



Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency

Office of the Director

March 28, 2022

Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-146 A The Capitol Building
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Honorable Mike Quigley
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
2000 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Steve Womack
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on Financial Services
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Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
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Honorable Chris Van Hollen
Chair
Senate Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
133 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Ranking Member
Senate Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Committee and Subcommittee Chairmen and Ranking Members,

I am pleased to present the FY 2023 Budget Justification for the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA). The FY 2023 President's Budget requests \$281,516,000 for CSOSA. Of this amount, \$204,579,000 is requested for the Community Supervision Program (CSP) and \$76,937,000 is requested for the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia (PSA).

The FY 2023 request represents a \$32,221,000 increase above CSOSA's FY 2022 annualized Continuing Resolution. The FY 2023 request includes one-time resources to support critical physical space relocations for CSOSA's Re-entry and Sanctions Center (RSC), 800 North Capitol Street, NW, and 3850 South Capitol Street, SE, field sites, and one-time resources to support PSA's Headquarters' relocation. The request also includes program increases for offender and defendant treatment interventions, PSA staffing increases, and PSA defendant risk validation and human resources systems.

Established under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (the Revitalization Act), CSOSA supervises adults on pretrial release, probation, parole, and supervised release in the District of Columbia. CSOSA assumed the supervision functions of both the Superior Court of the District of Columbia's Adult Probation Division and the D.C. Board of Parole. Also pursuant to the Revitalization Act, PSA became an independent entity within CSOSA and receives its funding as a separate line item in the CSOSA appropriation. With implementation of the Revitalization Act, the Federal government has taken on a unique, front-line role in the day-to-day public safety of everyone who lives, visits, or works in the District of Columbia.

As a result of efforts by the entire D.C. criminal justice system, including CSOSA, the Nation's Capital has experienced significant improvements in crime and public safety since the enactment of the Revitalization Act. Resources requested for FY 2023 are integral to ensuring that CSOSA's high-priority public safety and offender and defendant support services are continued within the District of Columbia. When CSOSA successfully supervises our offender and defendant populations, the burden placed on the community and our public safety partners to support these citizens is significantly diminished.

Community Supervision Program

CSP's mission is to effectively supervise adults under our jurisdiction to enhance public safety, reduce recidivism, support the fair administration of justice, and promote accountability, inclusion, and success through the implementation of evidence-based practices in close collaboration with our criminal justice partners and the community.

In FY 2021, CSP monitored or supervised approximately 6,700 adults on a daily basis and 9,549 different individuals over the course of the fiscal year. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Superior Court of the District of Columbia significantly limited its operations and CSP's FY 2021 supervised population decreased due to a reduction in intakes. CSP anticipates post COVID-19 increases in intakes and our daily supervised population in late FY 2022.

CSP experienced improvements in our two established long-term public safety performance outcomes: decreasing recidivism among the supervised offender population and increasing the number of individuals successfully completing supervision. Resources contained in the FY 2023 President's Budget would allow CSP to have the physical space and offender treatment interventions necessary to continue to improve public safety in the District of Columbia.

CSP is a critical component of creating and implementing the District's public safety strategy, partnering with the Mayor's office, and local and Federal criminal justice agencies. CSP works closely with the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and the D.C. Department of Corrections, as well as the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the U.S. Parole Commission, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the U.S. Marshals Service to increase public safety for everyone who lives, visits, or works in the District of Columbia. CSP established electronic data exchanges with the D.C. MPD, D.C. Sentencing Commission, D.C. Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Federal BOP, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Parole Commission, D.C. Pretrial Services Agency, as well as law enforcement partners in Maryland and Virginia to more quickly share information and ensure efficient supervision.

