Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Legislative Budget Request
Fiscal Year 2013-14

Item	Issue	FTE	General Revenue	Trust Fund	TOTAL
1	Increase Biometric Identification System Capacity			$23,560	$23,560
2	Upgrade and Replace Forensic Equipment		$1,804,500		$1,804,500
3	Implement Recruitment and Retention Pay		$722,781	$322,277	$1,045,058
4	Replace Computerized Criminal History System	6		$2,964,160	$2,964,160
5	Expand Electronic Surveillance Support Teams	12	$2,039,308		$2,039,308
6	Expand DNA Casework Capacity	12	$850,541		$850,541
7	Support Florida Law Enforcement eXchange	1		$71,510	$71,510
8	Manage Increased Workload of Automated Fingerprint Identification System/ Biometric Identification System	6	$353,783		$353,783
9	Manage Seal and Expunge Workload	6		$355,171	$355,171
10	Increase FDLE-led Task Forces			$425,000	$425,000
11	Decrease Trust Fund Authority			($2,850,000)	($2,850,000)
	TOTAL REQUEST	43	$5,770,913	$1,311,678	$7,082,591

Increase Biometric Identification System Capacity
$23,560 Operating Trust Fund Authority

Issue. The Biometric Identification System (BIS) serves as the State of Florida's central repository for fingerprint records collected at the time of arrest (as required under Section 943.051, FS) and for applicant/employment screening purposes as required by various state statutes. The current system became fully operational in 2009 and has the capability to:

- Store 7 million 10-print fingerprint records, 2.7 million palm-print records and 160,000 latent print records;
- Process 7,500 10-print fingerprint searches per day (criminal & applicant); and
- Compare incoming 10-print records against the latent prints.

In 2012, the system is almost performing to its capacity:

- Storing 5.4 million 10-print fingerprint records, 1.4 million palm-print records, and 130,000 latent print records;
- Processing 9,000 10-print searches per day (3,000 criminal & 6,000 applicant); and
- Comparing incoming 10-print records against the latent prints.

FDLE recently added functionality to its applicant processing system which biometrically searches fingerprints against all criminal and latent fingerprints housed in BIS. This improves the capability to identify applicants as having a criminal record or having involvement in a case with latent prints. However, the additional load placed on the BIS system to accomplish this function is significant. Approximately 6,000 additional fingerprints are submitted to BIS daily in support of this function. Of these, 87 percent are submitted between 9am and 5pm.

With the additional workload, the BIS system is now performing beyond its original design, 148 percent of search capacity and 213 percent of hourly peak search capacity. While still functional, the system is not performing at optimal or supportable levels. As a result, system users are experiencing significant delays in processing arrests and latent print searches in support of criminal investigations. Additionally, the system is not performing in a stable manner and requires frequent restarts of integral components.

In addition to BIS, FDLE also operates a fingerprint matching subsystem for retained civil/applicant background searches (as part of the Falcon system), which was installed in 2006. Because of its age, it uses older fingerprint matching hardware, a different (older) fingerprint matching algorithm, has a lower accuracy rate and requires more computer hardware to support. The subsystem currently retains about 1.2 million sets of civil/applicant fingerprints, which is projected to grow by 500,000 fingerprints in 2013 and 15 percent per year thereafter. The growth could be higher depending on legislative action regarding background checks.

Resources. The Department is requesting $23,560 in Operating Trust Fund authority as part of a three-phase technology replacement/refresh of the subsystem. Rather than replace the old subsystem, the Department has an opportunity to integrate retained civil/applicant processing into BIS. This will require additional system capacity.

Phase 1 – Increase system capacity of the workflow to stabilize the volume of transactions received and processed. No appropriation was requested for this phase which will be implemented this fiscal year (FY 12-13) using $640,000 of current authority available as a direct result of methodical, cycled planning of OCO replacement. This phase includes:

- Additional web application servers;

- Database upgrade to the latest release version;
- Additional data exchange servers;
- Database memory expansion;
- Expanded storage capacity; and
- Engineering, configuration, certification, and documentation services.

Phase 2 – Upgrade matching portion of system to be implemented in FY 13-14. The cost is $2.65 million (see note below). This will include:

- New 10-print matchers;
- New latent matchers;
- New expert matchers;
- Matcher licenses; and
- Engineering, configuration, certification, documentation, professional and site services.

Note: FDLE plans to finance this acquisition through the State's Consolidated Equipment Financing Program, requiring an initial payment of $300,000 in FY 13-14 and financing the balance ($2,350,000) over the next three years. FDLE is requesting authority to acquire the Phase 2 equipment and enter into a financing agreement. Additional spending authority (Operating TF – Deferred Payment Contracts) totaling $23,560 is being requested.

Phase 3 – Integrate applicant print processing to be implemented in FY 14-15. The cost is estimated at no more than $2.1 million. This will include:

- New 10-print matchers;
- Modify system workflow; and
- Modify Falcon system workflow.

Results. By upgrading BIS, Florida's law enforcement agencies and licensing agencies will:

- Process up to 11,073 ten-print searches per day;
- Process up to 1,170 ten-print searches per peak hour;
- Continue to provide results to booking facilities within 10 minutes or less (95 percent of the time);
- Improve accuracy for retained civil / applicant fingerprint processing / reduce risk of false or missed identification;
- Improve efficiency for retained civil / applicant fingerprint processing;
- Move the date for the next generation replacement / upgrade from 2017 to 2021;
- Implement the latest fingerprint matching technology; and
- Reduce the number of matchers required to support current and future workload.

Risks. FDLE will not be able to process biometric searching and matching requests for law enforcement and employment / licensing programs in a timely manner. Latent print searches in support of criminal investigations and retained print processing required by various state statutes will be delayed or not performed at all. System stability may become an issue due to frequent restarts.

Effective dates.
Phase 1: Applicant Background Check Workflow Upgrade - June 2013
Phase 2: BIS Matcher Replacement - June 2014
Phase 3: Retained Civil / Applicant Fingerprint Subsystem Integration – December 2014

To process additional applicant / latent print comparisons, FDLE also has a separate budget issue (#3004300) to request six Latent Print Examiners for the Tallahassee Crime Laboratory. These positions are needed to process the additional workload of applicant fingerprints that are compared to the Latent Print database. The current workload is such that FDLE is able to process approximately 5% of applicant / latent comparisons.

Upgrade and Replace Forensic Equipment
$1,804,500 million General Revenue

Issue. FDLE received 21,000 requests for Biology (DNA) services in FY 11-12. The high demand for Biology services has been attributed to a number of factors including Florida's high volume of reported crime (769,480 index crimes in 2011), increased awareness of the crime-solving value of DNA, continually expanding forensic applications for DNA technology and the expansion of Florida's DNA Database. FDLE anticipates the demand for Biology services will continue to escalate as the application of DNA technology continues to be instrumental in solving crime.

