

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59



Fiscal Year FY 2026-2027

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B1)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

NON-RECURRING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B2)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

CAPITAL REQUESTS <i>(FORM C)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

PROVISOS <i>(FORM D)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Kimberly Buckley	(803) 734-3771	kbuckley@scag.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Matt Gates	(803) 734-2764	mgates@scag.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2026-2027 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>
SIGN/DATE:		
TYPE/PRINT NAME:		

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office
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Section:	59

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Retention Funding	2,354,151	0	0	0	2,354,151	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Administrative and Constituent Services - Program Manager I and Program Coordinator I	228,545	0	0	0	228,545	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
3	B1 - Recurring	Violent Crimes Case Reduction Unit "VCCRU" (1) Administrative Coordinator and (2) Investigator IV	353,554	0	0	0	353,554	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
4	B1 - Recurring	State Grand Jury Investigator	129,000	0	0	0	129,000	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
5	B2 - Non-Recurring	Complex Criminal Investigation Cooperating Witness Assistance Program	250,000	0	0	0	250,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	B1 - Recurring	Capital Litigation Attorney and Legal Assistant	246,880	0	0	0	246,880	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
7	B1 - Recurring	Money Services Senior Examiner	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
8	B1 - Recurring	Internet Crime Against Children Task Force	159,962	0	0	0	159,962	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.35
9	B1 - Recurring	Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider Fraud (VAMPF) - Attorney III and Nurse Practitioner	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	1.50	0.50	0.00	2.00
10	B2 - Non-Recurring	IT Security and Software Upgrades	2,650,000	0	0	0	2,650,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	B1 - Recurring	IT Security and Software Upgrades	960,250	0	0	0	960,250	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
12	B1 - Recurring	Dennis Building Rent	550,000	0	0	0	550,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	B1 - Recurring	South Carolina Bill S.287 - Civil Attorney III (2) and Program Coordinator I (1)	428,211	0	0	0	428,211	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
14	B1 - Recurring	FTE Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	-2.05	-1.10	3.15	0.00	0.00

TOTALS	8,310,553	0	0	0	8,310,553	9.95	0.75	4.65	0.00	15.35
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Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Retention Funding
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$2,354,151 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$2,354,151
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>All areas in the accountability report will be affected by funding. The Attorney General's Office is requesting recurring funding for targeted personnel salary adjustments in the amount of \$2,354,151 000 to retain critical talent and acknowledge performance achievements.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

	The funding of \$2,354,151 would be distributed officewide to retain critical talent and
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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

acknowledge performance achievements.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The Attorney General’s Office is requesting recurring funding for targeted personnel salary adjustments in the amount of \$2,354,151 to retain critical talent, acknowledge performance achievements, and more closely align salaries with market value. This amount would allow the Office to increase attorney starting salary to \$75,000. It also includes performance and retention funds for associate professionals/non-attorneys based on a salary review process with division management, as well as additional funds needed to fill vacant attorney positions at the same competitive rate we hope to pay current staff. It also includes a 10% buffer for vacant associate professional/non-attorney positions and an additional 10% for other positions any other staffing changes that may occur between now and July 2026.

A review of state averages indicates that the Attorney General’s Office still falls slightly behind other agencies in the Attorney III category. While comparable monetarily at the Attorney V and Attorney VI classification, our agency attorneys have significantly more state service. The Office has also identified hiring salaries at several local entities that exceed our current starting salary of \$66,400. These include a posting for an entry-level attorney in Berkley County and Anderson County Solicitor’s Offices starting at \$70,768 and \$80,687 respectively. We also gathered data regarding starting salaries with other Attorney General Offices in the Southeast region. The South Carolina Attorney General’s Office has one of the two lowest starting salaries of the seven states that provided data (ranging from \$58,111 - \$92,000). In 2025, the agency averaged 4.96 applications per attorney posting, of which only an average of 2.96 met the minimum requirements to be considered for the vacancy. Attorneys make up 30% of the office but represented 47.22% of agency turnover during fiscal year 2025. The attorney turnover rate for 2025 is 20.86%, and 40% indicated they left for higher compensation.

