

**Representative Jack McFarland**  
**Chairman**



**Representative Jason Hughes**  
**Vice Chairman**

# **Fiscal Year 2026 Executive Budget Review**

## **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**House Committee on Appropriations**  
**House Fiscal Division**

**March 26, 2025**

**Budget Analyst: Zion Wilson**

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All data and figures were obtained from the governor's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Executive Budget and Supporting Documents provided by the Office of Planning and Budget within the Division of Administration along with House Bill 1 of the 2025 Regular Session, unless otherwise noted.

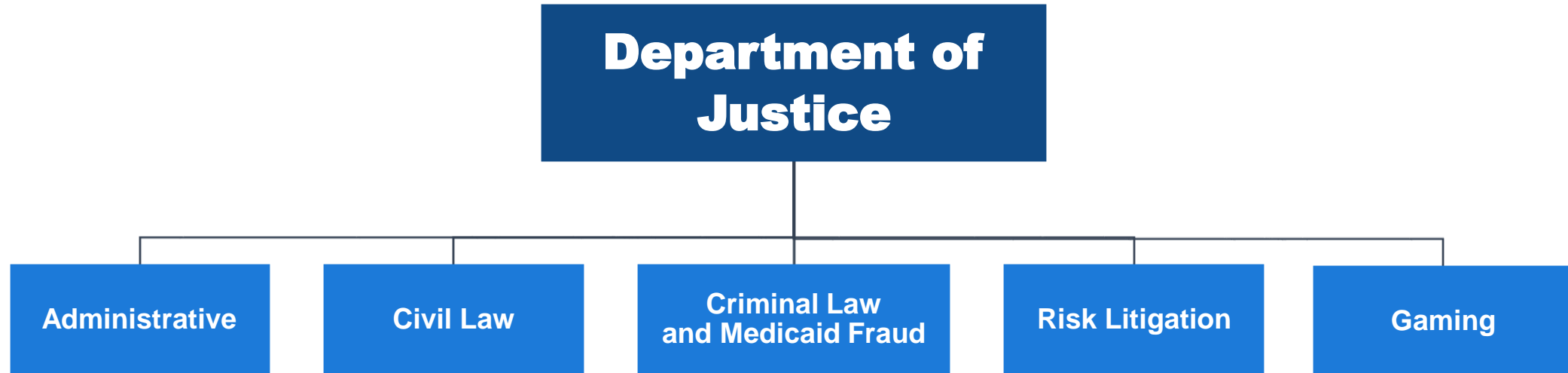
<https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/opb/budget-documents/>

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# DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

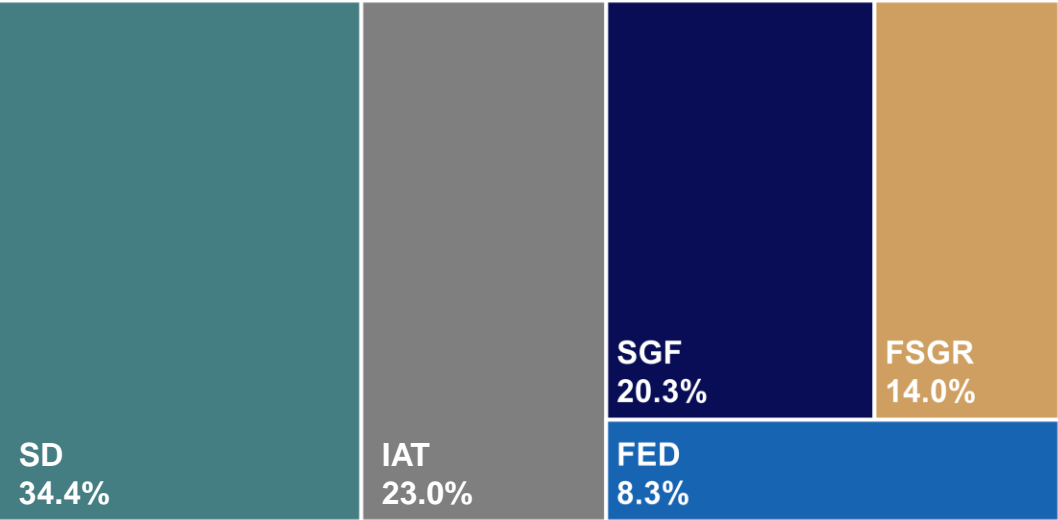


*Note: Further detail on department programs, functions, and services are under the General Department Information section.*

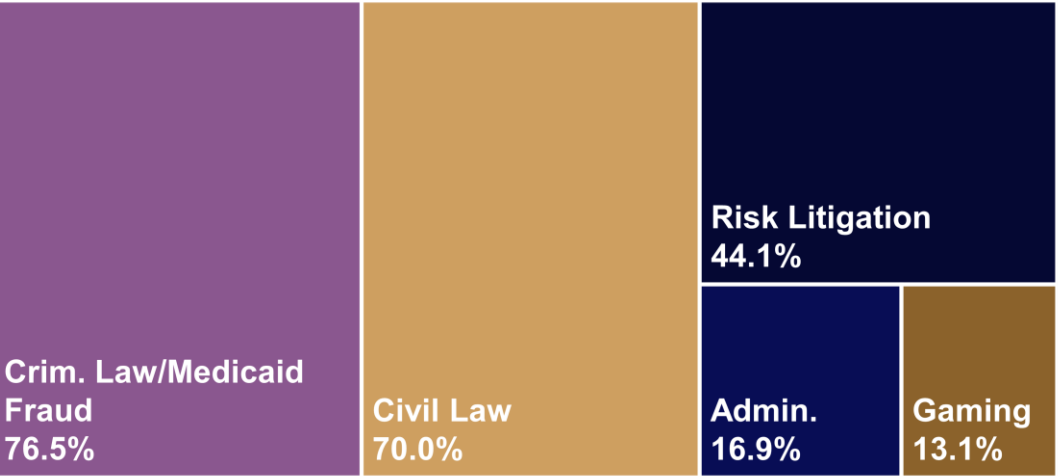
# FY 26 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