Despite the temporary decrease in the number of individuals supervised in FY 2021, the assessed risk to public safety and critical support service needs of those remaining under supervision continued to increase. CSP's challenge in effectively supervising and reducing recidivism amongst our supervised population is substantial and will increase as we face an influx of post-COVID intakes. Many CSP supervisees present a high risk to public safety, because they have significant needs and are prone to recidivate. In FY 2021, 2,238 adults entered CSP supervision; at intake, 82 percent of these individuals reported having a history of substance abuse, 27 percent were identified as having mental health issues, 33 percent had less than a high school diploma or GED, 69 percent were unemployed, and eight percent were homeless, lived in homeless shelters or resided in other emergency housing. Based on the results of CSP's proprietary offender screening tool, approximately 53 percent of our total FY 2021 active population was assessed and supervised by CSP at the highest risk levels; reflecting a steady increase in assessed risk since FY 2012 when approximately 37 percent of our active population was assessed and supervised at the highest risk levels.

CSP research has shown that, compared to the total supervised population, supervisees who have been previously incarcerated are more likely to test positive for drugs, have unstable housing, lack employment, be supervised as part of a mental health caseload, and be assessed by CSP at the highest risk levels. Data shows that addressing the criminogenic and support services needs of high-risk individuals is essential to reducing recidivism. Therefore, CSP continues to adjust our programs and reallocate resources toward providing timely and specialized supervision and support to these highest-risk and highest-need persons. CSOSA's RSC at Karrick Hall is one of our most important high-risk intervention programs. The RSC provides intensive assessment and reintegration programming for CSP offenders and PSA defendants. RSC participants have significant behavioral health, substance use disorder, and/or cognitive behavior issues that require immediate residential services to address challenges to successful reentry into the community.

CSP performs close supervision of our offender population to address criminogenic and support service needs, provide timely interventions, and ensure compliance with conditions of release with the goal of successful completion of supervision. However, in cases of certain types of arrest and/or instances where CSP supervision sanctions do not restore compliance, CSP immediately informs the releasing authority by filing an electronic Alleged Violation Report (AVR). An AVR can result in incarceration, sanctions, or the imposition of additional supervision special conditions by the releasing authority. The percentage of CSP's supervised population for which one or more AVRs are

issued increased significantly from FY 2012 to FY 2019, reflecting the increased risk of our offenders and the vigilance of our supervision operations. While recent decreases in the percentage of the overall supervised population with AVRs filed may be attributed to temporary changes in operations at CSP and the releasing authorities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, it is expected AVR activity will increase in late FY 2022.

The District of Columbia experienced an increase in homicides in 2021, as well as an increase in robberies and the total number of firearms recovered. Despite this increase in homicides and certain other crimes, the overall number of incidents of serious violence¹ in the District has declined since 2012. In 2012, the average number of serious violent incidents per day in the District was 19. This average decreased to approximately 11 incidents per day in 2021. Importantly, the percentage of CSP offenders arrested for serious violent incidents while under supervision remains fairly low. Of the 10,816 unique offenders supervised by CSP in 2021, 2.4 percent were arrested for an incident of serious violence and less than 0.25 percent were arrested for homicide in the District while under supervision.

Despite the low number of CSP supervisees arrested for an incident of serious violence in District, the increase in homicides, firearm recoveries and robberies is a significant concern to the Agency. With respect to CSP offenders, CSOSA is actively addressing this critical public safety issue by focusing our resources on our highest-risk offenders with the intent of further reducing all types of serious violence within the District and the participation or victimization of CSP offenders in those crimes. To that end, CSP is improving our offender risk and needs assessments and interventions and created high-intensity supervision teams, compliance units and day reporting operations to immediately address non-compliant activities and share data on high-risk individuals. CSP partners with D.C. MPD to perform night and weekend supervision activities in high-crime areas and collaborates with the U.S. Marshals Service to address offenders with outstanding arrest warrants.

As a result of our efforts, and those of our public safety and community partners, CSP experienced improvements in FY 2021 for both of our long-term public safety performance outcomes. In FY 2021, 5.0 percent of CSP's total supervised population had their supervision term revoked and were incarcerated by the appropriate releasing authority and 75.4 percent of cases closed successfully, each representing improvements from FY 2019.