Based on the current Mercer midpoints, 100% of the attorneys fall below market value. Of the 53 total classifications utilized by the agency, 62% of the classifications have 50% or more employees who fall below the midpoint. Agencywide, 47.37% of employees who separated indicated one of their reasons for leaving was higher compensation. Of those leaving for reasons other than personal or retirement, 64.7% left for positions at other state or county employers.

SC Attorney General positions carry statewide responsibilities and collaboration. Dissimilar to our local prosecution counterparts who are responsible for the many varieties of cases within their counties and regions, SC AG positions are required to travel and handle cases that may be anywhere within the State of SC which creates an added layer of complexity and dedication.

The Office aims to be the premier law firm in the state and must be able to **compensate staff accordingly.**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	2
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Administrative and Constituent Services - Program Manager I and Program Coordinator I
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$228,545 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$228,545
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	2.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Goal 7 Administration. The agency is requesting (1) Program Manager I and (1) Program Coordinator I for the Administration and Executive divisions.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

	The funding will support the request for 2 new FTE for the Administration and
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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Executive divisions.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Program Manager I: The evolving operation demands, with the AG's Office as the primary occupant for the Dennis Building, have created a need for a dedicated Operations Manager. This role will provide centralized oversight of the Dennis Building operations to ensure smooth day-to-day operations and strategic management of our infrastructure. With the Department of Natural Resources' departure, the continued growth and complexity of our organizational operations across multiple facilities necessitate the establishment of a dedicated Operations Manager position. The Operations Manager will serve as a central point of coordination and oversight for various operational functions, with responsibilities that directly impact staff productivity, safety, and service delivery. This transition significantly increases our responsibility for managing the building's operations, including internal requests, maintenance coordination, space planning, and long-term facility improvements. This shift, combined with the Brown Building staff and 1201 Main staff, requires a professional role dedicated to managing operations across multiple locations with consistency and accountability. This dedicated role will manage Support Services staff, fleet & vehicle inventory management, support emergency preparedness & safety compliance, plan & manage renovation and improvement projects from concept to completion, inventory & access management, facility management, and strategic operational planning. This position will ensure coordinated, proactive, and efficient management of our buildings, assets, and services – ultimately supporting staff productivity. The Operations Manager will provide the oversight necessary to maintain facility requests to the highest standards while relieving current administrative burdens on administrative management staff.

Program Coordinator I: Operational demands in Constituent Services (Executive Division) have also surpassed one individual's capacity for our organization. In the past decade, constituent requests have increased 500% from 3,712 in 2015 to 18,500 in fiscal year 2024. Constituent Services is responsible for incoming mail, phone calls, emails, internet traffic, and public walk-ins. This position serves as the office's liaison between requests from citizens that may need to be addressed by a particular division, such as Securities, Consumer Protection, Antitrust, Civil, PCR, FOIA, Public Information, and speaker requests, to name a few. Departmentally, staff have grown, and various new services for communication have been instituted for engagement. This has dramatically increased the number of staff referrals to Constituent Services. Outside agencies and other governmental offices refer calls and mail to Constituent Services, which adds to the workload of those seeking assistance or information. The position handles and documents price gouging complaints during a declared State of Emergency. Given the high demand of our constituency, especially during natural disasters or major statewide programs, an additional full Constituent Services Coordinator is essential. With the increase and prediction of weather emergencies, we expect longer and more frequent periods of an increased workload. Other duties include providing information for FOIA requests and retaining information for litigation holds. This position works closely with the Administration Division, supporting the main receptionist with constituent calls and visitors. Investment in this position will enhance public trust, expand our office's operational capacity, and inform appropriate staff of changes through data collected and trends captured. An additional position would allow for more consistent and timely responses, and improved services for our citizens, partnering agencies, and internal staff. Identifying and appropriating the necessary resources for this critical position supports the office's mission of delivering accountable, timely, and effective public service. The SC Attorney General's Office is a high-volume, fast-moving legal office; the complexity and urgency of constituent needs (oftentimes not AG boundaries) require dedicated professional attention beyond what general staff can consistently support. This role is not reactive, but instrumental in improving communication, building and reinforcing public trust.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	3
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Violent Crimes Case Reduction Unit “VCCRU” (1) Administrative Coordinator and (2) Investigator IV
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$353,554 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$353,554
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	3.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Goal 1 Criminal Prosecution. The agency is requesting (1) Administrative Coordinator and (2) Investigator IV for the VCCRU division.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	The agency is requesting (3) new FTEs for the VCCRU division.
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The VCCRU was created to reduce the violent crime case backlog in counties who requested assistance. According to the Administrative Order for running court, cases must be published approximately every 15 days between status conferences and trial dockets. While this has been handled by one attorney, it is beyond the bandwidth of the single attorney to continue as the program grows. The two Investigators will assist the new Attorney with thoroughly and timely review of backlog cases to prep for trial. Below are current statistics for the unit:

