Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

ARP Requests FY22-23, FY23-24, and FY24-25
Objective: The goal of this proposal is to support the continuation of the AFIS communication line between TBI and local law enforcement in all 95 counties by providing funding to compensate for the lack of court fees collected as a result of pandemic court closures.

- $252,700 per year for FY22-23 and FY23-24 ($505,400 total)
- Two years
- No temporary personnel
The line is primarily funded by court fees, which were not collected during the pandemic.

This proposal will ensure that local law enforcement agencies can afford to continue using the AFIS line, which allows them to submit electronic fingerprint submissions to the TBI.

This proposal aligns with the TBI’s goal of assisting local agencies and improving public safety.
TBI C.A.R.E.S. Initiative

- Objective: The goal of this proposal is to improve the delivery of and access to mental health services to TBI employees while providing mental health de-escalation training to law enforcement across the state. This initiative will assist TBI in dealing with the increased level of mental health incidences of both its own employees and the public in general because of the pandemic.
- $1,211,600 per year ($3,634,800 total)
- Three years
- No temporary employees
TBI C.A.R.E.S. Initiative

- The behavioral health consequences associated with the COVID-19 pandemic have negatively impacted law enforcement and citizens across the state with increases in depression, anxiety, and overdoses.

- The TBI C.A.R.E.S. Initiative will provide targeted behavioral health services to TBI employees suffering from mental health issues brought on by the increased demands and stress of the pandemic.

- The initiative also addresses the increase in citizens with mental health or substance use disorders by providing training on de-escalation techniques for rural law enforcement agencies to prevent/reduce negative outcomes like officer involved shootings and suicide.
TBI Cyber Defense Enhancements

- Objective: The goal of this proposal is to enhance TBI’s cyber defense posture by increasing our ability to safely support remote work during periods of increased AWS and our ability to respond to public safety threats exacerbated by the pandemic by purchasing enhanced Microsoft licensing for our workforce.

- $245,000 per year ($735,000 total)

- Three years

- No temporary personnel
TBI Cyber Defense Enhancements

- The pandemic has made TBI increasingly reliant on a remote, distributed, agile workforce in order to preserve our effectiveness. Public safety agencies are a target for ransomware and other threats, which requires heightened protection of networks, laptops, and mobile devices.

- Microsoft E5 licensing includes features such as mobile device management, advanced threat protection, and privileged access management to provide for greater oversight and security.

- TBI partners with STS in many ways, but because of our independence, we are “non-consolidated” and manage our own IT. This licensing will add increased security features to (but not replace) the basic Office 365 licensing purchased through the fees TBI pays to STS.
Objective: The goal of this proposal is to procure a modern and resilient case file and investigative lead management system for TBI and state law enforcement partners, with a strong native data analytics capabilities, in order to support the agency’s current mission of meeting the public safety challenges of the COVID environment.

$7,000,000 on year one, $500,000 per year on years two and three ($8,000,000 total)

Three years

No temporary personnel
The current system wasn’t designed to handle digital evidence files of the size that TBI routinely received during the pandemic.

TBI’s case file system is important for more than just storing documents and digital evidence...a modern system will also provide built-in analytics that will allow metrics and analytics on demand to respond to crime trends and policy needs.

This system would also provide replacement case file systems for THP CID and the state Office of Homeland Security, as well as an updated SAR system for the Fusion Center.

These figures are based on a multi-vendor Request for Information that TBI has been working on with stakeholders for over a year.
Objective: The goal of this proposal is to add storage and network capacity to address the unforeseen impact of pandemic-related growth on TBI’s digital evidence storage and transfer capacity.

- $425,000 on year one, $125,000 on years two and three ($675,000 total)
- Three years
- No temporary personnel
TBI Digital Evidence Capacity

• From August 2020 to July 2021, the utilization of the TBI’s primary storage array jumped from 40% to 70% due to the various demands on the system. Notably, an increase in certain types of digital evidence related to the pandemic.