¹ Serious, violent incidents include homicide, aggravated and sexual assault (including assault with a deadly weapon and assault with the intent to kill), and robbery (including carjacking). Incidents counted are those that occurred during the year, even if the arrest was not made until after the end of the year.

CSP Long-Term Offender Supervision Outcome Performance Measures

	Percent of Total Supervised Population Revoked to Incarceration	Percentage of Case Closures that were Successful
FY 2017	9.8	63.2
FY 2018	9.6	64.3
FY 2019	9.3	65.7
FY 2020	7.5	71.2
FY 2021	5.0	75.4

Resources contained in the *FY 2023 President’s Budget* are necessary to ensure that CSP can continue the overall trend of improvements in public safety outcomes in the District of Columbia.

Pretrial Services Agency

PSA’s mission is to promote pretrial justice and enhance community safety. PSA assists judicial officers in both the Superior Court of the District of Columbia (DC Superior Court) and the United States District Court for the District of Columbia (US District Court) by conducting a risk assessment for every arrested person who will be presented in court, identifying detention eligibility and formulating release recommendations, as appropriate, based upon the arrestee’s demographic information, criminal history, and substance use and/or mental health information. For defendants who are placed on conditional release pending trial, PSA provides supervision and treatment services intended to reasonably assure that they return to court and do not engage in criminal activity pending their trial and/or sentencing.





During FY 2021, PSA was responsible for over 25,742 arrestees and defendants. The Agency supervised 15,074 defendants on pretrial release, which corresponds to an average of 10,453 defendants on any given day. PSA provided services to an additional 10,668 defendants which included completing criminal history checks for persons who were released on citation or personal recognizance or whose charges were dismissed prior to the first appearance in court.

PSA’s current caseloads include individuals with charges ranging from misdemeanor property offenses to felony murder. Most defendants (93 percent) are awaiting trial in DC Superior Court, with a smaller number (7 percent) awaiting trial in US District Court. On average, defendants remained under supervision for 214 days. This average was impacted significantly by the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period, PSA administered evidence-based and data-informed risk assessment and supervision practices to identify factors related to pretrial misconduct and to maximize the likelihood of arrest-free behavior and court appearance during the pretrial period.

In March 2020, PSA began responding to COVID-19 by altering its operations to enforce social distancing measures necessary to slow the spread of the virus. In coordination with the courts, the Agency initially suspended defendant lockup interviews, drug testing, treatment assessments and referrals to treatment programs, all of which require close in-person contact and increased

virtual support to court operations. To safely resume these mission critical tasks, PSA implemented a phased reopening plan that maximizes virtual supervision for defendants and telework for most of its workforce whose duties can be performed remotely. PSA conducts telephonic diagnostic interviews, provides virtual treatment services using platforms such as Zoom, and administers virtual substance use disorder assessments and mental health screenings.

Through the successful fulfillment of its mission, PSA continued to meet or exceed the performance targets for its strategic goal performance indicators in FY 2021, despite the impact of COVID-19 on Agency operations.

Performance Indicator Area	Indicator Description	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2018-2022 Target
Strategic Goal 1	Judicial Concurrence with PSA Recommendation	84% 	70%
Strategic Goal 2	Continued Pretrial Release	89% 	85%
Strategic Goal 3	Arrest Free Rate	90% 	88%
Strategic Goal 4	Court Appearance Rate	92% 	87%

The *FY 2023 Presidents' Budget* request for PSA reinforces the Agency's commitment to be a performance-based, results-driven organization and highlights its dedication to ensuring public safety and promoting pretrial justice through high-quality risk assessment, supervision and treatment services.

FY 2023 Request Summary

The *FY 2023 President's Budget* submission for CSOSA reflects our continuing commitment to improving performance and increasing the effectiveness of front-line service delivery.

Resources requested for FY 2023 are integral to ensuring that CSOSA's high priority public safety and offender and defendant support services are continued within the District of Columbia. As you make decisions on the CSOSA budget, I hope you will also consider our critical public safety mission, our accomplishments to date, and our commitment to performance-based management.

I look forward to working with you on this request.

Sincerely,

Director

Enclosure