The genetic analyzer is used to complete the final phase of developing a DNA profile and is critical to the efficient processing of DNA service requests. FDLE laboratories currently use the AB3130xl Genetic Analyzer with GeneMapper software. There are 14 of these instruments and software reaching their end-of-life cycle. The manufacturer will not guarantee supplies or repair service beyond 2016, so FDLE must replace all of the instruments prior to their end-of-life date.

Toxicology is another laboratory discipline experiencing a heavy demand for services. FDLE has 16 crime laboratory analysts located in Tallahassee and Orlando that process Toxicology requests statewide. These analysts provide forensic analysis of blood and urine for the presence of alcohol or other toxic or impairing substances. More than 7,300 requests for Toxicology services were received in FY 11-12. High demand has overwhelmed FDLE's limited resources resulting in a backlog of 1,000 Toxicology service requests, and a current average turnaround time for Toxicology services of 48 days (compared with the industry standard of 40 days).

The Liquid Chromatograph Tandem Mass Spectrometer (LC/MS/MS) is the primary instrument used for Toxicology testing. This instrument is able to detect trace levels of drugs and analyze a wider range of drugs than more dated technology, the Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer (GCMS), which is reaching its end-of-life cycle and must be replaced. The LC/MS/MS can reduce sample preparation time from the current eight hours to less than four hours and requires 80 percent less sample volume to produce results. This capability is critical for blood quantitation when sample volume may be minimal. Replacing the GC/MS with the LC/MS/MS will increase productive capacity without adding FTE and will allow FDLE to provide enhanced services to local law enforcement contributors.

Resources. The Department is requesting $1.8 million in General Revenue for Biology and Toxicology equipment replacement. Federal grant funds have been earmarked for the purchase of seven of the 14 requested AB3500xl instruments and the associated GeneMapper software licenses. FDLE seeks $1,546,500 funds to replace the remaining seven aging AB3130xl Genetic Analyzer instruments with the more current model AB3500xl ($1,130,500), four GeneMapper server licenses ($80,000) and 42 GeneMapper user licenses ($336,000). FDLE also requests $258,000 to replace current GC/MS with the newer technology LC/MS/MS in the Tallahassee Toxicology Section.

Results. By automating and streamlining processes through the purchase of the AB 3500xl Genetic Analyzers, FDLE will continue to improve productive capacity, helping to keep pace with incoming volume while simultaneously working pending service requests. As a result, the queue for case work will be minimized helping to reduce the current 95 day turnaround time for DNA service requests. The addition of the LC/MS/MS will also address recommendations to

improve forensic DNA analysis made by the Innocence Commission to the Florida Supreme Court in 2011.

Replacing the aging GC/MS with the newer technology LC/MS/MS will improve FDLE's capability and capacity for drug testing and quantitation by using smaller sample sizes, simplifying sample preparation, decreasing testing times, identifying a larger spectrum of drugs, and improving detection limits. These process improvements will increase productivity of the Toxicology Section, helping to cope with the heavy demand and diminish existing Toxicology backlogs.

Risks. Replacing aging equipment that is reaching its end-of-life cycle is critical to FDLE's DNA and Toxicology processing capacity and turnaround time. Lost productivity due to equipment malfunction or failure could seriously impact the laboratories' ability to produce timely case work analysis, increase service request backlogs, delay FDLE's ability to contribute profiles to the state and national DNA databases, and potentially impact criminal investigations and successful prosecutions.

It is also necessary to replace all of the AB 3130xl devices at the same time. To analyze data, the AB3130xl and the new AB3500 require different proprietary software packages, which are not compatible and cannot be installed on the same computer. If the laboratories cannot replace all of the current devices, the staff will be forced to maintain two sets of protocols and hardware for DNA testing. Not only is this laborious and expensive, it would increase the time required for analysts to make appropriate comparisons between generated DNA profiles and lengthen the required review process.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

Implement Recruitment and Retention Pay
$722,781 General Revenue
$322,277 Operating Trust Fund

Priority 3

1. Implement Crime Laboratory Analyst (CLA) Graduated Pay Plan - $218,617

Issue. Over the past five years, 58 crime lab analysts (CLA) have resigned from FDLE for reasons other than retirement. They averaged only 4.7 years of service. While the turnover percentage for reasons other than retirement is under 10 percent annually, the terminating CLAs are leaving the agency at their peak productivity. The departure of trained, experienced analysts leaves crime laboratory productivity at a consistently diminished level due to the training of new analysts, and negatively impacts backlogs, turnaround times, and the Department's ability to sustain an experienced workforce.

FDLE requires all CLAs to complete a very demanding training program which, for the majority of disciplines, lasts approximately one year. Costs to FDLE for training a new analyst include the actual dollars spent on non-FDLE training, as well as diminished productivity of the trainee and up to half the case work capacity of a senior analyst trainer. To ensure that FDLE receives a return on its training investment, FDLE requires each new CLA commit to a minimum three years of service after their training year has been successfully completed. The CLAs are typically completing their training and their three-year service contracts, after which they are leaving the agency for more lucrative positions.

Chronically working at less than maximum productivity due to consistently significant numbers of trainees has contributed to large backlogs in some laboratory disciplines including Biology, Firearms, and Trace Evidence. Strategies to control incoming volume and increase productive output have been in place since 2006. These efforts have been successful in reducing backlogs and improving turnaround times, but the rate of improvement has slowed in recent years, and in some cases is trending upward once more. Retaining an experienced workforce is a critical factor to maintaining maximum productive capacity, without which FDLE cannot provide optimum services to Florida's criminal justice community.

Additionally, approximately 30 percent of FDLE's senior crime laboratory staff will retire within the next five years. Maintaining an experienced workforce is critical for succession planning if the agency is to capitalize on the institutional knowledge and excellence that is FDLE's crime laboratory reputation.

The cost of replacing an experienced member considers both direct and indirect costs to the agency. Direct costs include training, supplies and equipment, background investigations, interviews, updating job descriptions and posting job advertisements, exit interviews and processing time. Indirect costs include loss of training, loss of institutional knowledge, loss of productivity and potential overtime costs.

The Society for Human Resource Management estimates the average cost of replacing an employee at 150 percent of the position salary. Other business sites post articles that estimate the costs to be 300 to 500 percent of the salary of the position being replaced, depending on the skill level. Using the minimum estimate cost of 150 percent of the (trainee) base for a CLA position ($36,853 x 150% = $55,280), if FDLE loses only five trained CLAs in FY 13-14, the cost of hiring and filling those positions will be more than the requested pay increases (5 x $55,280 = $276,400).