• The first year includes extra storage for the array and enhanced network connections at TBI offices to aid in file transfer; the following years include just the enhanced and resilient connections.
Trial Court Case Backlog
Trial Court Case Backlog
Trial Court Case Backlog

Criminal Pending Counts - Examples


- 106% increase in Madison
- 30% increase in Putnam
- 27% increase in Rutherford
- 44% increase in Sullivan
Trial Court Case Backlog

• While courts remained open, in-person proceedings were suspended in response to COVID-19 pandemic March 13, 2020. Courts shifted to virtual hearings, non-jury trials via Zoom, etc.

• Does not include cases not filed, e.g. evictions

• Jury trials permitted since March 31, 2021 with judicial district discretion as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are rising

• Critical need to address backlog. Must maintain the sanctity of judicial proceedings and confidence in the judicial process. Thus, focused on enhancing efficiency.
The ARPA recognizes that “decrease[s to] a state or local government’s ability to effectively administer services” can constitute a negative economic impact of the pandemic.

The court system faces a significant case backlog due to the disruption of court operations resulting in a significant decrease in the ability of the judicial branch to deliver court services.

Therefore, steps to reduce backlog and return courts to efficient and effective operations are essential for the courts to recover from the effects of the pandemic and ensure the administration of justice.

All proposals are intended to enhance court efficiency.
Court System Recovery – Proposal #1

• Objective: To provide additional judicial resources to hear cases and to provide support for a text notification system that electronically notifies defendants of a court date with reminders.

• Goal: To address case backlog resulting from limited in-person proceedings and suspended jury trials by adding resources and tools to enhance efficiency while preserving the sanctity of judicial proceedings. Specifically, the proposal will provide funding to 1) allow the Court to designate up to 2 retired judges per grand division and 2) allow trial courts (particularly criminal courts) to periodically remind defendants of a scheduled court date to reduce failures to appear which create inefficiency in court docket management.

• Benefit: All Tennesseans who seek or may seek the services of Tennessee courts deserve to have their cases disposed of efficiently without the undue delay caused by case backlog. Each of our 186 trial judges across 95 counties will be benefited by enabling them to manage court dockets to reduce the number of cases pending to pre-pandemic levels.

• Cost: $1,404,000.00 ($468,000/fiscal year)

• Length of project: estimated recovery time 3 years

• Temporary # of employees: up to 6 retired judge designations
Objective: To enhance the AOC’s ability to provide hybrid judicial education by making a one-time purchase of video conferencing equipment.

Goal: To increase available courtroom days by providing flexibility for judges to meet their mandatory judicial education requirements without the need for travel and in-person attendance.

Benefit: All Tennesseans who seek or may seek the services of Tennessee courts deserve to have their cases disposed of efficiently without the undue delay caused by the burden of case backlog. Each of our 186 trial judges across 95 counties will be benefited by enabling judges to manage court dockets across more courtroom days and reduced travel.

Cost: $25,000.00

Length of project: One-time purchase enables long term video conferencing
TNCIS Refresh - Proposal #3

- TnCIS is the Tennessee Court Information System - the case management system for Tennessee courts. The system is utilized by court clerks to manage cases including criminal, civil, juvenile, child support and delinquent tax cases by enabling electronic filing and receipt of pleadings and other court documents, managing jury processes; collecting judicial statistics for reporting; and serving as an accounting system for fees paid to courts.

- Objective: To upgrade and enhance the system to enable greater efficiency for E-filing, accounting and receipting of fees, and case management.

- Benefit: TnCIS is utilized by 91 of 95 TN counties – In Chancery; Circuit – Civil & Criminal; General Sessions; and Juvenile Courts. All Tennesseans who seek or may seek the services of Tennessee courts deserve to have their cases disposed of efficiently without delay due to the inefficiencies created by case backlog.