The unit has adopted approximately 184 different cases from Sumter. We have one from Darlington and two from Clarendon which are related to Sumter cases.

The Unit has closed approximately 31 of those cases since beginning work.

Approximately 153 cases are still pending.

The charges total approximately 58 separate offenses.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	4
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	State Grand Jury Investigator
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	<p>General: \$129,000</p> <p>Federal: \$0</p> <p>Other: \$0</p> <p>Total: \$129,000</p>
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	1.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Goal 1 Criminal Prosection. The agency is requesting \$129,000 for (1) Special Investigator for the State Grand Jury Division.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	The funding will support (1) Special Investigator in the State Grand Jury Division.
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The State Grand Jury division has increased its caseload every fiscal year, frequently taking on new and more complex investigations. SGJ division has developed signature capabilities in investigating and prosecuting sophisticated gangs and organized crime, drug trafficking organizations, and white collar crimes (public corruption, embezzlement, securities fraud), to name a few. As these criminal enterprises adapt with technology to become more efficient, deadly, and profitable, so too must SGJ in its ability to identify, counter, and disrupt.

The SGJ division has grown and accepted an increased case load which has created the need for additional investigative resources to gather, process, and analyze the volume of information and data collected pursuant to a SGJ investigation. Additional investigators are essential to the continued success of the division by supplementing our local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, being familiar with grand jury practice and procedures, and being co-located with and responsive to prosecutors. Investigators and analysts are instrumental in combing through the volumes of evidence collected, primarily in the form of cell phone downloads, financial data, social media downloads, open source information, and all documentation gathered by subpoena or search warrant.

As far as investigative capabilities, the SGJ division currently has (1) Special Investigator (Class 1 LE), (1) Forensic Accountant (Class 3 LE), and (1) Forensic Analyst. This request is for an additional Class 1 Investigator.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	6
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Capital Litigation Attorney and Legal Assistant
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$246,880 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$246,880
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	2.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Goal 1 Criminal Prosecution. The agency is requesting (1) Assistant Attorney General and (1) Legal Assistant for the Capital Litigation division.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	<p>The funding will support the request for (2) new FTEs for the Capital Litigation division.</p>
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

**JUSTIFICATION OF
REQUEST**

The capital and collateral litigation section has seen an increase in capital litigation (complex collateral litigation, state and federal, and also other related civil litigation matters and end stage litigation) which affects bandwidth for concurrently assigned non-capital matters. That, combined with loss of experienced capital litigation attorneys through retirement, and coupled with a steady flow of direct appeal briefs and federal habeas corpus actions at average or above average levels, has resulted in unsustainable workloads for the existing section attorneys and support staff. Additional personnel would be necessary to normalize caseload, reduce strain on the present staff, and maintain quality in the assigned work.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	7
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Money Services Senior Examiner
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$0 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$0
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	1.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	The agency is requesting 1 money services senior examiner for the securities division.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	The agency is requesting 1 new FTE for the securities division.
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

