



Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force activities

2025 legislative report

February 1, 2026

Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
1430 Maryland Ave. East
St. Paul, MN 55106
651-793-7000
dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca

Table of contents

Introduction	3
Background	3
Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force structure	3
Federal partners	4
County and city partners	4
Operating budget	4
Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force 2025 activities ...	5
Training	5
Technical and investigative assistance	5
Digital forensics	5
2025 goals and outcomes	6
2026 goals and outcome sought	6
Recommendations to the legislature	6

Introduction

Minnesota Statute 299A.681 requires the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) to submit an annual report to the public and the legislature by Feb. 1 each year describing Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force (MNFCTF) activities for the prior calendar year.

The report must include:

- (1) A description of the task force's goals for the previous year and for the coming year.
- (2) A description of the outcomes the task force achieved or did not achieve during the preceding year and a description of the outcomes it will seek to achieve during the coming year.
- (3) Any legislative recommendations the advisory board or commissioner has including, where necessary, a description of the specific legislation needed to implement the recommendations.
- (4) A detailed accounting of how appropriated money, grants and in-kind contributions were spent.
- (5) A detailed accounting of the grants awarded under this section.

The report must be submitted to the chairs and ranking minority members of the Senate and House of Representatives committees and divisions with jurisdiction over criminal justice policy and funding related to the task force's activities.

This report covers MNFCTF activities occurring from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2025.

Background

The Minnesota Legislature created the MNFCTF in 2000 (Minn. Stat. 299A.681) in response to rising identity theft-related financial crimes affecting retailers, banks and other businesses. The law authorizes the MNFCTF to investigate identity theft and related financial crimes statewide and across jurisdictions.

Statute updates in 2009 changed the Oversight Council to an 18-member advisory board that reports to the DPS commissioner. The Advisory Board identifies, develops and recommends procedures for statewide financial crime investigations. It may also provide recommendations on budget and funding needs. All recommendations are provided to the Commissioner of Public Safety for consideration.

MNFCTF structure

The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) has provided investigative, forensic, analytical and technical support to the task force since it began. As a statewide law enforcement agency, the BCA supports the MNFCTF with multiple roles:

- One special agent in charge who serves as the task force commander
- One assistant special agent in charge
- Three agents
- Two analysts

In addition to the BCA Financial Unit, the MNFCTF comprises various federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

Federal partners

- U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Postal Inspection Service

County and city partners

- Alexandria Police Department
- Anoka County Sheriff's Office
- Belle Plaine Police Department
- Beltrami County Sheriff's Office
- Bemidji Police Department
- Bloomington Police Department
- Brooklyn Center Police Department
- Carver County Sheriff's Office
- Champlin Police Department
- Chisago County Sheriff's Office
- Duluth Police Department
- Eagan Police Department
- Edina Police Department
- Faribault County Sheriff's Office
- Forest Lake Police Department
- Fridley Police Department
- Hennepin County Sheriff's Office
- Inver Grove Heights Police Department
- Leech Lake Tribal Police Department
- Lino Lakes Police Department
- McLeod County Sheriff's Office
- Minnesota State Patrol
- Mendota Heights Police Department
- New Brighton Police Department
- Plymouth Police Department
- Ramsey County Sheriff's Office
- Red Lake Tribal Department of Public Safety
- Renville County Sheriff's Office
- Richfield Police Department
- Robbinsdale Police Department
- Roseville Police Department
- Savage Police Department
- Scott County Sheriff's Office
- Shakopee Police Department
- Stearns County Sheriff's Office
- Stillwater Police Department
- St. Paul Police Department
- Todd County Sheriff's Office
- Washington County Sheriff's Office
- Woodbury Police Department
- Wright County Sheriff's Office

Operating budget

The Minnesota Legislature appropriated \$300,000 to the BCA for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 to maintain and further develop the MNFCTF.