Resources. The Department is requesting $218,617 to implement a three-year tiered increase for CLAs. Salary increases will begin when a high-performing CLA has successfully completed their training period and fulfilled the three year service contract. Analysts who maintain a high level of performance will receive additional salary increases at the end of each following year for the next two years. For example, first increase ($3,000) is provided at the training and contract fulfillment (three years). The second increase ($1,000) occurs after an additional year of service, followed by the third increase ($1,000) after the second additional year of service.

Results. The tiered increases provide incentive for CLAs to continue working for FDLE. The first and largest increase is provided at the completion of a three-year service contract as an incentive to stay with the agency beyond the term of the original agreement. At this point the analyst is operating at peak productivity. This is also when many experienced analysts are leaving the Department. The second and third increases provide additional incentive for analysts to remain with FDLE beyond the next critical exodus time frame.

Risks. If funding is not provided, FDLE will continue to be the training institution for other state and local crime laboratories, and will continue to lose CLAs early in their crime laboratory careers. The training program at FDLE is highly regarded by outside laboratories that are known to actively recruit CLAs from FDLE. While starting pay for inexperienced analysts is generally lower than the starting salary at FDLE, these laboratories offer significantly higher salaries for experienced CLAs.

The problem of losing experienced analysts is projected to worsen as the economy improves and individuals become more mobile again. Without the ability to offer salary increases, FDLE will not be able to compete with other crime laboratories nor realize the full benefit of an extraordinary training program, thereby not optimizing laboratory productivity.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

2. Enhance Senior Crime Laboratory Analyst (SCLA) Program - $58,106

Issue. There are 43 crime laboratory analysts (CLAs) who have 10 or more years of service with FDLE. These individuals provide experience, productivity and leadership. They are expected to ensure quality, produce more, share their knowledge with less experienced analysts, mentor and add stability to the analytical process. Increasing the number of experienced CLAs requires less time to be spent in actively mentoring and training new analysts; and allows more time for productive casework. Retaining and rewarding experienced CLAs will give less experienced CLAs a career path and incentive to continue their analytical career within FDLE.

Resources. The Department is requesting $58,106 to promote 43 high performing CLAs with 10 years or more experience to SCLAs. Salaries will be increased by five percent not to exceed an individual annual salary of $60,000. This promotional increase will encourage retention of FDLE's most highly trained, experienced and productive analysts.

Results. Funding this request provides incentive for CLAs to be committed to a long term career with FDLE. It creates a career path for dedicated CLAs and rewards experienced, productive analysts. Retention of experienced, productive analysts is a key element of providing the level of service necessary for successful investigations and prosecutions. Maintaining service response times acceptable to Florida's law enforcement community is dependent on a well-trained, highly productive CLA workforce. Funding this request will give FDLE the

opportunity to reinforce its commitment to providing excellent forensic services and support the resources critical to this commitment.

Risks. If funding is not provided, FDLE will continue to be at a competitive disadvantage in attempting to retain its most productive CLA work force. Federal, state and local crime laboratories will continue to recruit the state's best and brightest, offering much higher salaries for experienced forensic personnel. As the economy improves and individuals become more mobile again, the ability to retain experienced CLAs will become increasingly difficult. FDLE will lose the productivity and stability that an experienced work force provides.

Effective dates. January 1, 2014.

3. Implement Special Agent Graduated Pay Plan - $250,348

Issue. FDLE is Florida's primary statewide law enforcement agency with multi-jurisdictional investigative authority and responsibility. Investigative resources are staged in regional operations centers and field offices located throughout the state to provide maximum public and local law enforcement access and quick response to calls for law enforcement assistance. In 2007, FDLE had 325 special agents (SA) assigned throughout the state to perform this investigative mission. Due to budget cuts over the past several years, the workforce has been reduced by 19 percent to 264 SAs. Retention of trained and experienced agents is essential if FDLE is to maintain investigative quality and productivity.

Over the past five years, 80 percent of SAs that have resigned from FDLE left for reasons other than retirement. They averaged only 3.7 years of service. While the turnover percentage for other than retirement is under 10 percent annually, the terminating SAs are leaving early in their careers with FDLE, often for more lucrative positions. All new special agents are required to enter into a two-year contract which requires them to remain with the agency for at least two years beyond their initial one-year training period. Review of termination data indicates that new hires are fulfilling their contracts, but leaving the agency soon thereafter. The exodus of these recently trained agents negatively impacts FDLE's ability to realize the maximum potential of a highly trained, efficient, and productive workforce.

In addition to maintaining investigative quality and productivity, retaining experienced investigators is critical for effective succession planning. FDLE currently has 33 sworn members in the Deferred Retirement Option Program. Unless FDLE is able to retain experienced special agents, the loss of these veteran investigators, supervisors, and managers will negatively impact leadership succession within FDLE.

The cost of replacing an experienced member considers both direct and indirect costs to the agency. Direct costs include training, supplies and equipment, background investigations, interviews, updating job descriptions and posting job advertisements, exit interviews and processing time. Indirect costs include loss of training, loss of institutional knowledge, loss of productivity and potential overtime costs.

The Society for Human Resource Management estimates the average cost of replacing an employee at 150 percent of the position salary. Other business sites post articles that estimate the costs to be 300 to 500 percent of the salary of the position being replaced, depending on the skill level. Using the minimum estimate cost of 150 percent of the base for a SA position ($45,819 x 150% = $68,728), if FDLE loses only 8 trained SAs in FY 13-14, the cost of hiring and filling those positions will be more than the requested pay increases (8 x $68,728 = $549,824).

Resources. The Department is requesting $250,348 to implement a three-year tiered pay plan to encourage trained, experienced agents to remain with FDLE. The salary increases will be provided to agents who meet productivity requirements at three, five and seven years. The first increase ($2,000) will come at the end of their retention contract period and successive increases of $2,000 and $1,000 awarded after completing five years and seven years of service, respectively.

Results. The tiered increases provide incentive for SAs to continue working for FDLE. It is critical to provide the first increase at the completion of training and contract fulfillment since the average length of service is under four years. The second increase occurs at five years of service and the third increase is provided at the next critical exodus time frame of seven years of experience. Additionally, a funded tiered pay plan will help FDLE recruit highly qualified applicants by making it possible to show the potential for pay increases over time. This plan will help to attract quality applicants and retain them longer, improving the potential for maintaining a highly effective and productive workforce, and providing for adequate leadership succession.