**JUSTIFICATION OF
REQUEST**

In order to implement the examination provisions of the South Carolina Uniform Money Services Act, the Attorney General’s Office is requesting an examiner with a strong financial analysis background who will assist with the more complex money services licensing applications, as well as performing examinations of licensees. This individual will also perform examinations of larger investment advisers, as time permits. Such a position requires a high level of financial knowledge and background as well as an understanding of money services.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	8
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Internet Crime Against Children Task Force
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$159,962 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$159,962
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.35
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>The agency is requesting funding to fill a State FTE received in FY2026 budget appropriation. This position was appropriated but funding received was insufficient to fill the vacancy. The agency's original ICAC budget request was reduced and therefore all positions could not be fully filled.</p> <p>The agency is requesting .35 federal FTE to be utilized by the DOJ ICAC grant program.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	<p>The requested funding will be utilized in the ICAC division to support an additional Attorney. The .35 FTE federal request will be utilized to carry out the responsibilities of the DOJ ICAC grant program.</p>
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Last legislative session, the Internet Crimes Against Children section (ICAC) was awarded three new FTE's but only received enough monetary funding to staff two. The three FTEs requested were originally designated for two investigators and one cybertip analyst position. The ICAC budget request was reduced in the final state appropriation, and the agency was left short to fully support all three positions. The agency moved to fill the two investigator positions with the funding received. However, the need for the cybertip analyst was dire and cybertips were steadily coming in (the unit received over 11,000 cybertips during fiscal year 2024). The agency made the decision to repurpose a recently vacant DOJ ICAC grant funded attorney position to fund the cybertip analyst. This was approved through DOJ grant adjustment notice.

This legislative cycle, we are requesting funding for the third FTE which was received in FY2026 to replace the attorney position repurposed on the federal grant. This Attorney position is still a great need and re-establishing the 9th ICAC Assistant Attorney General position will be instrumental in keeping our case load manageable as well as employee retention.

Currently, the ICAC section has approximately 800 cases open. This means, fully staffed with 8 attorneys, each attorney still has a caseload of 100 cases. These cases in the ICAC section deal with egregious child sexual abuse that has been documented through pictures and videos as well as child predators who solicit and travel to meet children via the internet, all of which our staff are subjected to having to watch in order to verify it meets S.C. state law. Working these cases, much less 100 of them, takes a huge toll on the mental health and wellbeing of our staff. To help mitigate this, we are requesting the funding for the third FTE to replace the 9th attorney position lost by funding the cybertip analyst.

The unit is also requesting a .35 federal FTE to fulfill the DOJ grant program requirements.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	9
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider Fraud (VAMPF) - Attorney III and Nurse Practitioner
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$0 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$0
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	2.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Goal 1 Criminal Prosecution. The agency is requesting (1) Attorney III for the Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider Fraud (VAMPF) unit and (1) Nurse Practitioner. This FTE will be fully supported by the VAMPF DHHS Federal Award and Current Match Funding.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

	The agency is requesting (2) new FTE for the Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider
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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Fraud (VAMPF) unit. No new funding is required for this request.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider Fraud (VAMPF) - Attorney III

This position will be .75 federal and .25 other (match) for our Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider Fraud (VAMPF) unit. This unit was audited in 2020 by Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG), our federal funding source who contribute 75% of our budget. HHS-OIG made findings that SCMFCU “had low staff levels that contributed to large caseloads for Unit staff” and that “the Unit’s staff levels were low in relation to the State’s Medicaid program expenditures”. The Unit addition of this attorney position is needed to alleviate the criminal case load of current attorneys and to initiate use of the Unit’s statutory civil jurisdiction. In State fiscal year 21/22, 22/23, 23/24, and 24/25, SCMFCU received 134, 177, 223 and 229 referrals, respectively. This represents a 71% percent increase over a four-year period in case referrals received by the Unit. The addition of this attorney position is needed to mitigate the number of increased criminal case assignments per attorney. The Unit has state and federal statutory civil jurisdiction but has been unable to utilize this jurisdiction for a lack of attorneys with civil experience. This additional attorney would allow the Unit to use our authority to recoup funds for the State Medicaid program and vulnerable adults from bad actors in cases that may not meet the standards for criminal prosecution.