Total Funding = \$112,978,670

Means of Finance		
State General Fund	\$	22,927,779
Interagency Transfers		25,989,244
Fees & Self-generated		15,806,306
Statutory Dedications		38,845,700
Federal Funds		9,409,641
Total	\$	112,978,670



Program Funding & Authorized Positions			
		Amount	Positions
Administrative	\$	8,665,887	63
Civil Law		35,875,828	82
Crim. Law/Medicaid Fraud		39,167,565	168
Risk Litigation		22,581,986	172
Gaming		6,687,404	54
Total	\$	112,978,670	539



# HISTORICAL SPENDING

Annual Average Spending  
Change from FY 20 to 24:

1.4%

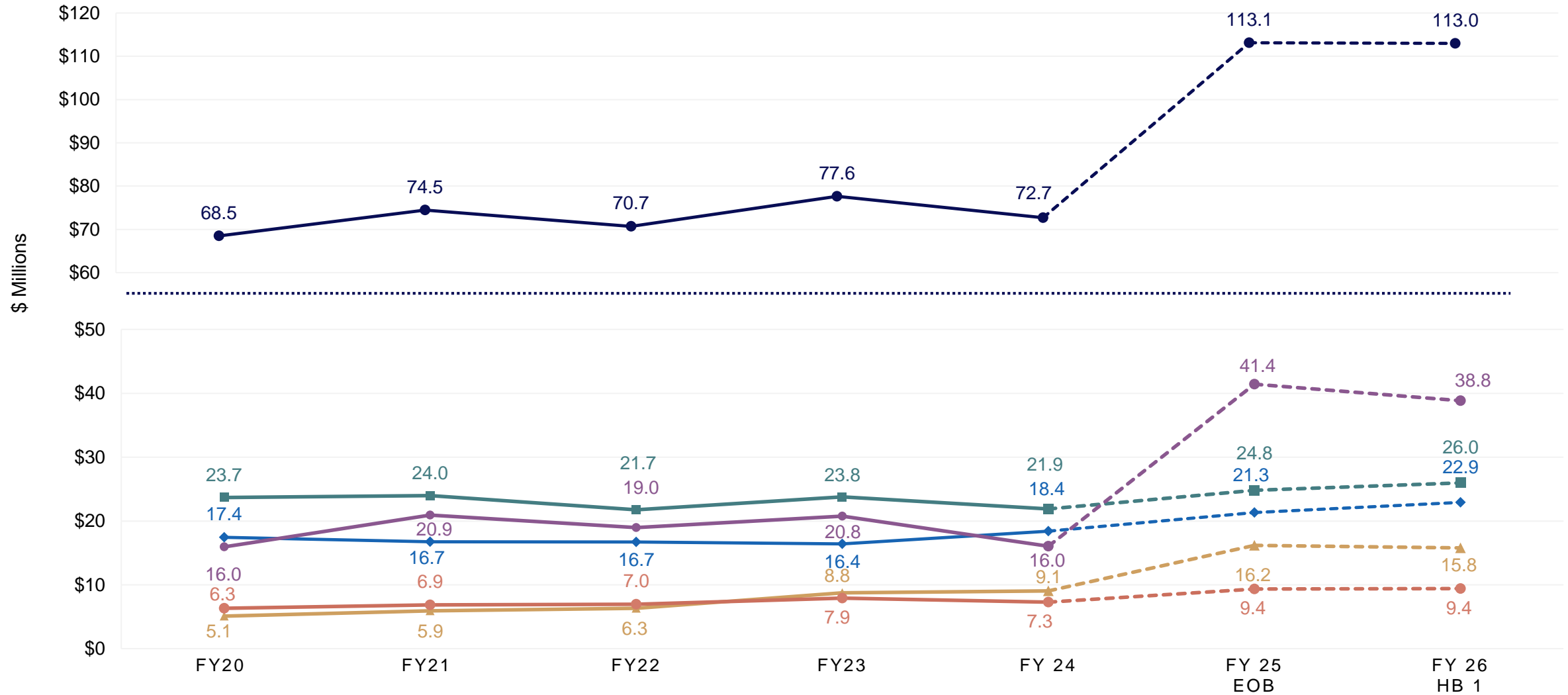
(2%)