Risks. Without funding for this program, over time FDLE's SA workforce will be comprised of fewer veterans, and more less-experienced special agents, negatively impacting case work and succession planning into the future.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

4. Establish Senior Special Agent Program - $195,710

Issue. FDLE is Florida's primary statewide law enforcement agency with multi-jurisdictional investigative authority and responsibility. Investigative resources are staged in regional operations centers and field offices located throughout the state to provide maximum public and local law enforcement access and quick response to calls for law enforcement assistance. About 42 percent of FDLE's current SA workforce consists of agents that have served with the Department for at least 10 years.

These veteran agents are relied upon to lead less experienced agents in conducting protracted investigations of criminal enterprises, and coordinating multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional task-forces that require the resources of a statewide investigative agency. They are instrumental in identifying new and emerging criminal threats and to develop sound investigative strategies to mount an effective operational response. Examples of highly effective programs identified by our "boots on the ground" approach include the Electronic Surveillance Support Teams, Child Abduction Response Teams, Regional Drug Enforcement Strike Forces, and Regional Domestic Security Task Forces. Retention of FDLE's most trained and experienced agents is essential to maintaining investigative quality and productivity; and maintaining the relationships forged with regional criminal justice partners that foster a healthy exchange of information and cooperation that is essential to public safety in Florida.

Currently the only avenue for promotion available for veteran agents is to pursue a management career or to transfer to Headquarters as an Inspector. Inspector positions are available only at Headquarters assigned to Executive Investigations or Intelligence. While many of FDLE's highly experienced agents make excellent managers, FDLE desires to provide a career advancement opportunity for those outstanding, long term agents who prefer to continue their contribution to law enforcement by continuing to investigate major crime and providing on the job mentoring of new special agents. These agents are critical to maintaining the Department's legacy of investigative quality and expertise.

Resources. The Department is requesting $195,710 to promote 111 high performing SAs with 10 years or more experience to Senior Special Agents. Salaries will be increased by five percent not to exceed an individual annual salary of $85,864.

Results. Agents who remain with the agency for at least 10 years tend to remain with the agency for the remainder of their careers. Implementation of the Senior Special Agent Program creates a non-management promotional path for dedicated, productive SAs and provides an incentive to commit to a long term investigative career with FDLE. Having a career advancement program is helpful when recruiting new agents and makes FDLE more competitive with other agencies in retaining an experienced, highly productive workforce.

Risks. FDLE will not optimize the benefits of the Department's investment in seasoned veteran members. Further, FDLE will continue to be at a competitive disadvantage for retaining a highly experienced workforce.

Effective dates. January 1, 2014.

5. Recruitment & Retention of Critical IT Staff - $322,277

Issue. The Office of Information Resource Management (IRM) delivers information technology (IT) services that enable FDLE and law enforcement agencies throughout the state to carry out their missions. IRM operates with a staff of 121 members.

While much of Florida's economy in recent years has been down, the demand for information technology services and the professionals to deliver those services has grown. FDLE competes with other government agencies and private sector firms for IT talent. With no across the board raises in six years and reductions in benefits, IRM is struggling to recruit and retain talent. Since July 2009, IRM's monthly vacancy rate has increased from around 4 percent to 11 percent. Since July 2010, 20 senior IT staff members have left to take IT positions elsewhere. Their average tenure with the Department was nine years.

IRM is currently encountering delays in hiring new staff due to salary issues. The Department attempts to hire IT staff at or near the base salary. This creates a low number of candidates with the required skills. When we attempt to hire skilled people above minimum, additional time is required to negotiate salary and obtain approvals to make a salary offer.

The loss in senior staff and delays in hiring have a cumulative effect on IRM's ability to deliver high quality IT services and, in turn, affects the performance of FDLE members (and other law enforcement agencies) who rely on FDLE information systems. In more concrete terms, it affects IRM's ability to undertake projects and complete those projects on time. Today, IRM has 36 projects underway (in addition to maintaining a large inventory of information systems). Of these, 19 are major projects which require significant involvement from staff across IRM and in FDLE's program offices. Failure to hire and retain skilled IT staff will rarely produce a single catastrophic event that focuses attention on the problem. However, by the time an organization reaches crisis stage, it is typically too late.

Resources. The Department is requesting $322,277 in targeted salary adjustments to help address this situation for recruitment (offer salaries above base for IT classifications) and retention (extend salary adjustments due to competitive job offers and salary adjustments for critical positions).

Results. IRM will experience reduced turnover in staff and improved recruitment of IT members with requisite skills, training, and experience. Also, the Department should be able to better retain senior staff. Overall, it should result in improved IT services for FDLE and Florida law enforcement agencies.

Risks. Turnover will remain high. FDLE will find it increasingly difficult to recruit and retain skilled IT staff. IT services may slowly degrade over time.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

Replace Computerized Criminal History System

$2,964,160 million Operating Trust Fund

6 FTEs

Issue. FDLE's Criminal Justice Information Program provides criminal justice information needed to prevent crime, solve cases, recover property, identify and apprehend criminals; provide screening to identify persons with criminal warrants, arrests, and convictions; and provide statistical and analytical information about crime to policy-makers and the public. Under the authority of Chapter 943, Florida Statutes, FDLE serves as the State's central repository for criminal record information.

FDLE's Computerized Criminal History (CCH) system serves as the State of Florida's central repository for criminal history record information. CCH contains records on more than 6 million subjects arrested by Florida law enforcement agencies. Each year, FDLE receives approximately 1 million arrest records from Florida law enforcement agencies.

Criminal records are used every day for a variety of purposes by many organizations, public and private. Criminal justice agencies use criminal records for investigations, security, prosecution, and sentencing decisions. Government agencies use criminal records in a wide range of employment decisions, security clearances, and licensing programs. Private firms rely on criminal records to make informed hiring decisions.

The CCH system began operation in the early 1970s. The current system operates on a Unisys mainframe central processing unit, running Unisys' MCP/AS operating system and Unisys DMS II database management system. Application code is primarily COBOL 85 (written through a 4th generation programming product known as PROGENI). FDLE staff maintains CCH records using personal computers and a Unisys terminal emulation software. Qualitative constraints for the current system involve manual entry for systems, no image entry, mixed entry methods and formats (dispositions, custody, etc.) and redundant entries.

Disposition information is transmitted to FDLE from Florida's Clerks of Court. Files of disposition records are transmitted to FDLE on a monthly or more frequent basis through file transfers. Access to criminal records is provided on-line to criminal justice agencies through the CJNet and FCIC II Message Switching System.

Through the years, the system has undergone a number of significant changes. However, many of the underlying business processes and core technologies remain the same. There are many examples of how the current CCH structure does not efficiently support the daily operations of the state's criminal justice agencies.