VAMPF - Nurse Practitioner

This position will be .75 federal and .25 other (match) for our Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider Fraud (VAMPF) unit. The addition of a Nurse Practitioner (NP) or equivalent, with their advance training/experience, would enhance VAMPF’s capacity to address complex cases of abuse and neglect involving vulnerable adults, such as the elderly and individuals with disabilities. NP’s or equivalent would possess advanced clinical expertise, including the ability to interpret medical records, assess injuries, identify patterns of neglect or maltreatment, and differentiate between medical conditions and indicators of criminal conduct. One critical reason for this position is the need for thorough completion of complex medical reviews involving extensive medical records from abuse and neglect incidents. The NP or equivalent would also review referral materials from other agencies—such as local law enforcement, Department of Public Health, Department of Social Services, or other state regulatory bodies—to determine whether a criminal investigation is viable and to classify the conduct as criminal (e.g., intentional harm, exploitation) versus civil/administrative in nature (e.g., standard negligence without intent). This specialized medical analysis ensures accurate case prioritization, strengthens prosecutorial evidence, and prevents misclassification that could undermine justice for victims or overburden the criminal justice system with non-criminal matters. Furthermore, the NP or equivalent role would extend to reviewing Medicaid provider fraud, including service notes and Medicaid service assessments, to identify potential fraud, abuse, or neglect tied to billing practices—such as upcoding, unnecessary services, or failure to provide billed care. These reviews help uncover patterns where financial exploitation overlaps with physical or medical neglect, supporting multidisciplinary investigations that align law enforcement efforts with VAMPF priorities and protect public funds while safeguarding at-risk populations. By integrating this advanced medical perspective directly into the law enforcement unit, the agency can improve investigative accuracy, expedite case resolutions, reduce reliance on external consultations, and ultimately better serve and protect vulnerable adults from criminal harm.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	11
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	IT Security and Software Upgrades
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$960,250 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$960,250
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	1.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority # 10	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>This funding would allow the agency to continue to support Strategy 7.3 of our agency's 2026 accountability report.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

	The agency would utilize a state contracted vendor to provide ongoing support for
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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

the Cyber Vault Storage. The agency will use the fund for continuing support for Westlaw Upgrades and a Workflow System. The funds will also fund an IT Analyst position.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

Cyber Vault Storage Support for Ransomware Protection (\$500,000)

Our agency has self-funded a cyber vault solution to protect against ransomware attacks; however, we are seeking further funding to obtain extra storage for the increased safeguarding of all eDiscovery and case evidence. This recurring expense is necessary to cover the 20% annual support cost for the hardware and licenses, contingent upon the approval of our initial request for \$2.3 million.

Westlaw Upgrade (\$172,000)

Upgrade the agency's legal research platform to Westlaw CoCounsel. This upgrade represents a strategic investment in advanced legal research and drafting technology that will significantly improve efficiency, accuracy, and productivity across the legal divisions. Westlaw CoCounsel builds upon the existing Westlaw Edge platform by integrating advanced generative AI capabilities specifically designed for legal research and analysis. Unlike Edge, which primarily enhances search and analytics, CoCounsel enables users to perform complex, time-intensive legal tasks—such as document review, legal drafting, and summarization—at substantially greater speed and consistency. The Financial Impact:

- Current annual cost (Westlaw Edge): \$135,000
- Proposed annual cost (Westlaw CoCounsel): \$307,000
- Additional annual funding requested: \$172,000 (56% increase);

Given the anticipated efficiency gains, this increase represents a prudent and forward-looking investment.

Upgrading to Westlaw CoCounsel will materially enhance the Office's legal research and analytical capabilities while supporting efficiency, quality, and risk management. Approval of this request will position the Office to meet current and future legal demands more effectively and responsibly.