15.5%

0.1%

3.6%

1.5%



# SOURCES OF FUNDING

State General Fund \$22.9 M	Interagency Transfers \$26 M	Self-generated Revenue \$15.8 M	Statutory Dedications \$38.8 M	Federal Funds \$9.4 M
The chief operating fund of the State recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference from various taxes, licenses, fees, and other revenue sources except for those identified as other means of financing	<p>Funding is derived from the following transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office of Risk Management and LSU for all tort claims seeking damages</li> <li>• Transfers from agencies for legal, investigative, and domestic violence training services</li> </ul>	<p>Revenues derived from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fees charged to other agencies for investigative and legal services for quasi-state agencies</li> <li>• Participation in the US DOJ Federal Forfeiture program</li> <li>• Louisiana Lottery Corporation legal service fees</li> <li>• \$947,771 from the Insurance Fraud Investigation Dedicated Fund Account</li> <li>• \$948,489 from the Sex Offender Registry Technology Dedicated Fund Account</li> </ul>	<p>Funding is derived from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$12 M from the Criminal Justice and First Responder Fund</li> <li>• \$10.1 M from the DOJ Legal Support Fund</li> <li>• \$6 M from the DOJ Debt Collection Fund</li> <li>• \$3.5 M from the Video Draw Poker Device Fund</li> <li>• \$1.9 M from the Riverboat Gaming Enforcement Fund</li> <li>• \$1.4 M from the Medical Assistance Programs Fraud Detection Fund</li> </ul>	<p>Federal funding derived from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Fraud Unit</li> <li>• U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the administration and enforcement of the Louisiana open housing laws</li> <li>• U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)</li> </ul>

Note: Further details on Statutory Dedication funding are under the General Budgetary Information section.

# FUNDING COMPARISON

Means of Finance	FY 24 Actual Expenditures	FY 25 Existing Operating Budget 12/1/24	FY 26 HB1 Budget	Change Existing Operating Budget to HB1		Change Actual Expenditures to HB1	
SGF	\$ 18,417,092	\$ 21,342,949	\$ 22,927,779	\$ 1,584,830	7.4%	\$ 4,510,687	24.5%
IAT	21,881,322	24,808,905	25,989,244	1,180,339	4.8%	4,107,922	18.8%
FSGR	9,054,279	16,199,751	15,806,306	(393,445)	(2.4%)	6,752,027	74.6%
Stat Ded	16,049,260	41,431,605	38,845,700	(2,585,905)	(6.2%)	22,796,440	142.0%
Federal	7,305,220	9,352,138	9,409,641	57,503	0.6%	2,104,421	28.8%
Total	\$ 72,707,173	\$ 113,135,348	\$ 112,978,670	\$ (156,678)	(0.1%)	\$ 40,271,497	55.4%

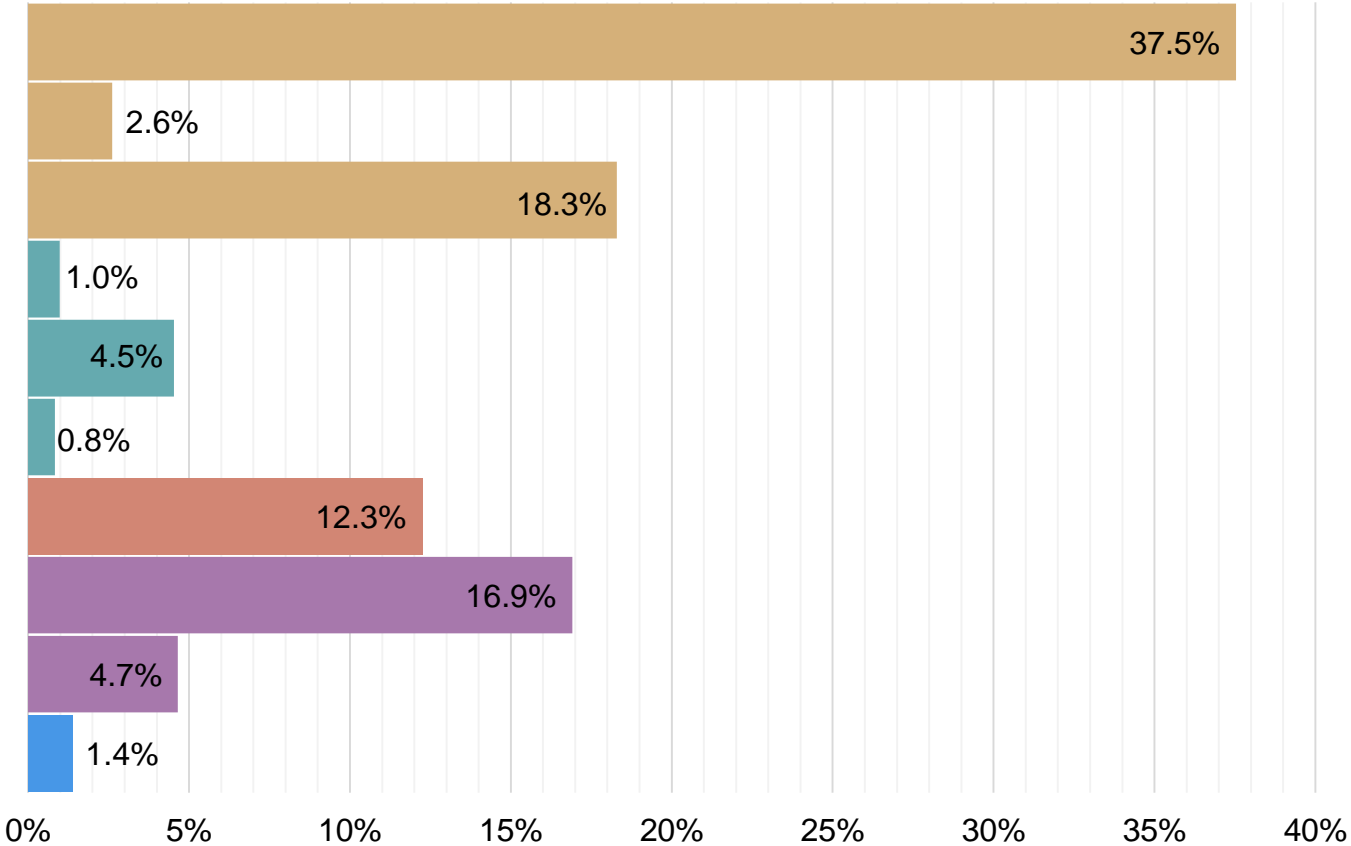
## Significant funding changes compared to the FY 25 Existing Operating Budget