In 2010, FDLE was awarded a federal grant through National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Act Record Improvement Program (NARIP). The purpose of the grant was to improve the records utilized by the NICS by providing assistance to states to improve the completeness, automation and transmittal of records available to state and federal systems. Such records include criminal history records, records of felony convictions, warrants, records of protective orders, convictions for misdemeanors involving domestic violence and stalking, records of mental health adjudications, and others, which may disqualify an individual from possessing or receiving a firearm under federal law. Helping states to automate these records will also reduce delays for law-abiding gun purchasers.

One of the projects included in this award was the CCH Strategic Needs Assessment which began in 2011. The objectives of this project were to:

- Document current and proposed business processes related to Florida's criminal justice and non-criminal justice agencies use of criminal records;
- Identify general and specific needs of stakeholders;
- Identify alternative solutions for meeting business processes and needs;
- Document system architecture for alternative solutions; and
- Develop strategies for implementing solutions.

FDLE evaluated results from the needs assessment and considered options for developing a new CCH system. This issue is submitted to obtain funding to implement the recommended approach for designing, developing, and implementing the state's next generation CCH system.

Resources. The Department is requesting $2.9 million to undergo the procurement of a new system and acquire:

- Six (6) State positions for FDLE's Criminal Justice Information Services Program
- Contract information technology (IT) staff;
- Commercial CCH software;
- Commercial systems software (operating system, database management software, application server platform, etc.);
- Computer hardware (servers, storage, and network); and
- IT consulting services.

This is a multi-year project. The total estimated cost of the new CCH system is roughly $14 million. An additional $2.2 million is required to staff the project management office that will run the project. The six new State positions are estimated to cost about $360,000 per year.

Results. This project will deliver a newly designed CCH system that addresses the business needs of the stakeholders and users, replacing one that was developed based on needs identified over 40 years ago. In the 1970's there were a small number of persons with access to the system and it was mainly used for law enforcement purposes. Today, there are over 65,000 criminal justice users including judges who access information on the bench, clerks, probation officers, law enforcement officers who directly access the information in their vehicle, state attorneys and child protective investigators. The use of criminal history rap sheets has grown significantly for non-criminal justice use and the amount of fingerprint based background check requests for criminal history for civil purposes exceeds the million fingerprint submissions received for criminal processing.

This newly designed CCH system, for the first time in 40 years, will provide new functionality for criminal justice agencies, including:

- Local agencies able to submit added charges on-line;
- Local agencies able to request changes / corrections on-line;
- Filed charges from State Attorneys appear in arrest records prior to final disposition;
- Statute table will contain richer definitions and accommodate enhancing and reducing factors;
- Florida rap sheets will conform with national rap sheet specifications;
- Manage unmatched court dispositions;
- Department of Corrections will be able to ingest rap sheet information in the Offender Based Information System (OBIS) and eliminate manual re-entry;
- Improve processing of commitment documents;

- Notice to Appear will be supported; and
- Direct files will be supported.

The new system will also result in the following:

- Improve the quality of Florida's criminal history records.
- Reduce manual processing at FDLE and enable FDLE to re-allocate staff to other areas of need.
- Improve data management through implementation of a more powerful database management system (relational technology). Improve ability to update and modify data elements to dynamically meet customer needs, statutory requirements, criminal history standards and privacy concerns.
- Reduce internal and external workload by providing automated processes and accurate, complete and readable data to increase project buy-in, especially from agencies not under FDLE's direct control.
- Improve throughput by reducing capacity constraints, use of standards based protocols and providing high volume, on-line processing to enable FDLE to process criminal records faster and more efficiently.
- Implement a scalable / open architecture by using non-proprietary technology that is compatible with emerging technology to economically improve Integration with current internal and external technologies.
- Provide improved information management tools such as flexible ad hoc reporting, statistical analysis capabilities, which are vital for the resolution of system discrepancies, investigations and policy making.
- Improve technical administration, operational capabilities and maintainability of CCH development, test, and production environments by using technology that will allow FDLE to provide technical support, equipment maintenance, equipment replacement, automated testing to verify the quality of the system as well as the improved integration with internal and external systems.

Risks. If the funding is not provided, the following issues will exist:

- Limited ability to implement improvements in business processes.
- Limited auditing and reporting tools.
- Continued reliance on proprietary software to operate and maintain the State's criminal records repository.
- Poor flexibility to deal with changes in legislation and business processes.
- Poor scalability to deal with increases in work load.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

Expand Electronic Surveillance Support Teams

$2,039,308 million General Revenue

12 FTEs

Issue. Despite declining violent crime trends, there were still more than 980 murders, nearly 62,000 aggravated assaults and over 25,000 robberies reported in Florida in 2011. In 2008, FDLE, along with local law enforcement partners, developed and implemented Electronic Surveillance Support Teams (ESSTs) as a strategy to employ technology to improve law enforcement response to violent crime. Each ESST is a multi-agency effort that uses advanced technologies, global positioning satellite (GPS) and other computer technology to locate violent criminal suspects. The use of technical surveillance allows law enforcement to effectively manage multiple areas simultaneously, while keeping costs down and maximizing the use of man hours. Using the ESST approach, agents can now pinpoint a suspect's location often within hours of the commission of a crime.

FDLE currently employs ESSTs in each of its seven regions, which are available for rapid deployment to any Florida jurisdiction. These teams can scale to the needs of any homicide, sexual assault, child abduction, or other violent criminal act. The ESSTs impressive crime-solving results have contributed to a demand for services that has grown from 253 calls for service in 2008 to 3,374 calls in 2011, representing an increase of more than 1,200 percent. To keep pace with the escalating demand for services and to ensure fast activation of electronic surveillance and quick operational response throughout the state, FDLE must increase the capacity of the ESSTs.

Resources. The Department is requesting $2 million to fund 12 special agent positions and additional cellular surveillance equipment to increase ESST capacity to respond to the increased number of calls for service. Additionally, recurring funds are requested for software updates, new configurations, and troubleshooting support for the Pen-Link system and server, which facilitates connectivity with all communications carriers operating within Florida.

Results. With the addition of 12 new positions and additional cellular surveillance equipment, the ESSTs will be able to more rapidly respond to an increasing number of calls for assistance with violent crimes where time is critical to the successful outcome of the investigation.

