



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER



April 11, 2011

Sen. Toni Nathaniel Harp, Co-Chairman
Rep. Toni E. Walker, Co-Chairman
Appropriations Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

DPS Budget Deficiency Hearing FY 11

The Department of Public Safety's approved budget for FY 11 is approximately \$158.8 million. As part of the state's efforts to address the state budget deficit, the DPS budget is subject to a holdback of \$10.4 million. DPS has made every effort to effectively keep costs down in order to carry out its public safety mission subject to the \$10.4 million dollar holdback. These efforts have resulted in savings of approximately \$2.4 million. The remaining \$8 million of the holdback is in the operating and fleet accounts. This holdback effectively reduces the operating account by \$5.9 million and the Fleet Purchase Account by \$2.1 million. The holdback reductions of these two accounts, reflected as percentages, are 21% and 30%.

The holdback of \$5.9 million for contracts savings will result in our inability to meet contractual obligations for maintenance and operation of the department's information technology, communications and radio systems.

The reduction of \$2.1 million, or 30%, of funds for the Fleet account from an appropriation of \$7 million, creates a shortfall in which the current allotment is not sufficient to cover the existing vehicle lease payments. The shortfall also diminishes funding for the delivery and payment of new patrol vehicles.

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As always, I continue to work actively with my staff, and the Office of Policy and Management, in exploring any and all ideas that could result in efficiencies and ways to reduce spending without compromising our critical public safety mission.

My staff and I are prepared to answer any questions that you have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reuben F. Bradford".

Reuben F. Bradford
COMMISSIONER