



Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency

Office of the Director

March 9, 2023

Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-146 A The Capitol Building
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Honorable Steve Womack
Chair
House Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
2000 Rayburn House Office Building
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Honorable Steny Hoyer
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on Financial Services
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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
131 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 2024 Budget Justification for the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA). The FY 2024 President's Budget requests \$296,878,000 for the CSOSA appropriation. Of this amount, \$208,204,000 is requested for the Community Supervision Program (CSP) and \$88,674,000 is requested for the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia (PSA).

The FY 2024 request represents a \$11,862,000 increase above CSOSA's FY 2023 Enacted Budget. \$3,625,000 of this requested increase is for CSP and \$8,237,000 is for PSA. The FY 2024 request includes one-time resources to support critical physical space for CSOSA's Headquarters relocations. The request also includes program increases for CSOSA cybersecurity requirements, PSA lease costs and PSA staffing increases.

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 2024 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 2022, CSP monitored or supervised approximately 6,550 adults on a daily basis and 9,963 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 began the fiscal year with approximately 5,800 persons monitored or supervised. However, new offender intakes increased significantly throughout FY 2022 and CSP ended the fiscal year with a daily caseload of over 6,900. CSP anticipates continued increases in offender intakes and our daily supervised population in FY 2023.

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 performed on-site and in-person field supervision throughout the pandemic for highest-risk offenders. 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.

The assessed risk to public safety and critical support service needs of offenders under supervision continue to increase. CSP's challenge in effectively supervising and reducing recidivism amongst our supervised population is substantial and increasing 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 2022, 4,151 adults entered CSP supervision; at intake, 93 percent of these individuals reported having a history of substance abuse, 25 percent were identified as having mental health issues, 28 percent had less than a high school diploma or GED, 55 percent were unemployed, and 12 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 54 percent of our total FY 2022 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. Highest-risk offenders require additional supervision and intervention support resources.

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 arrests and/or instances where CSP supervision sanctions do not restore compliance, CSP immediately informs the releasing authority which can result in revocation to incarceration or the imposition of additional supervision special conditions on the offender.

CSP research has shown that, compared to the total supervised population, offenders revoked from supervision in FY 2022 are more likely to have unstable housing, lack employment, have lower educational attainment, 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. 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. CSOSA's Re-entry and Sanctions Center (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 in a 24/7 residential setting. 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.

The District of Columbia experienced a modest decrease in homicides, assaults with a deadly weapon, burglary, and firearms recovered in (calendar year) 2022, as compared with 2021.¹ Despite increases in recent years in homicides and certain other crimes, the overall number of incidents of serious violence² in the District has declined since 2012. In 2012, the average number of serious violent incidents per day in the District was 18; by 2018, the average had declined to 11. The District has averaged 10 or 11 serious violent incidents daily in each year from 2018 through 2022 based on data published by D.C. MPD. Importantly, the percentage of CSP offenders arrested for serious violent incidents while under supervision remains fairly low. Of the total unique offenders supervised by CSP during calendar year 2022, 2.1 percent were arrested for serious violence and less than 0.25 percent were arrested for homicide; this is similar to the percentage of CSP’s TSP arrested for incidents of serious violent crime in 2012. Despite the low number of CSP supervisees arrested for an incident of serious violence in the District, increases in violent crime in recent years is a significant concern to the Agency.

CSP experienced declines in FY 2022 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. In FY 2022, 8.4 percent of CSP’s total supervised population had their supervision term revoked and were incarcerated by the appropriate releasing authority and 64.3 percent of cases closed successfully, each representing decreases from FY 2021. These changes are primarily attributable to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and the U.S. Parole Commission normalizing post-COVID operations in FY 2022 and addressing revocation matters that arose during the height of the pandemic.

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
FY 2022	8.4	64.3

Resources contained in the *FY 2024 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.

¹ Source: MPD District Crime Data at a Glance, <https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/district-crime-data-glance>.

² 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.

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.

PSA's current caseloads include individuals with charges ranging from misdemeanor property offenses to felony murder. During FY 2022, PSA served 25,687 arrestees and defendants. The Agency supervised 15,353 defendants on pretrial release, which corresponds to an average of 8,396 defendants on any given day. Most defendants (92 percent) are awaiting trial in DC Superior Court, with a smaller number (8 percent) awaiting trial in US District Court. PSA provided services to an additional 10,334 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.

During FY 2022, defendants remained under supervision for an average of 134 days, which is a continuation of the marked increase coinciding with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, defendants remained under supervision for an average of 94 days. This average rose to a high of 214 days during FY 2021. In response to these increases, PSA reallocated staff and adjusted operations to minimize the likelihood of defendant rearrest and maximize court appearances 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 could be performed remotely. In July 2022, PSA increased in-person work onsite, increased on-site defendant reporting, resumed lockup drug testing and court ordered spot testing, increased surveillance drug testing, and reintroduced in-person diagnostic interviews. Additional in-person work for staff in the Management and Administration offices is planned for April 2023, in accordance with OMB requirements.

Despite the considerable impact of COVID-19 on Agency operations, PSA sustained performance on key operations and met or exceeded performance targets for all strategic goals during FY 2022.

Performance Indicator		FY 2022	FY 2023–2026
Performance Description		Actual	Target
Strategic Goal 1	Judicial Concurrence with PSA Recommendation	76% ●	70%
Strategic Goal 2	Continued Pretrial Release	89% ●	85%
Strategic Goal 3	Arrest Free Rate	93% ●	88%
Strategic Goal 4	Court Appearance Rate	89% ●	87%

The *FY 2024 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 2024 Request Summary

The *FY 2024 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 2024 are integral to ensuring that CSOSA's high priority public safety and offender and defendant support services continue 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