Most legislative funding before 2015 was designated for local law enforcement agencies that assigned licensed officers to the task force, as well as to fund two full-time criminal intelligence analyst positions at the BCA. In response to reduced funding, the MNFCTF adopted its current operational structure in 2015.

Under this model, annual legislative appropriations are primarily used to reimburse participating agencies for eligible overtime, training and travel costs incurred by task force-affiliated officers and analysts working on approved large-scale, multi-jurisdictional financial crime investigations. Remaining funds are allocated toward training, equipment purchases for state and local law enforcement across Minnesota, and case-related expenses such as mobile phones, computer hardware and software and office supplies.

Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force 2025 activities

The MNFCTF focused on addressing Minnesota's complex financial crime challenges while expanding training and prevention resources for both residents and criminal justice professionals.

Training

The MNFCTF provided the following free training courses for law enforcement attendees.

- Advanced Financial Crimes Investigations
Feb. 20-21 (Location: BCA headquarters)
- Basic Financial Crimes Investigation
March 6-7 (Location: BCA headquarters)
April 23-24 (Location: New Ulm)
Sept. 17-18 (Location: BCA Bemidji Regional Office)
- Advanced Training on Financial Exploitation of Older Adults
March 18 (Location: BCA headquarters)
- 2025 MNFCTF Criminal Investigation Conference
April 2-4 (Location: Breezy Point)
- Microsoft Excel for Financial Crimes Investigations
April 29-30 (Location: Rochester)

Technical and investigative assistance

In addition to training sponsored by the MNFCTF, the BCA delivers investigative and analytical help to law enforcement agencies statewide. Throughout 2025, MNFCTF analysts utilized software tools such as Comprehensive Financial Investigative Solution (CFIS) to provide bank statement translation support. Analysts and investigators also performed Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) queries for agencies across Minnesota.

Digital forensics

Today's financial crime investigations frequently involve electronic devices such as computers, mobile phones and tablets. To support law enforcement agencies across Minnesota, the BCA provides digital forensic examination services at no cost. With the significant increase in financial crime cases, the demand for digital forensic analysis has grown accordingly.

To address this challenge and alleviate the resulting backlog, the MNFCTF implemented a strategic initiative to expand statewide forensic capacity. Through this initiative, the task force assists affiliate agencies in developing their own digital forensic capabilities by providing specialized equipment, targeted training and

financial support. Designated host agencies are equipped with advanced tools for analyzing computers and mobile devices and, in return, agree to support neighboring affiliates by processing seized digital evidence. This collaborative framework enhances the overall forensic resources available to the MNFCTF and fosters deeper engagement among participating agencies.

2025 goals and outcomes

1. Continue to recruit new local affiliate members to the MNFCTF with an emphasis on adding Native American tribal affiliates.

Outcome: MNFCTF expanded its memberships in 2025 with four new members, including the Red Lake Tribal Department of Public Safety, a Native American tribal affiliate.

2. Expand MNFCTF training capacity by adding more courses and providing up-to-date training to its law enforcement partners.

Outcome: MNFCTF conducted seven training courses across multiple locations in Minnesota and introduced a new course: Advanced Training in Financial Exploitation of Older Adults.

3. Continue outreach efforts in greater Minnesota. Small agencies outside of the Twin Cities Metro Area often have limited investigative resources or training budget.

Outcome: MNFCTF conducted training sessions at multiple locations throughout Minnesota including St. Paul, Rochester, New Ulm and Bemidji. More than 90 percent of Minnesota law enforcement agencies are located within one hour of a training course at some point throughout the year. This initiative provides law enforcement personnel in greater Minnesota with improved access to MNFCTF training courses.

2026 goals and outcome sought

1. Continue to lead and enhance statewide financial crimes and fraud training efforts in Minnesota for law enforcement, prosecutors and criminal intelligence analysts.
2. Collaborate with external partners across the financial crimes and fraud industries to leverage shared resources for Minnesota law enforcement and prosecutors in their efforts to bring fraudsters to justice.

Recommendations to the legislature

There were no legislative recommendations made in 2025.