State General Fund	Interagency Transfers	Fees & Self-generated	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds
<p>\$1.6 M net increase primarily due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$3.6 M increase for personnel services adjustments in the Administrative, Civil Law, and Criminal Law and Medicaid Fraud Programs</li> <li>(\$1.2 M) decrease to factor projected savings from vacant positions in FY 26</li> </ul>	<p>\$1.2 M net increase primarily due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.4 M increase for personnel services adjustments in the Risk Litigation Program</li> <li>(\$216,523) decrease for retirement contribution rate changes</li> </ul>	<p>(\$393,445) net decrease due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(\$480,135) decrease for funds carried into FY 25 that are no longer needed in FY 26</li> <li>\$179,473 increase for various replacement acquisitions and equipment purchases</li> </ul>	<p>(\$2.6 M) net decrease due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(\$4.5 M) decrease primarily to remove one-time funding in the Criminal Justice and First Responder Fund</li> <li>\$1.9 M increase primarily in the Medical Assistance Programs Fraud Detection Fund</li> </ul>	<p>\$57,503 net increase due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$366,220 increase for various replacement acquisitions and equipment</li> <li>(\$519,040) decrease to remove funding for acquisitions and equipment no longer needed in FY 26</li> </ul>

# FY 26 EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATION

**Total Budget = \$112,978,670**

Expenditure Category		
Salaries	\$	42,406,533
Other Compensation		2,956,689
Related Benefits		20,665,677
Travel		1,111,715
Operating Services		5,119,804
Supplies		940,965
Professional Services		13,863,279
Other Charges		19,106,836
Interagency Transfers		5,256,298
Acquisitions/Repairs		1,550,874
Total	\$	112,978,670





# OTHER CHARGES / INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS

## Other Charges

Amount	Description
\$ 12,000,000	Funding for Troop NOLA and the Criminal Division
3,632,777	Consumer Enforcement Fund expenses
1,000,000	Redistricting litigation related to existing congressional maps
979,019	Cyber Crimes Unit expenses
698,489	Sex Offender Registry Technology Fund Account residual monies to be distributed to the sheriff of each parish, based on the population of convicted sex offenders, sexually violent predators, and child predators who reside in the parish
415,749	Expenses associated with expert witnesses, contracted legal services, court transcripts, records, depositions, and filing fees
253,243	Medicaid Fraud Control Unit expense
112,561	U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
15,000	Tobacco Control Special Fund expenses
<b>\$ 19,106,838</b>	<b>Total Other Charges</b>

## Interagency Transfers

Amount	Description
\$ 1,821,433	Rent in state-owned buildings
1,052,854	Office of Risk Management
1,035,588	Office of Technology Services- Printing and Communications
691,780	Benson Towers rent
277,438	Office of Technology Services
155,744	Capitol Park Security & Capitol Police fees
110,726	Maintenance in state owned buildings
65,402	Legislative Auditor fees
26,191	Uniform Payroll System (UPS) fees
19,142	Office of State Procurement
<b>\$ 5,256,298</b>	<b>Total Interagency Transfers</b>

# EXPENDITURE COMPARISON

Expenditure Category	FY 24 Actual Expenditures	FY 25 Existing Operating Budget 12/1/24	FY 26 HB1 Budget	Change Existing Operating Budget to HB1		Change Actual Expenditures to HB1	
Salaries	\$ 34,025,435	\$ 39,519,798	\$ 42,406,533	\$ 2,886,735	7.3%	\$ 8,381,098	24.6%
Other Compensation	2,106,131	2,956,689	2,956,689	0	0.0%	850,558	40.4%
Related Benefits	19,618,755	20,736,327	20,665,677	(70,650)	(0.3%)	1,046,922	5.3%
Travel	600,998	1,104,215	1,111,715	7,500	0.7%	510,717	85.0%
Operating Services	4,326,555	4,669,804	5,119,804	450,000	9.6%	793,249	18.3%
Supplies	505,155	935,965	940,965	5,000	0.5%	435,810	86.3%
Professional Services	4,704,519	17,382,536	13,863,279	(3,519,257)	(20.2%)	9,158,760	194.7%
Other Charges	1,126,028	18,295,341	19,106,836	811,495	4.4%	17,980,808	1,596.8%
Interagency Transfers	4,426,929	5,224,920	5,256,298	31,378	0.6%	829,369	18.7%
Acquisitions/Repairs	1,266,668	2,309,753	1,550,874	(758,879)	(32.9%)	284,206	22.4%
Total	\$ 72,707,173	\$ 113,135,348	\$ 112,978,670	\$ (156,678)	(0.1%)	\$ 40,271,497	55.4%