Workflow Business Solution Software (\$150,000)

Utilizing the state contract to procure and implement a workflow business process management system to modernize, automate, and streamline workflows internally across the agency. A highly sophisticated workflow system can support a wide range of needs by automating repetitive tasks/approvals, reducing manual errors, enhancing onboarding and offboarding solutions, document tracking, timely workflow automation and notifications, while greatly reducing manual effort and administrative burdens. The current workflow process is fragmented with manual processes, email approvals, spreadsheets, and dated manual workflows. This request represents a measured investment that modernizes state operations while maintaining fiscal responsibility, accountability, and flexibility. A solid business workflow system ensures consistency, cost control, and security of information across the agency. Without modernization, operational inefficiencies and technology risk will continue to increase over time. With a measured workflow business solution, the Office expects this tool to free up resources for other strategic work.

This request also includes funding for one FTE position to administer, govern, and support the system. The cost of this FTE is expected to be offset by reduced reliance

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

on a contractor or other professional services, ultimately improved efficiency and utilization of the identified platform.

IT Business Analyst II (\$138,250)

This position is essential for aiding in the implementation and continuous support of the Administrative Workflow Systems outlined in this budget request. These systems will necessitate thorough oversight and ongoing management. The existing IT personnel lack sufficient resources and experience to procure these vital systems and maintain them effectively given the current staffing levels.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	12
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Dennis Building Rent
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$550,000 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$550,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>All areas in the accountability report will be affected by funding. The Attorney General's Office is requesting recurring funding of \$550,000 to help cover the additional rent costs of the Dennis Building. This building is owned by DOA. Funds will be used exclusively to cover rent expenses associated with the Dennis Building lease agreement with DOA.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	<p>The Attorney General's Office is requesting recurring funding of \$550,000 to help cover the additional rent costs of the Dennis Building. This building is owned by DOA.</p>
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Our agency has taken over the first, second, and third floors of the Dennis Building since the Department of Natural Resources vacated the building in early January 2025. Due to market conditions and revised lease terms, our annual rent has increased by \$550,000. As rent is a fixed expense, recurring funding is required to ensure long-term stability. The requested funding is necessary to maintain current operations and services provided by our agency.

The Dennis Building was originally constructed in 1952 for the South Carolina Highway Department and expanded in the 1970s, has served various state functions over the decades. The building's current infrastructure, including electrical, HVAC, plumbing, and safety systems, is significantly outdated. These systems no longer meet modern standards for energy efficiency, occupant comfort, or safety and many are at or beyond their expected lifespan. We still need to renovate large portions of these floors we have acquired. Renovating these systems is not only essential for compliance with building codes but also for reducing long-term operational costs.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	13
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	South Carolina Bill S.287 - Civil Attorney III (2) and Program Coordinator I (1)
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$428,211 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$428,211
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	3.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>The agency is requesting (2) Attorney IIIs and (1) Program Coordinator I for the Civil division for the South Carolina Bill S.287.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

	<p>The agency is requesting (3) new FTEs for the Civil division.</p>
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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

S.287. 2 FTE Attorney and 1 Program Coordinator

South Carolina Bill S.287 establishes a mandatory Electronic Nicotine Delivery System (ENDS) Product Directory, the ENDS Directory requires manufacturers to submit annual certifications to the Attorney General’s Office for approval. Under this law, directory approval will be required to sell or distribute any ENDS products in South Carolina, with denials of certification subject to appeal in the Administrative Law Court (Article 3, Chapter 23 of Title 1.) State and local law enforcement are empowered to enforce the ENDS Directory by seizing non-compliant ENDS products. All results from compliance checks must be reported to the Attorney General, who will compile the data and make it available to the public upon request.

3 FTE Requests

In order to carry out the responsibilities and duties of S.287, the Attorney General’s Office is requesting 3 additional FTEs. 2 Attorney III’s and 1 Program Coordinator.

