

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



Fiscal Year FY 2024-2025

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B1)</i>	For FY 2024-2025, 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 2024-2025, 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 2024-2025, 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 2024-2025, 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 2024-2025 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.

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Executive Summary

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

Agency Priority	Request Type	Title	General Dollars	Federal Dollars	Earmarked Dollars	Restricted Dollars	Total Dollars	General FTEs	Federal FTEs	Earmarked FTEs	Restricted FTEs	Total FTEs
1	B1 - Recurring	Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force	\$282,148	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$282,148	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
2	B1 - Recurring	State Grand Jury Forensic Auditor	\$132,937	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$132,937	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
3	B1 - Recurring	Fiscal Analyst-Administration	\$100,613	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,613	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Statewide Violent Crimes Prosecution Support Task Force	\$1,575,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,575,000	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
5	B1 - Recurring	FTE Adjustments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.75	2.25	0.00	0.00	3.00
6	B2 - Non-Recurring	Crime Victim Assistance SAVS Program – Supplemental Allocation	\$15,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	B2 - Non-Recurring	Residential and Emergency Housing for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking Grants	\$10,400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,400,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	B1 - Recurring	Human Trafficking Community Based Services Grants and Support Personnel	\$1,700,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,700,000	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
9	B1 - Recurring	Employer Contribution Rate Increase	\$95,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$95,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	B2 - Non-Recurring	Funding for Legal Fees to Represent the State	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,800,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal:			\$31,085,698	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$31,085,698	15.75	3.25	0.00	0.00	19.00

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

AMOUNT	General: \$282,148 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$282,148
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 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 3 new FTEs for our Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Unit, 1 State Funded Attorney III, 1 State Funded Investigator IV (forensic examiner) and 1 federally grant funded Investigator IV.
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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 our Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Unit, 1 State Funded Attorney III, 1 State Funded Investigator IV (forensic examiner) and 1 federally grant funded Investigator IV.
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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

Internet Crimes Against Children FTEs:

ICAC Section is requesting one state funded attorney position, one state funded forensic investigator position and one federally grant funded investigator position. As the ICAC Task Force has grown, arrests have increased virtually every year for at least the past ten years. Additionally, the amount of Cybertips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has risen 280% in five years. With more investigations and arrests, there are naturally more cases to prosecute. These cases can be highly technical and traditionally require more time to prepare for prosecutors. Additional investigators would assist the section with its current case backlog, allowing the forensic team to quickly process and finalize cases for trial. With the increase in caseload and preparation necessary for these types of cases, additional staff are needed to ensure cases can be prosecuted promptly.

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	2
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

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

AMOUNT	<p>General: \$132,937</p> <p>Federal: \$0</p> <p>Other: \$0</p> <p>Total: \$132,937</p>
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 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"/>	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 senior accountant (forensic auditor) for State Grand Jury Unit. This request aligns with AAR goal 1.
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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 our State Grand Jury Unit.
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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

State Grand Jury Forensic Accountant:

Due to SGJ's statutory requirements, the Office subpoenas and obtains large amounts of evidentiary data from bank records, money services business records, business records, email accounts, cell phone extractions, social media accounts, and other complex and large data. Since its formation, State Grand Jury Section has tripled its output and has been central to the investigation and prosecution of many high-profile cases. These partnerships include reducing criminal activity in prisons, prosecuting fentanyl trafficking, and prosecuting public corruption cases. As a result, requests for service from various state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies have increased. The increased demand for management and analysis of subpoenaed records and information has created a need for a forensic accountant or analyst to assist.

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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Agency Code:	E200	Section:	59

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

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

TITLE	Fiscal Analyst-Administration
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$100,613 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$100,613
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 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"/>	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 new FTE for our Administration Division, accountant/fiscal analyst. AAR goal 8 will be supported by this 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 agency is requesting 1 new FTE for our Administration Division, accountant/fiscal analyst.</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

Fiscal Analyst-Finance Department

Fiscal Analyst to assist with the large increase in the volume of payables and other financial operations that have incurred over the last 5 years. Since 2018, the agency has experienced a 30% increase in FTEs and an almost 400% increase in the overall budget managed by the agency. Due to the increase in FTEs, the agency's payables have significantly increased, placing a hardship on the agency's single payables analyst, who is responsible for processing payables for an agency of over 300 FTEs. The agency has received no additional Finance Department support for over 15 years. An additional FTE is critical to ensure the agency complies with all state and federal regulations.

