

Pennsylvania State Police
House Appropriations Committee
2022 Budget Hearing Follow-up Questions

Question:

Representative Culver:

Current status of the DNA Detection Fund:

Response:

The DNA Detection Fund is governed by Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, Title 44, Part II, Chapter 23. An individual convicted or adjudicated delinquent for specified offenses have a DNA sample collected and, unless the court finds that undue hardship would result, a mandatory cost of \$250 is assessed to the individual. The revenue is deposited into a restricted fund of the State Treasury known as the DNA Detection Fund that is used to support the PA State Police DNA operations. The DNA Detection Fund funds the salary and benefits for 11 Forensic Scientists. The fund also goes towards laboratory equipment, laboratory supplies, proficiency tests administered to technical staff to maintain qualification, overtime for laboratory personnel, service contracts to maintain instrumentation, specialized software, postage for samples being mailed from DNA collection sites, and replacing/upgrading computer equipment to meet current industry standards.

The DNA Detection Fund is vital to the operations of the Forensic DNA Division. The Forensic DNA Division also takes advantage of federal grant opportunities and receives over \$1 million each year to increase DNA capacity and reduce backlogs. Without these funding sources, the PSP would need to further rely on our General Fund, General Government Operations budget in order to offer DNA services. The current balance of the DNA Detection Fund is \$6,118,489.99.

Question:

Representative Schroeder:

Further details of the gaming enforcement budget:

Response:

The explanation for the projected \$5.6 million increase in the Bureau of Gaming Enforcement budget is twofold. First, the FY 21-22 budget did not project funding for the vacancies that were carried into the budget year. Whereas the FY 22-23 budget fully funds all Gaming Enforcement positions. Second, the budget request accounts for annual salary and benefit increases for both FY 21-22 and FY 22-23 in accordance with the new Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Pennsylvania State Troopers Association (PSTA).