

Department of Children and Families  
Response to  
Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee  
FY 2016 Budget Hearing Follow-up Questions  
May 2015

Senator Greenstein:

- You indicated that the State plans to spend approximately \$2 million in FY 2016 for private security contractors to protect DCF's offices. Please provide to the committee materials documenting these contract costs.

**Response:** The Department provides building security through Universal Protection Service LLC and caseworker assistance through the NJ DHS Human Services Police. As noted in its response to OLS Discussion Point #30, the implementation of *enhanced* security measures is currently estimated to cost approximately \$2 million more than in fiscal year 2014. In fiscal year 2014, DCF contracted for private security personnel at its offices through the state's contract with Universal Protection Service LLC at a cost of \$1.55 million. A copy of this contract is available through the link below.

[http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/noa/contracts/t0900\\_11-x-21295.shtml](http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/noa/contracts/t0900_11-x-21295.shtml)

To enhance building security in fiscal year 2015, DCF utilized this contract to provide armed security personnel with metal detection wands stationed at the point of visitor entry in child protection offices. The projected cost for fiscal year 2015 is \$2.27 million, an increase of approximately \$720,000 over fiscal year 2014.

The projection for continuation of these services in fiscal year 2016 is \$3.6 million. Therefore, the increased cost for these enhanced workplace security measures is projected to be an additional \$2 million over the fiscal year 2014 cost (prior to implementation of the enhanced security measures).

It is important to note that armed security personnel stationed at child protection offices have prior law enforcement experience and firearm training.

- What would be the approximate cost to provide this security with trained Human Services Police officers instead of private security contractors?

**Response:** The current HSPD union contract/civil service job description(s) do not allow for building security to be part of expected job duties. The suggested duties are not supported by the Civil Service Commission job description or titles used by the DHS Human Services Police.

Senator Barnes:

- You indicated that DCF has over 60 work sites across the State. Of these, how many parking lots are lit and monitored by cameras?

**Response:** All 80 State owned or leased facilities in which DCF operates provide lighted parking that meet or exceed OSHA lighting standards. All State-owned properties maintain surveillance cameras either directed towards entrances/exits and site perimeters and /or parking lots. The use of parking lot cameras at leased facilities is the purview of the property owner.