Risks. If the additional positions are not funded, and the number of service requests continues to increase at even a fraction of the current pace, the ESSTs will be forced to prioritize their responses. This could result in denying requests for assistance from local law enforcement agencies, ultimately delaying or even impeding ongoing criminal investigations.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

Expand DNA Casework Capacity
$850,541 General Revenue
12 FTEs

Issue. The number of Biology (DNA) service requests submitted to FDLE labs has steadily increased over the last four years. In FY 11-12 FDLE received 21,000 service requests, an increase of 649 from FY 10-11. The Biology discipline averages 2,700 pending requests each month that are not completed by the current 96 Biology analysts. Given the current workload standard of nine cases per month or 108 cases per year per analyst, FDLE would require an additional 25 crime lab analysts (CLA) to keep up with the volume of incoming service requests without significant delays. Adding to the volume of case work demand is the increase in submissions to the DNA Database and the subsequent increase in Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) matches with resulting hits that must be reviewed by CODIS Administrators in the regional crime labs. The responsibility for CODIS administration can add as much as 25 percent to the CLA work load, decreasing the time available for case work.

Despite efforts to streamline incoming workload by restricting case acceptance guidelines and increasing productivity through a multi-faceted DNA backlog reduction plan, FDLE has been unable to keep pace with the heavy volume of service requests. While the number of pending cases has decreased since the backlog reduction strategies were implemented in 2006, the current average backlog remains significant. The pending numbers have been creeping upward in recent months. If FDLE is to keep pace with incoming volume and reduce the number of incoming requests, additional CLAs must be added.

Resources. The Department is requesting $785,000 to fund 12 CLA positions which would be distributed statewide to increase productive capacity of FDLE's Biology sections.

Results. The additional staffing will help FDLE laboratories meet current demand, continue to reduce backlogs and improve completion time for Biology service requests. Based on the discipline standard of 108 cases per year per analyst, the new positions will increase FDLE's DNA analysis capacity by 1,300 service requests per year once fully-trained. This will result in improved service for law enforcement contributors and increase the number of DNA profiles submitted to state and national DNA databases.

The addition of these positions combined with continued use of federal funds for outsourcing and overtime will help FDLE to accommodate incoming workload and avoid further growth in pending service requests. Reducing pending service requests improves turnaround time, provides better service to law enforcement contributors and avoids delays in generating DNA profiles for upload to state and national databases.

Risks. FDLE laboratories are currently working at full capacity and are not staffed to handle the increases in volume generated by both Biology case work requests and CODIS administration. The number of pending Biology service requests remains at a significant level (an average of 2,700 per month for FY 11-12) and is not expected to decrease given the current demands for service. If the requested positions are not funded, the timeliness of service provided to the law enforcement community will decrease, negatively impacting the potential for aiding investigations and successful prosecutions.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

Support Florida Law Enforcement eXchange
$71,510 Operating Trust Fund
1 FTE

Issue. In the aftermath of 9/11, federal, state, and local jurisdictions recognized that the skillful acquisition, intelligent harnessing and systematic sharing of information was essential to providing domestic security within Florida. In 2003, a number of independent law enforcement data sharing projects were in various stages of development.

In March of 2004, FDLE formed a Data Integration Workgroup, comprised of state and local law enforcement representatives from the seven Regional Domestic Security Task Forces. The workgroup was given responsibility to create a statewide criminal information and intelligence sharing strategy for Florida. In creating the statewide strategy, the workgroup identified several issues related to the regional data sharing integration projects, such as compatibility among regional and state systems, capacity of the Criminal Justice Network to support the increased traffic (and demands these systems will create), privacy and security of each system's information and future financial requirements to continue the various programs.

In addition, to ensure interoperability, it was essential that each regional project be designed to meet the minimum standards developed by the workgroup. The statewide strategy was approved by the Domestic Security Oversight Board in December of 2004. Between 2005 and 2011, regional law enforcement information sharing systems were implemented. Funding for these systems was provided almost entirely from federal domestic security grants issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Florida now has regional data sharing systems capable of complex lead generation and analysis for law enforcement and investigative agencies. These systems receive data from hundreds of law enforcement agencies. Regional systems give law enforcement investigators an edge over increasingly sophisticated and mobile criminals, resulting in greater domestic security while enhancing the safety of our officers, visitors and the public. These systems include:

- Region 1 - Northwest Florida Datashare (SmartCop)
- Region 3 - Law enforcement Information eXchange (LInX)
- Region 4 - Tampa Bay Security Network (TBSN)
- Region 5 - Florida Integrated Network for Date Exchange and Retrieval (FINDER)
- Regions 2, 6, 7 and State law enforcement agencies - Regional Law Enforcement Exchange (RLEX)

To take this technological evolution one step further, FDLE recently launched the Florida Law Enforcement eXchange (FLEX) project. The goal of FLEX is to link these regional systems together, so that a query run by any investigator or analyst pulls and combines data from all regional systems. Any participating agency in any region will be able to access and combine data from all regions in the state.

FLEX is scheduled to be fully operational in 2013. To date, staffing for the project has been exclusively through contract staff. When FLEX is fully operational, current contract staff will be phased out. FDLE needs to establish a full-time position to provide support and maintain the FLEX system.

Resources. The Department is requesting $71,510 for FY 13-14 ($93,843 annualized) to fund one FTE (Systems Programming Consultant) to design and implement changes to the FLEX system and to maintain the system after implementation.

Results. FDLE's Office of Information Resource Management will have a primary contact responsible for understanding technical requirements and tasks related to FLEX maintenance programming activities. This includes participating in technical reviews and overseeing the development, testing and implementation of updates to the system software and infrastructure. Funding this position will allow hardware and software life cycle issues will be managed more effectively. FLEX can be monitored and when issues arise, this position will assume primary responsibility for trouble-shooting and resolving issues. In addition, FDLE will be in a position to respond to law enforcement process and technical changes affecting regional data sharing systems and FLEX and be able to consult with partner law enforcement agencies in technical planning and developing enhancements to regional, state, and national data sharing initiatives.

Risks. Florida law enforcement agencies may not fully overcome the gaps in data sharing and analysis that were envisioned since the early 2000's. Operations and maintenance responsibilities will have to be absorbed by information technology staff that is already stretched in their support of currently operating FDLE information systems and services. Issues, corrections, updates associated with the FLEX system may not be addressed in a timely fashion. This will lead to frustration by end users and (potentially) diminished use and value of the system in identifying threats to public safety.

Effective dates. October 2013

Manage Increased Workload of Automated Fingerprint Identification System/Biometric Identification System

$353,783 General Revenue

6 FTEs

Issue. FDLE is responsible for maintaining and operating a statewide-automated fingerprint identification system capable of reading, classifying, storing and matching latent prints from both fingers and palms. The Automated Fingerprint Identification System/Biometric Identification System (AFIS/BIS) also interfaces with the FBI's IAFIS database as an additional resource for solving crimes. The AFIS/BIS database is built from the arrest fingerprints submitted by the booking facilities around the state. The database contains approximately 5.4 million subjects. The AFIS/BIS system compares latent prints developed from crime scenes and physical evidence to previously identified finger and palm prints contained in the database. The system returns potential matches, which latent fingerprint analysts then review to verify if identification can be made. Unidentified latent prints are added to an unsolved latent database for search against incoming records (reverse searches).