# SIGNIFICANT EXPENDITURE CHANGES

*Compared to the FY 25 Existing Operating Budget*

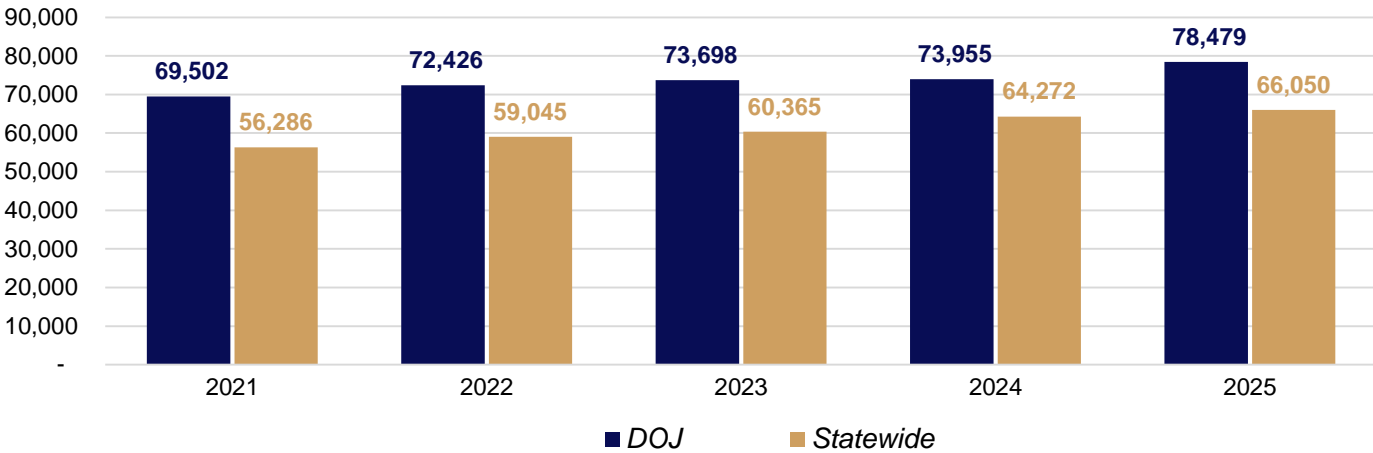
Personnel Services	Operating Expenses	Professional Services	Other Charges/IAT	Acquisitions/Repairs
<p>\$2.8 M net increase due to items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4.6 M increase to cover the base needed for salaries and related benefits</li> <li><b>(\$1.9 M)</b> decrease to factor projected savings from vacant positions in FY 26</li> <li>\$598,394 increase for 2 new positions in the Occupational Licensing Review program and 3 new positions in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU)</li> <li>\$213,756 increase for group rate changes for active and retired employees</li> </ul>	<p>\$462,500 increase due to items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$437,500 increase for travel, supplies, office space rentals, and software maintenance in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU)</li> <li>\$25,000 increase for travel and supplies in the Occupational Licensing Review program</li> </ul>	<p><b>(\$3.5 M)</b> decrease due to items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(\$3 M)</b> decrease to remove a contract for Troop NOLA that is no longer needed</li> <li><b>(\$519,257)</b> decrease to remove funds related to legal contracts carried into FY 25 that cross fiscal years</li> </ul>	<p>\$842,873 net increase due to items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1 M increase for court fees and costs, transcripts, and investigative expenses within the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU)</li> <li><b>(\$188,505)</b> decrease to remove funds carried into FY 25 that are no longer needed in FY 26</li> <li>\$31,378 net increase for various standard statewide adjustments to items such as risk management, Office of Technology Services fees, and rent and maintenance in state-owned buildings</li> </ul>	<p><b>(\$758,879)</b> net decrease due to items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(\$1.7 M)</b> decrease to remove funding budgeted in FY 25 for acquisition purchases that are no longer needed in FY 26</li> <li>\$1.6 M increase for purchases of replacement vehicles, law books, and computers/laptops</li> <li><b>(\$636,883)</b> decrease to remove funds carried into FY 25 that are no longer needed in FY 26</li> </ul>

# PERSONNEL INFORMATION

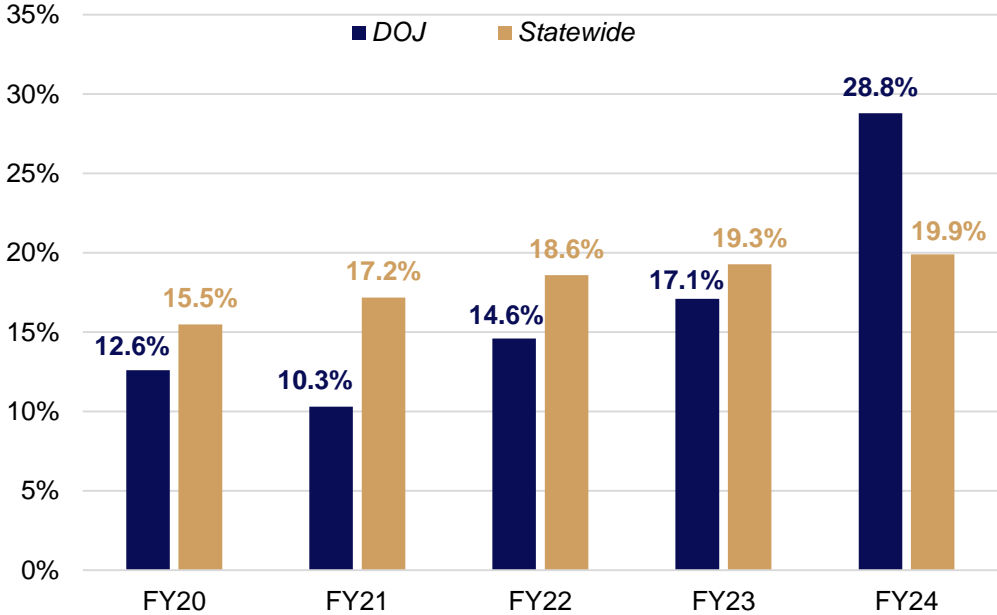
## FY 2026 Recommended Positions

539	Total Authorized T.O. Positions (0 Classified, 539 Unclassified)
1	Authorized Other Charges Positions
46	Non-T.O. FTE Positions
56	Vacant Positions (December 30, 2024)

