fatalities for 2004 have also already surpassed our 2003 totals – 948 versus 906.

Department of Public Safety – *Budget Proposals*

- The Executive Budget adds 115 officers -- 100 new Troopers and 15 other officers (State Transport Police and Bureau of Protective Services). The Budget also adds an additional \$5.6 million for capital expenditures, including vehicles for new officers and renovations to the Criminal Justice Academy.

Department of Corrections – *The Need for Resources*

- South Carolina’s inmate population increased 10.4% from FY 01 to FY 04, and Corrections has seen nearly 14% drop in funding during that time -- even after we successfully pushed to add \$13 million to this year’s budget.
- A 10.4% increase in inmates coupled with a 14% budget reduction has caused a cumulative deficit of \$56 million over the past three years - \$6M - FY '02; \$28M - FY '03; \$22M - FY '04.

Department of Corrections – *Budget Proposals*

- The Executive Budget adds 124 new Corrections Officers and a new substance abuse center. The Budget also adds \$11.2 million for capital expenditures, including new metal detectors and upgrades to their food storage systems – upgrades that will allow for \$1.6 million in annual savings.

Department of Juvenile Justice – *The Need for Resources*

- Just over a year ago, DJJ was released from under the control of the federal courts after 13 years of oversight, accomplishing the additional demands placed upon them by the court despite having lost 20% of state funding since 2001.
- However, DJJ has serious deferred maintenance issues, including ^{several} a 40-year-old dormitory that was scheduled for replacement before any juveniles currently housed there were born.

Department of Juvenile Justice – *Budget Proposals*

- The Executive Budget provides for 126 new officers, and for \$5.4 million in capital expenditures, including replacing a 40-year-old dormitory and a 20-year-old IT system.

Department of Natural Resources and State Law Enforcement Division

- Under the Executive Budget, DNR would add 40 officers, and SLED will add 10 agents and 10 lab personnel.