

Connecticut General Assembly



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September 10, 2007

SUBJECT: Sentencing transcript costs

You wanted to know the cost to comply with PA 97-257, codified at CGS 51-286f, which requires the Division of Criminal Justice to provide transcripts of certain sentencing hearings to the Board of Pardons and Parole.¹ You also wanted to know the process by which the Division of Criminal Justice would follow to obtain funding for this mandate.

The annual cost to provide these transcripts is estimated to be \$45,000. The Division of Criminal Justice would need to submit a budget adjustment request to the Office of Policy and Management and/or request from the Connecticut General Assembly an appropriation for this specific purpose. Alternatively, the Division of Criminal Justice could transfer unspent funds from other accounts. In FY 07, for instance, the Division of Criminal Justice did not spend roughly \$1.8 million of its General Fund appropriation.

¹ The prosecuting official in a criminal proceeding must request that a transcript be prepared of any sentencing hearing at which a defendant is sentenced to a definite, nonsuspended sentence of more than two years imprisonment and shall cause a copy of such transcript to be delivered to the Board of Pardons and Parole.