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	4
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Statewide Violent Crimes Prosecution Support Task Force
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	<p>General: \$1,575,000</p> <p>Federal: \$0</p> <p>Other: \$0</p> <p>Total: \$1,575,000</p>
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	10.00
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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 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 10 new FTEs for our Statewide Violent Crimes Prosecution Support Task Force Unit, 4 Attorney IV, 1 Victim Advocate, 2 Paralegals, 2 Investigator III, 1 IT Technician I, office space funding and trial support equipment 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?

RECIPIENTS OF	<p>The agency is requesting 10 new FTEs for our Statewide Violent Crimes Prosecution Support Task Force Unit, 4 Attorney IV, 1 Victim Advocate, 2 Paralegals, 2 Investigator III, 1 IT Technician I, office space funding and trial support equipment funding.</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

Statewide Violent Crimes Prosecution Support Task Force:

The Attorney General’s Office is requesting funding for two trial teams to be able to tackle the violent crime backlog with the Solicitors’ Officers across that state.

To carry out this request, we are asking for the following: 10 new FTEs for our Statewide Violent Crimes Prosecution Support Task Force Unit, 4 Attorney IV (\$181,000 each), 1 Victim Advocate (\$104,000), 2 Paralegals (\$111,000 each), 2 Investigator III (\$132,000 each), IT Technician I (\$111,000), office space fund (\$100,000) and trial support equipment (\$50,000).

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	5
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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 2024-2025? 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 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 also requesting 3 addition FTEs (2.25 Federal, .75 State) for our Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. This will support AAR goal 1.</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 agency is also requesting 3 addition FTEs (2.25 Federal, .75 State) for our Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.</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

Medicaid Provider Fraud FTEs:

Medicaid Fraud Control Unit program (2.25 Federal, .75 State) – The Federal Medicaid Fraud Unit has received additional funding for their federal DHHS grant program and has been authorized to hire three additional positions. In order to carry out this function, the agency will need three additional FTEs this budget cycle. These recommendations originated with the audit carried out by the Federal Office of Inspector General which indicates the program is understaffed according to their level of work/demand. These positions are critical to ensure the program is sufficiently and timely reviewing, investigating and prosecuting Medicaid Fraud in the State. **These FTEs were requested in FY23-24 budget but were not appropriated. There is no state funding request associated with these FTE additions. The agency has received temporary FTE authorization in FY23-24 to move forward will fulfilling the grant requirements and filling these needed positions. The agency is requesting for them to be made permanent in FY24-25.**

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	8
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Human Trafficking Community Based Services Grants and Support Personnel
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	<p>General: \$1,700,000</p> <p>Federal: \$0</p> <p>Other: \$0</p> <p>Total: \$1,700,000</p>
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 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"/>	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 \$1.6m for community-based services to all victims of trafficking in the state and \$100k for 1 new FTE for a grant coordinator position to administer the grant program at the OAG.</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 agency is requesting \$1.6m for community-based services to all victims of trafficking in the state and \$100k for 1 new FTE for a grant coordinator position to administer the grant program at the OAG.</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

Human Trafficking Grant Community Based Services Funding and Support Personnel FTE:

The Attorney General’s Office is requesting \$1.6m for community-based services for adult and minor victims of human trafficking. To date, the state has 0 funding allocated to address the community-based needs of this victim population. These services would be provided statewide. The service and program categories would be in coordinate disciplinary response, incarcerated victim response, clinical mental health, substance abuse, legal services, victim advocacy and community-based awareness and education. The agency is also requesting \$100k for 1 Grant Coordinator to carry out the administrative functions of the new grant programs at the OAG.

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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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	Employer Contribution Rate Increase
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$95,000 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$95,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 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"/>	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 funds appropriated will be used to cover the employer contribution cost increase for bill H. 5230 affecting the Attorney General's retirement contributions.
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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 funds appropriated will be used to cover the employer contribution cost increase for bill H. 5230 affecting the Attorney General's retirement contributions.
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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 is requesting a general fund appropriation increase of 95k to cover retirement rate cost increase due to bill H. 5230. These funds will cover the increase to the Attorney General's retirement rate increase.

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	6
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Crime Victim Assistance SAVS Program – Supplemental Allocation
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$15,000,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 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 checked="" 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"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	<input 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	This agency's request seeks \$15 million in state legislative funds to help offset ongoing federal cuts to victim services programs. This would bolster the SAVS program for one funding cycle and allow current subrecipient organizations to maintain their current levels of funding.
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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	This agency's request seeks \$15 million in state legislative funds to help offset ongoing federal cuts to victim services programs. This would bolster the SAVS program for one funding cycle and allow current subrecipient organizations to maintain their current levels of funding.
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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 predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Crime Victim Assistance – Supplemental Allocation for Victim Services (SAVS):

Victims of crime rely on advocates, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and other services more than ever. The single greatest source of support for victims of crime programs are Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) subgrants, which cover all 46 counties. These federal funds have been cut 58% nationwide since FY18. As a result, victim services provided by county, municipal and non-profit agencies in South Carolina are being sharply reduced. This includes advocates who work one-on-one with crime victims as they recover.

