



Minnesota Department of Public Safety



Senate Judiciary
March 13, 2024

Department of Public Safety



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Office of Justice Programs



Department of Public Safety



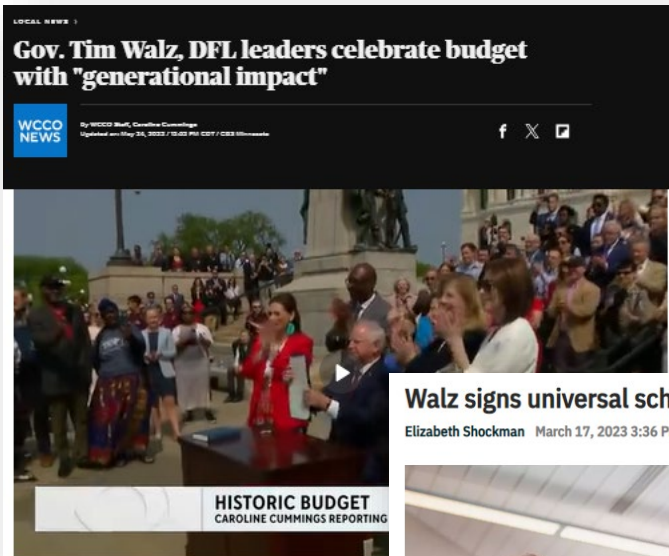
Commissioner Bob Jacobson

Mission

Serving all communities to
build a safer Minnesota.



One Minnesota Budget



Walz signs universal school meals bill into Minnesota law

Elizabeth Shockman March 17, 2023 3:36 PM



The Walz-Flanagan Administration is working together across agencies to make Minnesota the best state for kids and families.

- That's why Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan's 2023 One Minnesota Budget invested in multiple public safety initiatives and provided \$300 million in public safety aid.



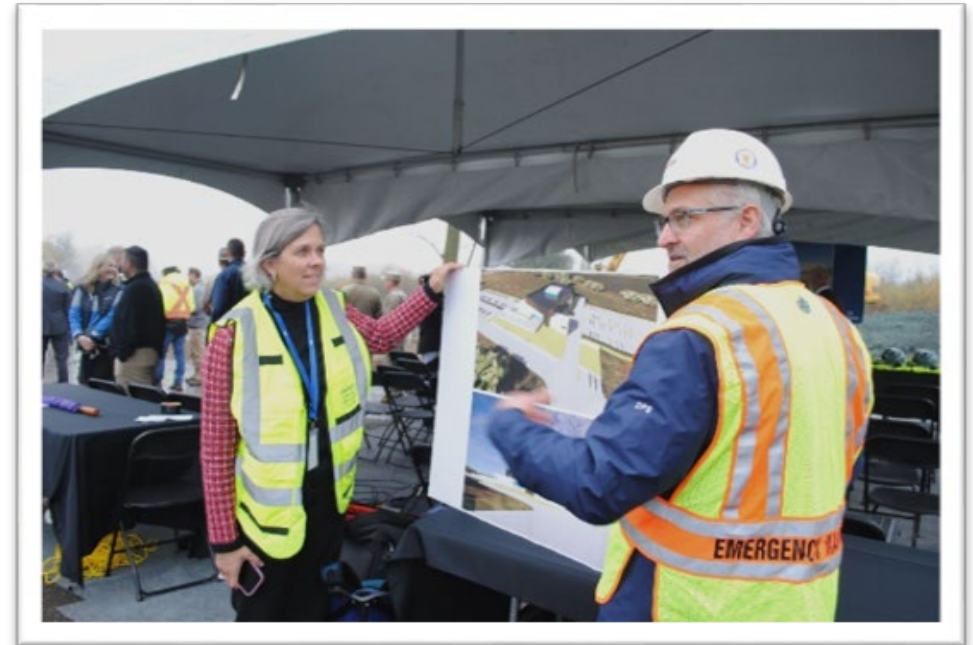
Implementation Updates - DPS

Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement

- Made technology upgrades funded to ensure data security for the criminal justice information system.