## Historical Average Salary



## Turnover History



## Top Positions Vacated FY 2024

Position	Number of Employees	Separations	Turnover Rate
Assistant Attorney General	164	56	34.1%
Investigator/Special Agent	79	21	26.6%
Legal Secretary	31	14	45.2%
Paralegal	30	7	23.3%
Case Tracker	7	3	42.9%

Source: Department of Justice

# DEPARTMENT CONTACTS



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**Sandra Schober**

*Administrative Services Deputy Director*

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# General Department Information



# DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

## Office of Attorney General

### Administrative

- Consists of the Executive Office and Administrative Services
- Collections Section collects defaulted student loans and assists 28 boards, agencies, and commissions on collections

### Criminal Law and Medicaid Fraud

- Conducts or assists in criminal prosecutions
- Provides legal services in the areas of extradition, appeals, and habeas corpus proceedings
- Medicaid Fraud Control Unit
- Investigations Section provides services related to Cyber Crime Unit, Fugitive Apprehension, Special Investigation, trial assistance, and the Sexual Predator Apprehension Team

### Civil Law

- Contains the Civil Division and the Public Protection Division
- Includes attorneys assigned to various state departments for the defense of state agencies in civil claims
- Writes legal opinions
- Enforcement of the Tobacco Master Settlement agreement

### Risk Litigation

- Provides legal representation for the state in civil rights, general liability, medical malpractice, road hazards, workers' compensation, and transportation

### Gaming

- Provides representation to the La. Gaming Control Board, the La. Lottery Corporation, the State Racing Commission, LA State Police, and the Dept. of Revenue

# MEDICAID FRAUD CONTROL UNIT

## Purpose

- State Medicaid Fraud Control Units (MFCU's) are mandated by federal law for states that participate in the Medicaid Program
- The unit's function is to operate a statewide program for the detection, investigation and prosecution, both criminally and civilly, of fraud in the Medication Program. The unit also investigates and prosecutes complaints involving patient abuse and neglect against Medicaid recipients and those residing in board and care facilities, regardless of Medicaid participation

## Funding

- Traditionally funded through the Medical Assistance Programs Fraud Detection Fund, which is funded through a portion of the recoveries obtained
- In FY 24, a means of finance substitution decreased statutory dedications and increased fees and self-generated revenues, which allowed the Department to be reliant on fees and self-generated revenues and further match this grant. In FY 26, the fund's recommendation is \$1.4 M to restore the state match

## Partnerships

- Disability Rights Louisiana and the Office of Elderly Affairs- to receive information regarding abuse or exploitation of individuals in residential settings
- LDH- Health Standards to review every incident entered into the Statewide Incident Management System LDH Program Integrity Section and Louisiana Legislative Auditor to cooperatively develop systems to investigate and prosecute fraud in the Medicaid Program, along with federal authorities
- Maintain relationships with the provider community and local law enforcement to provide presentations educating them about functions of the Unit and the capabilities to protect Louisiana's citizens

Performance Indicator	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
# Investigations Opened	427	283	305	357	314
Outreach training programs provided	138	14	27	44	61
Civil Penalties collected	\$8,002,912	\$4,139,713	\$11,548,688	\$3,657,882	\$5,070,145
Investigator & Prosecution costs collected	\$153,468	\$5,862,855	\$46,550	\$121,201	\$38,570