Implementation of the technology to search applicant fingerprints against previously unidentified latent prints has significantly increased the crime lab workload. Previously, only name searches of applicants were done and identity verified by checking the prints. Applicant AFIS began on April 28, 2012, and immediately the influx of submissions, combined with the steady workload of criminal searches, generated an overwhelming backlog and threatened a system wide failure of the AFIS/BIS system. Several measures were implemented to protect the system including use of overtime, raising the score thresholds, reassigning other analysts to the AFIS/BIS section, and adding a night shift to handle the 24 hours a day, 7 days a week flow of submissions. Although helpful, these alternatives were not sufficient to compensate for the dramatic increase in submissions.

The Tallahassee Regional Crime Laboratory AFIS/BIS Section is the only FDLE crime laboratory that retrieves, compares and dispositions reverse searches on a daily basis. The six-member unit currently has the capacity to process approximately 1.2 million reverse searches a year. In FY 12-13, the unit will receive an estimated 2.5 million requests for reverse searches including a million criminal submissions and 1.5 million applicant submissions. The current staffing level in the section is not sufficient to analyze the increasing number of reverse searches anticipated. Raising the score thresholds for submission reduced the number of reverse searches to a manageable level, but it also reduced the number of matches reviewed, potentially missing identifications that could be important to public safety.

Resources. The Department is requesting $353,783 to fund six fingerprint analyst positions in the Tallahassee AFIS/BIS Section. The additional positions will staff the night shift and allow for expansion of the unit's operations to keep pace with increased submissions and provide services seven days a week.

FDLE has also requested funding to increase the capacity of the Biometric Identification System in issue #24010C0.

Results. With six additional analysts, the section will be able to complete 4,800 additional reverse search dispositions per day (around 1.2 million per year). This is based on the discipline standard of 100 reverse search dispositions per analyst per hour. The additional positions will complement the current staffing levels in the unit and provide coverage seven days a week,

allowing for a more efficient operation and availability of services to address the needs of the criminal justice community and the state.

With sufficient staffing levels, the score threshold may be lowered to allow more search requests to be submitted. The ultimate consequence of this expansion would be a shorter turnaround time and the potential to prevent and solve more crimes.

Risks. With the current staffing level and the increasing number of reverse search requests, the section is unable to keep up with the incoming workload. Raising the threshold for criminal and applicant reverse searches results in fewer potential matches being reviewed, therefore, lowering the potential to solve crime. Also, the reduction in the applicant prints reviewed against unidentified criminal prints may result in unknown felons being allowed to work in occupations or operations where a clean criminal history is required by law. During the first three months since the implementation of applicant reverse searches, 60 potential matches were identified, validating the importance of this tool. Lowering the system score threshold to encourage additional reverse search reviews could increase the number of potential matches and the potential for solving crime, however the additional workload created by lowering the score threshold is not possible without additional staffing.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

Manage Seal and Expunge Workload
$355,171 Operating Trust Fund
6 FTEs

PRIORITY 9

Issue. The Seal and Expunge Section is responsible for processing applications for certificates of eligibility to seal or expunge criminal history records by determining if the subjects (applicants) meet the statutory criteria for petitioning a court to have a criminal history record sealed or expunged. The section processes court orders directing the expunction or sealing of criminal history record information in compliance with Sections 943.0585 and 943.059, FS, and juvenile diversion expunctions under Section 943.0582, FS.

It is a growing challenge to effectively manage the workload and to provide acceptable turn-around times to applicants. In FY 06-07, the section processed 18,000 applications and court orders compared with 41,000 in FY 10-11. That reflects an increase of more than 127 percent. The Department has instituted several efficiencies to manage this increased workload, but there is a significant amount of specialized work that must be completed by staff.

The seal and expunge process is subdivided into three main parts. First, the intake and processing of applications for court-ordered sealing and expunction and for juvenile diversion expunction involves the opening of mail, reviewing each application to ensure it is complete, and entering the critical data from the application into both the accounting system and the application management system. This is accomplished by the seven intake and clerical staff (4 FTEs and 3 OPS), who are also responsible for answering telephone calls. They handled 68,000 calls in 2011.

Second, staff must determine if the applicant is statutorily eligible to have a single arrest (or related arrests) sealed or expunged from his/her criminal history record. The laws governing eligibility are complex. The specialists must complete a careful, exacting review of the information submitted and then research the applicant's Florida criminal history, national criminal history and driving history and apply the statutory criteria accurately.

And third, staff must comply with a certified court order and notify the agencies involved that FDLE complied with the order in accordance with the law. Time is critical, given the volume of applications and orders received and the expectation that court orders granting relief will be promptly complied with.

A quality control verification is also conducted to identify errors which can adversely impact not only the applicant, but the criminal justice community. If an error occurs, it creates additional workload for others, including FDLE attorneys, State Attorneys and the courts. If a certificate is issued in error, often a court order will subsequently be issued by a judge relying upon the accuracy of the certificate. To rectify these errors, FDLE attorneys contact the State Attorney to request that the court be petitioned to rescind the court order, creating a cascading workload through the process. If a certificate is denied in error, the citizen wanting to have a record sealed or expunged is faced with filing an appeal, and they may be denied housing or employment or other opportunities in the meantime. With current staffing levels, quality control verifications (to ensure accuracy of completed applications) are completed on only 35 percent of applications.

The unit also provides assistance to citizens (including attorneys) concerning the procedures and prerequisites for sealing or expunging criminal history information from public dissemination and assists local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies in responding to issues raised by

the sealing and expunction of criminal history records. This process is of great importance to our citizens because it often directly affects their ability to secure employment, education, entrance into the military, housing, adoption, and other rights, licenses, and benefits contingent upon or related to the status of one's criminal history record. This task is critically important to the public and private sectors, particularly to the individuals seeking relief under the laws governing sealing and expunction.

Resources. The Department is requesting $355,171 to fund six FTE positions to address these workload issues, including an operations and management consultant manager (OMCM), a government analyst (GA) and four criminal justice customer service specialists (CJCSS).