Homeland Security and Emergency Mangement

- Awarding an additional \$250,000 in nonprofit security grants.
- Hiring more emergency preparedness staff to help ensure the state is ready and prepared for any disaster.
- Broke ground on the new State Emergency Operations Center.



Implementation Updates - DPS

Emergency Communication Networks

- Distributed \$7 million to local public safety answering points to assist with upgrades to the next generation of 911.

State Fire Marshal Division

- Increased funding for Hazardous Material Response Teams, Bomb Squads, Task Force 1, Task Force 2, Air Rescue.
- Increased funds available to local fire departments to provide firefighter training.

DPS Administrative Programs

- Line of Duty Death Benefit has been expanded to cover suicide linked to PTSD.
- Currently undergoing rulemaking to finalize the expansion of the soft body armor program to add firefighters and EMS.



Office of Justice Programs

Mission

Provides leadership and resources to reduce crime, improve the functioning of the criminal justice system and assist crime victims.

To accomplish this, OJP administers grants; provides training and technical assistance; provides research and data; works to protect crime victims' rights; and provides reparations benefits to victims of violent crime.



Director Kate Weeks



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Implementation Updates - OJP

Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls Office

- New director starts Wednesday, March 28. Planning and hiring of additional staff to begin soon after.

Grants

- \$62 million in grants to 174 organizations providing services to victims of crime.
- \$14 million in grants to 99 organizations providing Youth Intervention Program services.
- \$31 million in grants to 115 organizations working on Community Crime Intervention and Prevention programs.
- Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training and Pathways to policing grants awarded soon.

Minnesota Sexual Assault Payment Program

- Launching an electronic payment system and onboarding new staff in the next month to administer this program, provide technical assistance and training.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

OJP Policy Bill – SF 3999

Minnesota Sexual Assault Exam Payment Program Data Protection

- This proposal would ensure that the supporting documentation submitted by the medical service provider to the MSAEPP are also classified as private data, giving them the same protection as those submitted to the Minnesota Crime Victims Reimbursement Program.

Consistent Definition of Crime Victim Throughout Statute

- This proposal provides consistency in the definition of “crime victim” ensuring that victim rights, regardless of statutory location, are afforded to crime victims as defined in section 611A.01(b).

Minnesota Crime Victims Reimbursement Program Coverage Clarification

- This proposal clarifies that gifts and donations made to the victim/victim’s family will not be considered “collateral sources” under statute when determining what expenses can be covered. This provides staff, victims, and families certainty due to the difficulty in verifying if the victim/victim’s family actually received the gift or donation.



Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

Mission

The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension prevents, investigates and solves crimes in collaboration with our criminal justice partners.



Superintendent Drew Evans



Implementation Updates - BCA

BCA Violent Crime Reduction Strategy & Teams

- \$15 million appropriated for improving forensic evidence testing through new forensic intelligence capabilities.
- Adding a new Violent Crime investigative unit.
- Increasing criminal information analytics and operational support.
- Partnering with local law enforcement agencies to reduce violent crime in Minnesota.

Decrease Forensic Evidence Turnaround Times

- \$4.5 million appropriated to reduce evidence testing times to under 90 days, particularly in DNA, firearms, and digital evidence examinations.

Cannabis Automated Expungements

- \$2.8 million appropriated to make technical changes to state Criminal History System to automatically expunge cannabis-related offenses.



BCA Policy Bills

Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (SF 4410)

- Authorizes UAVs (drones) to be used for situations in which there is a risk that a fleeing suspect could result in a foot or vehicle pursuit by law enforcement.

Predatory Offender Registration & Verification Changes (SF 4852)

- Expands the current methods to verify that a predatory offender no longer lives in Minnesota.

Prohibition of Child-Like Sex Dolls (SF 3899)

- Prohibits the possession, sale, purchase and dissemination of anatomically-correct dolls that are used for sex acts.

Catalytic Converter Technical Changes (SF 3802)

- Fixes the retention period for scrap metal dealers to maintain data related to the purchase and acquisition of catalytic converters.