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Attorney III – This position will be the primary lead involving the regulatory oversight of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) by reviewing manufacturer certifications and making final determinations on their legal status. This position will be responsible for defending the Attorney General’s certification denials by providing testimony in the Administrative Law Court (ALC). This position will be responsible for coordinating with state and local law enforcement on retailer and distributor compliance checks. Additionally, this position will manage the compliance data submitted by law enforcement and be responsible for communication with manufacturers regarding their certification requirements.

Attorney III – This position will manage the legal actions for the Attorney General’s Office. This position will defend the agency’s enforcement decisions in the ALC. This position will include communicating with state and local law enforcement to pursue financial penalties in Civil or Bankruptcy Court, as well as collaborating with both internal and external counsel on complex constitutional litigation. This position will be responsible for handling the ALC cases brought Attorney General’s certification denials in ALC. This position will also be responsible for drafting the necessary regulations to establish clear frameworks for state enforcement activities.

Program Coordinator I – This position will act as the project manager for the Attorney General’s Office’s managing of the ENDS Directory. The duties of this position will include complex regulatory administration. This position will manage the intake and initial review of manufacturer certifications to ensure the required information is sent. This position will also manage the intake of state and local law enforcement compliance checks. Additionally, this position will provide support regarding the ALC cases generated by certification denials, and for enforcement actions in Civil and Bankruptcy Court.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	14
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	FTE Adjustments
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$0 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$0
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>The agency is requesting 1.60 Other FTE and 1.10 Federal FTE to be transferred to total 2.70 State FTEs. This realignment will assist the agency in better utilizing available funding and meet the agencies needs in multiple areas.</p> <p>sting 2.60 Other FTE and 1.10 Federal FTE to be transferred to total 3.70 State FTEs. This realignment will assist the agency in better utilizing available funding and meet the agencies needs in multiple areas.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	Multiple areas of the office will be affected by this technical realignment of FTEs.
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The agency is requesting a technical adjustment for -2.95 (.35 federal and 2 other) moved to state FTEs and -5.75 (.75 federal and 5 state) moved to other FTEs. This results in -2.05 state FTEs, 3.15 other FTEs, and -1.10 federal FTEs. This realignment will assist the agency in better utilizing available funding and meet the agencies needs in multiple areas. The breakdown on which sections are affected are below.

The Prosecution section has an Attorney II position that is .15 Federal FTE and .6 Other FTE. The agency would like this moved to .75 State FTE.

The VAMPF section has a 3 Investigator IVs that is .25 Federal FTE each, totaling to .75 Federal FTEs. The agency would like that moved to .75 Other FTE.

The VAMPF section also have 20 FTEs at .25 State totaling to 5 State FTEs. The agency would like that 5 State FTEs moved to 5 Other FTEs.

The HR section has an HR Coordinator that is .2 Federal FTE. The agency would like that moved to .2 State FTE.

The Consumer Protection section has an Attorney IV that is 1 Other FTE. The agency would like that moved to 1 State FTE.

The State Grand Jury section has an Attorney IV that is 1 Other FTE. The agency would like that moved to 1 State FTE.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	5
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Complex Criminal Investigation Cooperating Witness Assistance Program
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$250,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Goal 1 Criminal Prosecution. The agency is requesting \$250,000 for Complex Criminal Investigation Cooperating Witness Assistance Program in State Grand Jury Cases.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	The funding will support Complex Criminal Investigation Cooperating Witness Assistance Program for critical witnesses in State Grand Jury Cases.
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon

**JUSTIFICATION
OF REQUEST**

Complex Criminal Investigation Cooperating Witness Assistance Program: The South Carolina Attorney General's Office requests discretionary funds to allow for the securing and protection of individuals identified as a "critical witness." A "critical witness" is any person who is participating in a criminal investigation, or has received a subpoena or who is reasonably expected to give testimony that is, in the judgment of the prosecuting officer, essential to a criminal investigation or proceeding or such person's relatives, guardians, friends or associates who are reasonably endangered by such person's participation in the criminal investigation or proceeding. Request also that these funds be used to protect "endangered" persons, defined as individuals who are placed in danger due to an association with the critical witness. Individuals who elect to cooperate with a criminal investigation may be associated with dangerous drug trafficking organizations and/or criminal gangs and are frequently subject and vulnerable to retaliation from co-conspirators. The State Grand Jury Division frequently investigates complex, resourceful, well-funded, and extremely dangerous criminal organizations. Cooperating witnesses are frequently concerned about threats against their persons and family members as a result of providing critical information to the SGJ. Accessible funds by SCAGO for the purpose of protecting and securing these "critical witnesses" will allow investigations to proceed uninhibited and securely, ensure the security and safety of all persons involved, and maintain in the integrity of the eventual prosecution of any charged conduct. The SGJ Division requests these funds to temporarily protect and secure critical witnesses to ensure the integrity of the case and at-risk cooperators' safety. Should funds be appropriated for the purpose of creating a South Carolina Complex Criminal Investigation Cooperating Witness Assistance Program, internal policies and procedures should be adopted and implemented to safeguard and ensure the effective and appropriate distribution of funds.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	10
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	IT Security and Software Upgrades
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$2,650,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority # IT Security and Software Upgrades	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	This funding would allow the agency to complete Strategy 7.3 of our agency accountability report.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	The agency would utilize a state contracted vendor to procure and install the hardware.
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon

**JUSTIFICATION
OF REQUEST**

Our agency has independently financed a Cyber Vault Solution to safeguard against Ransomware Attacks. Additional funding is requested to enhance our security posture.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan – 3% Cost Reductions
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AMOUNT	\$917,408
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What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	Temporary personnel.
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How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	The agency will evaluate the temporary positions in the agency for critical needs to adjust for the reduction in funding.
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	Reducing temporary personnel could impact time for case review, trial preparations, and other administrative operations.
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Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

**AGENCY COST
SAVINGS PLANS**

A 3% reduction to the general fund appropriate would negatively impact on current non-FTE, temporary, and contract positions. These positions include staff attorneys and support personnel. Reducing these positions could potentially impact time required for case review, trial preparation, and other administrative operations.

What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

Agency Name:	Attorney General's Office		
Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Revisions to the State Vulnerable Adults and Medicaid Provider Fraud (VAMPF) Control Regulations
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	Please see summary section.
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What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repeal or revision of regulations.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	Review and analysis of the current Medicaid Fraud statutes in the State of SC and other State Medicaid Fraud Units.
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Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	n/a
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Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	SC Code § 43-7-90 , SC Code § 43-35-10 , SC Code § 43-7-60
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Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

SUMMARY	<p>Proposed amendments to §43-7-60 would include a clarification to the definition of a provider to include services provided through Managed Care Organizations and penalties to reflect the amounts of fraudulent claims, similar to property crime statutes.</p> <p>- There is great interest by our taxpayers in combating fraud in the Medicaid program, and this updated statute would allow us to more effectively combat fraud. The current statute requires us to charge one count for each false claim, which is not in the best interest of judicial economy. A statute where we can aggregate the false claims into one charge will be much more efficient. This update also reflects the current Medicaid environment, with services being provided through Managed Care Organizations and not just the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.</p> <p>Proposed amendments to §43-7-90 would allow us to use subpoenas in our investigations.</p> <p>- Much of the evidence uncovered during our investigations is stored in another state or in the cloud, so the ability to use a subpoena is paramount to our continued fight against fraud. Additionally, it is burdensome and an additional cost to taxpayers for our investigators to have to travel to the county where the fraud occurred in order to have a search warrant issued by a magistrate. This is a much more efficient use of time and</p>
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resources.

Proposed amendments to §43-35-10 would prohibit the unauthorized videotaping or recording of vulnerable adults.

- It is in the best interest of the people of South Carolina to protect our vulnerable adult population from harassment and abuse, and this amendment would close a perceived loophole in the Omnibus Adult Protection Act allowing unauthorized recording of these individuals.

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?