Results. Based on the experience of the past several years, the demand for applications and processing court orders will increase approximately 20 percent per year. Given the current average of 3,400 applications and court orders per month, this will increase to 4,100 in FY 12-13, to 4,900 in FY 13-14 and 5,900 in FY 14-15. Furthermore, the current goal is to respond to applications within 30 working days (6 weeks). A turn-around of 21 working days (3 weeks) or less would better meet the needs of our customers, who need their record sealed or expunged to pursue these opportunities.

These positions will allow the Department to manage the increased workload and reduce the time to respond to applications. The OMCM will supervise the clerical and intake staff, assist with the administrative activities and assist the section supervisor with assessments and analyses to continue to find and implement efficiencies. The current span of control for one supervisor is unmanageable. Having two supervisors would allow the oversight and support needed by the members performing this exacting and detailed work. The GA will ensure all application and court order work is verified and accurate before it is issued. This position would also coordinate with the Office of General Counsel regarding questionable cases and work with other state agencies and the FBI. The four CJCSS positions would perform the analysis and determination of eligibility for the growing number of applications for certificates of eligibility. Once trained, they will be able to process a total of 1,800 additional applications and court orders per month. These positions will help ensure that citizens receive timely responses and that court orders are complied with promptly.

Risks. The challenge to effectively manage the workload and to provide acceptable turn-around times to applicants will continue to grow.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of funding.

Increase FDLE-led Task Forces
$425,000 Florida Law Enforcement Trust Fund Authority

PRIORITY 10

Issue. Investigative task force operations combine the resources of multiple law enforcement agencies, who by Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA), have committed resources to form an expert response team that can be rapidly deployed anywhere within the region when the need arises. Because all regional teams are similarly equipped and trained they are deployable outside their normal region, should the event warrant resources that exceed regional capacity. This interagency approach enhances each participating agency's operational capability and capacity and maximizes the economical and investigative benefits derived from sharing information, equipment, personnel, common training protocols and procedures.

Using the task force approach, FDLE developed the Electronic Surveillance Support Teams (ESST) as a high-tech solution to identify, locate and apprehend violent criminals more rapidly than traditional investigative techniques. Expediting the location of violent criminals improves opportunities to collect and preserve evidence and increases the likelihood of apprehension before additional crimes can be committed.

This approach was used as the Department recently decentralized its cybercrime resources to create cyber/high tech crime squads in five FDLE regions to improve access to cybercrime investigative resources and broaden cyber investigative capability throughout the state. The squads are dedicated to the aggressive pursuit of investigations involving Internet crimes against children, providing computer-related support to other types of criminal investigations within the regions and investigating cases related to hacking, denial of service attacks, and cyber intrusions.

The task force approach has been highly successful. Demand for ESST service has grown more than 1200 percent since the inception of the task forces and over 37 percent this fiscal year (FY 12-13). Cyber/high tech crime squads have only recently been deployed, but already there is heavy demand for these unique investigative capabilities. FDLE has reprogrammed internal assets and used grant funds for equipment and training, but further reprogramming of assets for these FDLE-led task forces will negatively impact other Department operations. FDLE will encourage participation of additional local agencies to help sufficiently staff teams to adequately respond to the need for services.

By MAA, agencies that participate in a task force environment expend resources on operations outside their own agencies' normal jurisdiction. For example, a city resource assigned to the task force may be deployed outside the city limits to assist on an investigation in the county, or a county asset may be deployed across county lines as part of a task force mission. Many local agencies cannot afford to expend limited local budgets to participate in the task force operations unless they can be reimbursed for fuel, travel, per diem and overtime on operations outside normal jurisdictions.

Resources. FDLE requests $425,000 authority from the Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund to encourage local agency participation in the FDLE-led task forces (including ESST and Cybercrime). Funds will be used to train local law enforcement partners on equipment, hardware and software; and to reimburse agencies for overtime, fuel and per diem associated with a task force mission that requires their personnel to respond outside their agency's normal jurisdiction.

The Department currently estimates that ESST and cyber/high tech crime squads will have at least 40 local agency members participating statewide. Because providing financial encouragement to local agencies for their participation is a new initiative, the Department will initially cap the reimbursement for overtime expenses at $5,000 and cap fuel reimbursements at $2,500 per local agency task force member. Amounts will be reevaluated after the first year and adjusted if needed.

Additionally, funds will be used to purchase equipment for local agency task force members to ensure compatibility with task force standards and protocols. Statewide standardization ensures compatibility across regions and ensures the capability for scalable response throughout the state. FDLE anticipates 30 of the local agency taskforce members (about 75 percent) will need equipment upgrades or replacement at $2,500 per local agency task force member. Actual equipment purchases will be based on what the local agency members need to participate and will consist of equipment such as radios, surveillance equipment, electronic countermeasure equipment and computers. Funds will also be used to provide training for local agency task force members to ensure standardized capability within the taskforce and across all regional taskforces. FDLE is estimating $1,250 per local agency member.

Results. ESST and cyber/high tech crime squads respond to calls for assistance from local agencies that need the equipment and expertise offered by these squads to help them solve crime. Success breeds demand for service. Demand for ESST service has grown more than 1200 percent since the inception of the taskforces and over 37 percent this fiscal year. Cyber/high tech crime squads were recently deployed, but already there is heavy demand for these unique investigative services. The ability to reimburse local agencies for their participation on these FDLE-led task forces will increase participation by the local agencies providing increased staffing and broader investigative capability, and will enable the FDLE-led task forces to adequately respond to the demand for service.

Risks. Without participation from more local agencies, the teams will not keep pace with demand for service. Failure to train local partners and reimburse local agencies for overtime and fuel when they participate on task force investigations impedes FDLE's ability to attract local agency participation in the task force, which reduces the number of trained law enforcement assets ready to respond. Lack of rapid response could result in slow development of leads, failure to apprehend a violent felon, or in the worst case, failure to save a life.

Effective dates. Upon receipt of authority.

Decrease Trust Fund Authority
($2,850,000) Criminal Justice Standards and Training Trust Fund Authority

Issue. The Criminal Justice Standards and Training Trust Fund ("Trust Fund") has experienced overall declines in revenue since FY 06-07. In FY 08-09, the Legislature transferred $1.2 million of recurring General Revenue appropriation to the Trust Fund and also "swept" $1.5 million cash from the Trust Fund (non-recurring).

The trust fund revenue has continuously declined each year, approximately 34% overall from FY 06-07 to FY 11-12.

Results. The additional liability placed on the trust fund in FY 08-09, the trust fund "sweep" in FY 08-09, and the continuous revenue decline over the last several years have threatened the insolvency of the fund. Therefore, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is requesting a recurring reduction of $2,850,000 in trust fund authority as the fund cannot sustain the current appropriation level at this time.

Effective dates. July 1, 2013