BCA Capital Bonding Projects

Governor recommends \$48 million to build new regional office and laboratory in Mankato

- Legislature approved funding to design and purchase land for the Mankato regional office and laboratory in May 2023.
- Pre-design complete.
- State purchased a 5.87-acre parcel of land in Mankato for the new facility in December 2023.

Governor recommends \$4 million for design costs to expand Bemidji office and laboratory

- Pre-design completed in 2021.



Need for New Mankato Facility and Bemidji Expansion

Crime trends have shifted and increased over last decade

- Testing of sexual assault kits now required by law.
- Digital evidence unheard of 10 years ago.
- Methamphetamine and opioid abuse rampant in communities.
- Internet crimes have added to child abuse and human trafficking cases.

Forensic evidence testing increasing exponentially

- Evidence submissions for DNA analysis have increased 200% in last decade.
- Controlled substance submissions have nearly doubled over the last five years.
- Digital media evidence analysis increased by 122% between 2017 and 2021.



Deficiency of Space for Necessary Equipment



Southern Minnesota BCA Regional Office and Laboratory

Additional facility to meet the needs of criminal justice partners

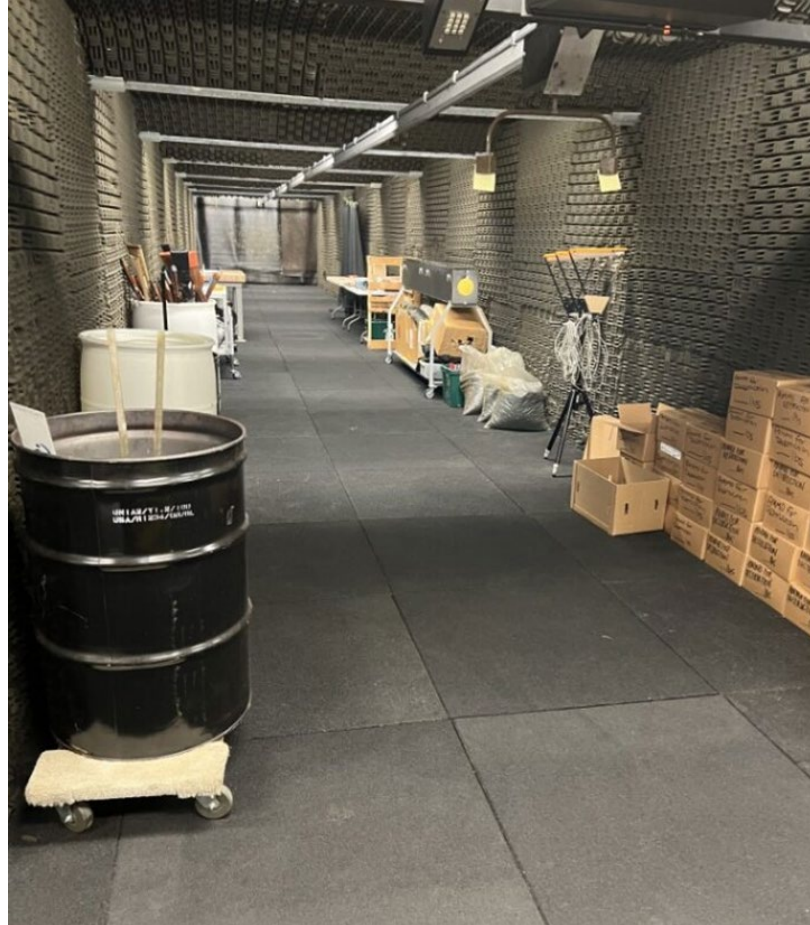
- Provide investigative, laboratory and training services at regional level in southern Minnesota.
- Eliminate local agency time and resources to transport items to BCA headquarters in St. Paul.
- Reduce turnaround time for evidence testing.

Operational needs for additional facility

- St. Paul headquarters over capacity by approximately 150 staff.
 - Plan to relocate > 20 staff.
- Highly technical services with unique instrumentation, equipment, storage and security requirements.



Special Agents Tripled in Just One Office & Overcrowding



Southern Minnesota BCA Regional Office and Laboratory



Minnesota Department of Public Safety



Questions?