In July 2021, Congress passed the VOCA Fix Act, which aims to increase the federal Crime Victims Trust Fund and hopefully result in restored allocations to the states in the future. Until that time, the foundational victim services supported by the VOCA program will continue to diminish unless supplemented by state legislative funds.

This request seeks funding to support the VOCA program for one year by supplementing federal grant funds that pass through the SC Office of the Attorney General to organizations providing direct services to victims.

In 2022, our Office was fortunate enough to receive \$10 million in one-time funding from the state legislature. This funding allowed our office to create a new grant funding program, Supplemental Allocation for Victims Services (SAVS). SAVS mirrors the VOCA program almost identically and has enabled our office to avoid any further cuts to subrecipient organizations. Unfortunately, however, without a further influx of funding from the legislature we expect this program to exhaust its funding by 2024, causing substantial cuts to victim's service agencies throughout the state.

This request seeks \$15 million in state legislative funds to help offset ongoing federal cuts to victims' services. This would bolster the SAVS program for one funding cycle and allow current subrecipient organizations to maintain their current levels of funding.

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	7
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Residential and Emergency Housing for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking Grants
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$10,400,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 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 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"/>	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	This agency's request seeks \$10.4 million in state legislative funds to help establish 4 residential and emergency housing for minor victims of trafficking.
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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	This agency's request seeks \$10.4 million in state legislative funds to help establish 4 residential and emergency housing for minor victims of trafficking.
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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 predetermined eligibility criteria?

**JUSTIFICATION
OF REQUEST**

Residential and Emergency Housing for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking Grants:

Currently, the state is severely lacking resources and services for those trafficked in the state. Specifically, the state is in a dire situation with care and services to trafficked minors which consisted of 96% (399 out of 416,) of the trafficking cases reported by SLED in 2022. Those cases have risen in 2023 (446 reported as of Nov 2023) and continue to make a climb. As of this letter, the state has only 10 beds at one location in the low country for all trafficking victims in state, both Adult and Children. Of these 10 beds available, 0 are open to male victims of trafficking both adult and minor. This result has left agencies and victim service providers in ill-equipped positions and victims in a highly vulnerable, dangerous, and sometimes deadly situation.

The Attorney General's Office is requesting \$10.4 million in one-time funding to allocate through competitive solicitation to victim service agencies to establish a minimum of four (4) residential and emergency housing locations for minor victims of human trafficking. Each location is estimated to cost \$1m in startup cost for the building and equipment and approximately \$1.6m recurring cost. This funding would provide a minimum of 45 beds to minor female victims and 15 beds to male victims across the state and provide funding for approximately one-year of operational expenses at each location.

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	Funding for Legal Fees to Represent the State
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$1,800,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? 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 type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	<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	The agency is requesting funding to cover legal fees on behalf of the State which is approximated to cost \$1.8 million in calendar year 2024. This funding will support strategic plan objective 6.1.1.
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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 is requesting funding to cover legal fees on behalf of the State which is approximated to cost \$1.8 million in calendar year 2024.
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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 predetermined eligibility criteria?

**JUSTIFICATION
OF REQUEST**

The Attorney General's Office is representing the State in a complex securities matter, which has required the Attorney General's Office to retain outside counsel to represent the State's interests. Outside counsel for the State will be regularly interacting with and coordinating the efforts of the various state agencies in this complex matter. These interactions will include an extensive investigation, large requests for documents, review and analysis of documents produced, and interviews of staff in various state agencies. This work will prepare outside counsel for effective representation of the State and the State's interests. Outside counsel will make recommendations and provide legal advice to the Attorney General's Office and other South Carolina government leadership. Outside counsel will effectively advocate for the State in presentations to the opposing party and/or prepare for litigation, as appropriate. The Attorney General's Office does not have the necessary expertise to defend the State in this complex securities matter, and the outside counsel retained by the Attorney General's Office does have this experience.

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	3% Cost Reductions
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AMOUNT	\$784,956
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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	All temporary personnel may be impacted.
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	Reducing personnel could impact time required for case review, trial preparation, 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 appropriation would negatively impact 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 Medicaid Fraud 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 resources.</p> <p>Proposed amendments to §43-35-10 would prohibit the unauthorized videotaping or recording of vulnerable adults.</p> <p>-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</p>
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individuals.

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