Source: Department of Justice and LaPAS



# INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE

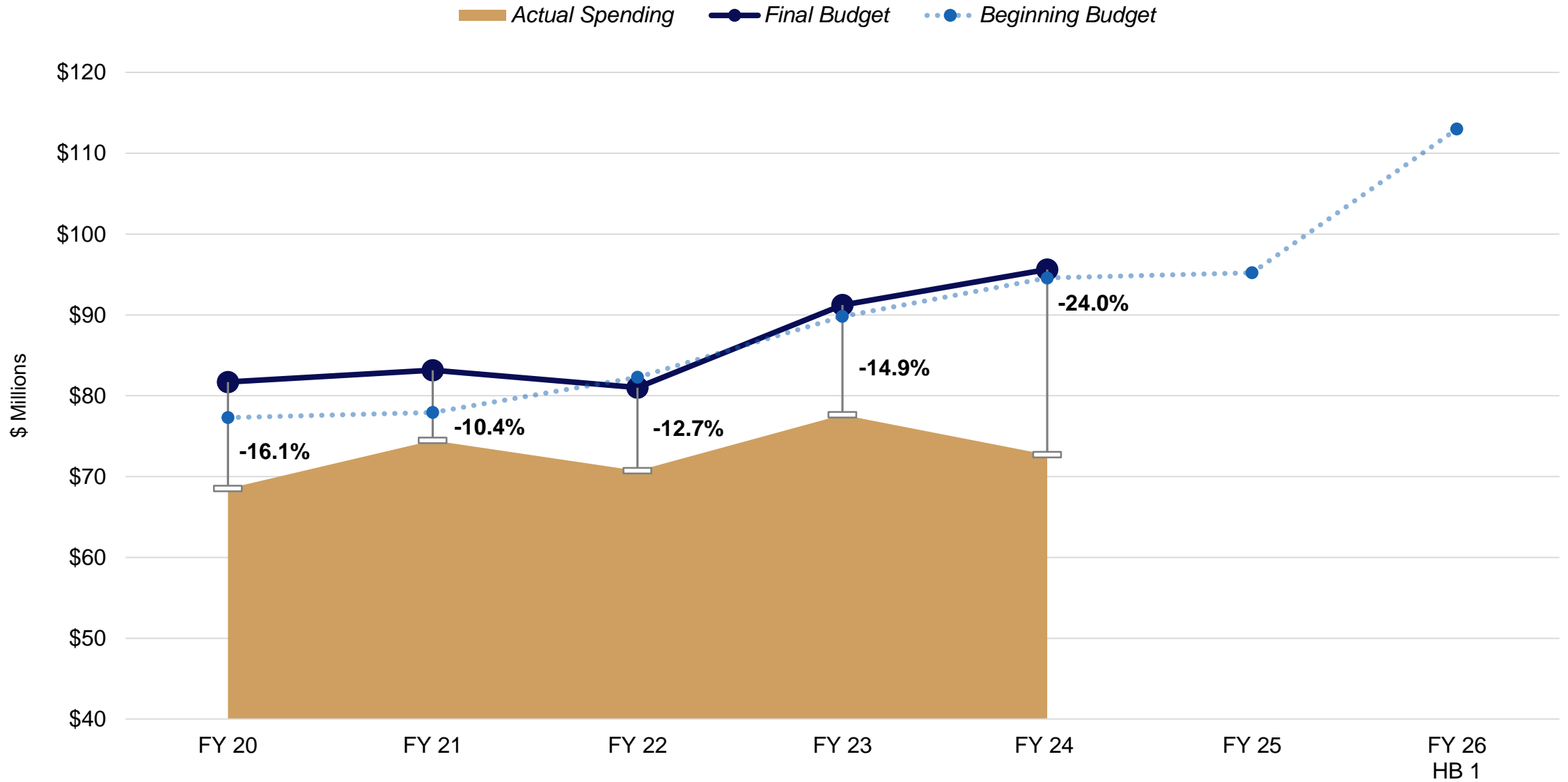
- Began in 2003 as a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to the Office of the Attorney General
- Interagency, multi-jurisdictional task force with the purpose of sharing information, resources, and expertise in the investigation, prosecution, and deterrence of technology-facilitated sexual exploitation of children
- Part of the Cybercrimes Unit of the AG's office and has 25 positions including:
  - 1 Commander
  - 2 Supervisory Special Agents
  - 8 Special Agents
  - 1 Cyber Tip Manager
  - 1 Forensic Lab Manager
  - 9 Digital Forensic Examiners
  - 1 Grant/Case Manager
  - 1 Case Analyst
  - 1 Evidence/Case Custodian

Year	# Cyber Tips Reported To ICAC	# Cases Generated	# of Arrests by LA DOJ CCU
2020	3,260	1,917	130
2021	4,807	2,925	148
2022	6,128	1,832	115
2023	11,000	3,263	118
2024	13,000	4,893	101

# **General Budgetary Information**



# HISTORICAL BUDGET



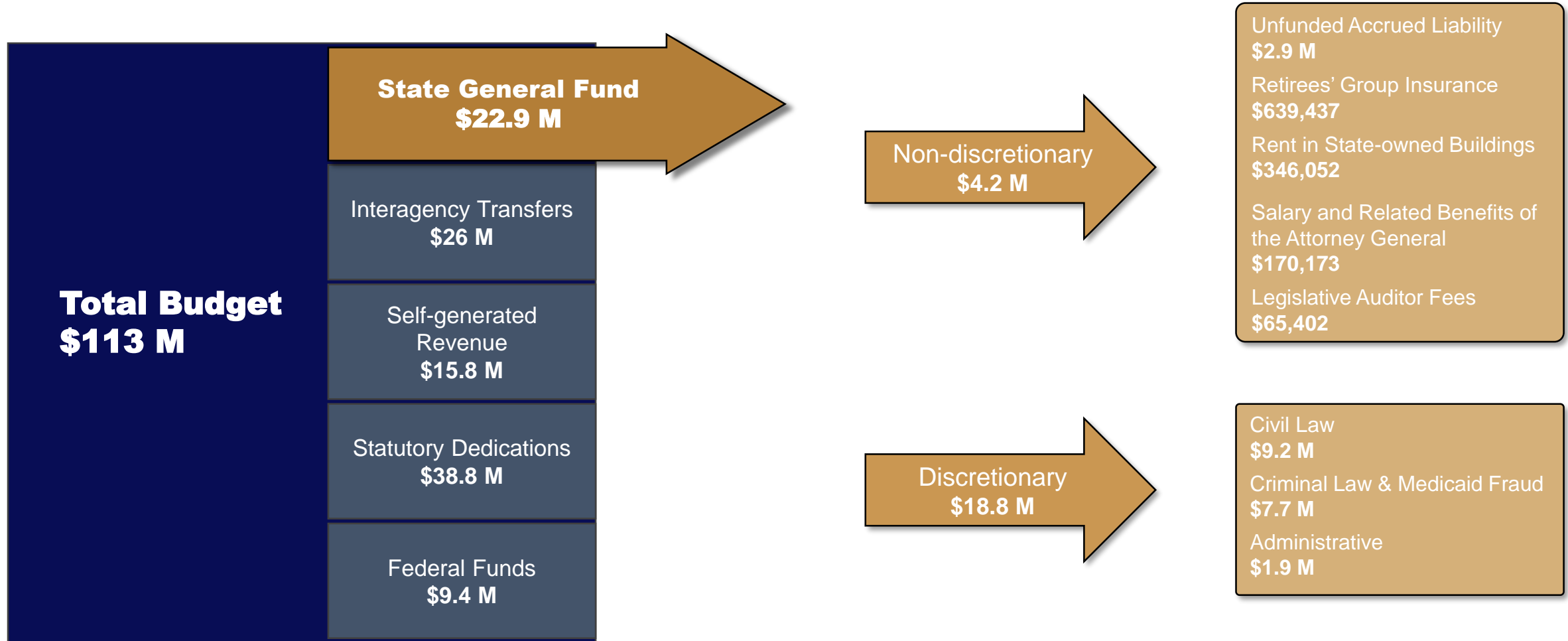
# FY 25 EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET

The FY 2024-25 Existing Operating Budget (EOB) was frozen on December 1, 2024. This point-in-time reference is used in both the Executive Budget and the General Appropriations Bill.

Means of Finance	Appropriation		Mid-Year Adjustments		Existing Operating Budget
General Fund	\$	20,889,910	\$	453,039	\$ 21,342,949
Interagency Transfers		24,808,905		0	24,808,905
Self-generated Revenue		15,719,616		480,135	16,199,751
Statutory Dedications		41,161,513		270,092	41,431,605
Federal		9,210,759		141,379	9,352,138
Total	\$	111,790,703	\$	1,344,645	\$ 113,135,348

Mid-year Adjustments Summary				
July	August	September	October	November
No change	\$1.3 M  Various means of finance carried into FY 25 from the prior fiscal year for encumbered professional services contracts and vehicles	No change	No change	No change

# DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES



\* Figures may not add precisely due to rounding \*

# STATUTORY DEDICATIONS

Fund Name	Source	Usage	FY 25 - EOB	FY 26 - HB1
<b>Criminal Justice and First Responder Fund</b>	Revenue Stabilization Fund deposit from Act 723 of the 2024 Regular Session	One-time expenses related to Troop Nola and the Criminal Law and Medicaid Fraud Program	<b>\$15,000,000</b>	<b>\$12,000,000</b>
<b>DOJ Legal Support Fund</b>	A portion of court settlement proceeds recovered by the Attorney General on behalf of the state	Defray the costs of expert witnesses, consultants, contract legal counsel, technology, specialized employee training and education, and public education initiatives; also to defray the expense of employees hired to represent the state	<b>\$10,388,076</b>	<b>\$10,072,214</b>
<b>DOJ Debt Collection Fund</b>	The monies are from 25% of the total monies recovered through debt collection	For support of debt collection activities and general operating expenses, and to supplement the department's budget and shall not be used to displace, replace, or supplant appropriations from the state general fund	<b>\$5,882,597</b>	<b>\$6,049,809</b>
<b>Video Draw Poker Device Fund</b>	Fees, fines, and penalties on video poker devices	Regulatory, administrative, investigative, enforcement, legal, and such other expenses as may be necessary for activities associated with enforcement of laws and regulations governing video draw poker devices	<b>\$3,987,431</b>	<b>\$3,469,162</b>
<b>Riverboat Gaming Enforcement Fund</b>	Riverboat gaming fees and fines	Regulatory, administrative, investigative, enforcement, and legal expenses for the Gaming Unit	<b>\$2,200,152</b>	<b>\$1,932,743</b>
<b>Medical Assistance Programs Fraud Detection Fund</b>	Funds received by the state from a civil award or settlement, except for the amount to make the medical assistance programs whole	Used as state match for federal funds for the detection, investigation, and prosecution of Medicaid fraud	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,400,000</b>
<b>Pari-mutuel Live Racing Facility Gaming Fund</b>	Slot machine proceeds. Fees, fines, taxes, other	Expenses related to the Gaming Unit	<b>\$823,806</b>	<b>\$644,658</b>
<b>DOJ Occupational Licensing Review Program Fund</b>	Receives compensation from participation in occupational licensing boards	Supplements the department's budget of occupational licensing board regulatory review activities and general operating expenses	<b>\$233,415</b>	<b>\$532,593</b>
<b>Tobacco Settlement Enforcement Fund</b>	\$400,000 transferred from SGF, other appropriations, donations, and grants	Enforcement of the Master Settlement	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>
<b>Sports Wagering Enforcement Fund</b>	Permit fees from sports wagering platform providers	Regulatory, administrative, investigative, enforcement, legal, and other expenses within the agency	<b>\$329,973</b>	<b>\$158,336</b>
<b>Tobacco Control Special Fund</b>	Violations related to tobacco product manufacturers	Tobacco enforcement and control matters	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>Louisiana Fund (Constitutional Fund)</b>	Tobacco Settlement funds	Enforcement of the requirements of the Master Settlement	<b>\$2,171,155</b>	<b>\$2,171,155</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$41,431,605</b>	<b>\$38,845,700</b>