



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

March 25, 2013

Senator Toni Nathaniel Harp, Co-Chairperson
Representative Toni E. Walker, Co-Chairperson
Appropriations Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: DESPP Budget Deficiency Hearing Fiscal Year 2013

Good afternoon Senator Harp, Representative Walker and members of the Appropriations Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection has undertaken a number of initiatives in the last two years to make us more effective and more efficient. Dispatch consolidation, troop consolidations and civilianization are a few examples of this effort.

Our efforts, however, to stay within our general fund budget have been severely hampered by the rough winter, the tragic event which occurred in Newtown and rising costs for fuel and other commodities. We are currently seeking federal reimbursement for the weather related events and the Newtown tragedy. It is anticipated that any success in securing reimbursements will probably not be realized in this fiscal year.

The Department's fiscal year 2013 approved budget was approximately \$167.5 million dollars. Public Act 12-104 revised/reduced our personal services account by \$10.5 million, our operating account by \$2.6 million and the fleet account by \$2.8 million for a total reduction of about \$15.9 million.

As always, my executive staff and I continue to work actively with OPM in exploring methods that could result in additional efficiencies without compromising the safety of the citizens of Connecticut.

I look forward to our continued cooperation in matters of mutual concern. My staff and I are prepared to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

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

Reuben F. Bradford
COMMISSIONER

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