- Cost: FY22-26 = $8,571,672.00 OR FY23-25 = $4,348,228.00

- Length of project: 5 years - FY22-26
Tennessee Housing Development Agency
THDA COVID-19 Rental Housing Subsidy Program

$90M: Subsidize unprecedented cost increase of building supplies for affordable rental developments

- THDA survey of tax credit properties estimates a shortfall of >$20K per unit
- Eligible developments = supported by THDA Housing Tax Credits or grants
- Financial information on hand means quick funding commitment
- Payments structured as a loan due on sale of property
Department of Financial Institutions
Early Funding for the TDFI IT Group

• This request would fund the implementation of an enhanced IT/Cybersecurity program that will be used to help support the safety and soundness of the state financial system in regard to IT/Cyber related threats and attacks that may threaten the viability of a state chartered financial institution, their customer base and the communities they serve.

• The focus of this IT program is to enhance the capability of IT examiners to continually understand cyber threats to financial institutions in order to appropriately assess risk and enable institutions to safely operate in an evolving digital world.

• Cost – $1,073M for FY23

• Project Length – This enhanced program is planned as an ongoing effort at a recurring budget of approximately $1.0M initially funded from dedicated state appropriations. Under this request this budget would be funded from federal funds for FY23.

• Temporary # of employees – There are no temporary employees allocated for this project. The project will consist of 7 FTEs as this is an ongoing effort.
Early Funding for the TDFI IT Group

• The widespread deployment of remote workers and a greater reliance on digital banking significantly expanded the cyber threat landscape during the pandemic.

• Nationally 71% of consumers now utilize digital banking services. (American Bankers Association, October 2020)

• Nationally 75% of all smartphone users are now mobile banking users. (Cornerstone Advisors, February 2021)

• Approximately 80% of all cyber-attacks are financially motivated, with 96% of all attacks being financially motivated in the financial services industry. (Verizon Data Breach Investigation Report, 2021)

• While the primary motive of attacks is financial, loss of public confidence at an individual financial institution or worst-case scenario the entire state financial system is a significant risk that financial institutions and regulators must be prepared to handle. The Department's ongoing effort is designed to enhance our assessment of financial institution IT programs and to further our ability to partner with the industry.
Pandemic EBT Administrative Support

- The goal of this proposal is to provide non-recurring funding for technology support for the administration of the P-EBT program. Specifically, this includes call center support, chatbot services, and pandemic portal design and maintenance. Approximately 765,000 children were served in the initial round of the program. The Department expects to serve close to the same number of children for the Summer round of the P-EBT program.

- Cost: $2,725,200

- Length of project: The P-EBT program has been extended through the 2021-2022 school year.

- Temporary # of employees: None. This involves extending a contract with Accenture.
Economic Recovery Through the Tennessee Opportunity Pilot Program

- The goal of this program is to provide supplemental, non-recurring funding to support the economic recovery of vulnerable Tennesseans and the organizations serving them as they participate in the TN Opportunity Pilot Program. While estimates of the number of Tennesseans served will depend upon pilot proposals in the TN Opportunity Pilot Program, the 7 pilots statewide will have broad reach, beyond the existing TANF customer base.

- Cost: $20,277,900

- Length of project: 3 years

- Temporary # of employees: 3 FTEs
Economic Recovery Through the Tennessee Opportunity Pilot Program

Specific Proposed Services:

1) **Training & Technical Assistance for TN Opportunity Pilot Grantees:** TDHS will procure a “Training and TA Partner” to serve as a hub for technical assistance for grantees. Training and TA Services will include:
   a. Project Management and Budgeting Assistance
   b. Revenue Maximization
   c. Universal Assessment, Care Coordination, and Data Collection
   d. Communications and Messaging

2) **Additional Staff Capacity:** Additional staff capacity is needed to support grantees as they navigate the TN Opportunity Pilot Program. Due to the pandemic, existing TDHS staff who would typically be responsible for these roles are still managing other pandemic initiatives and responding to economic recovery.
Training & TA Partner

- Technical assistance and support for TN Opportunity Pilots through suite of shared services
Department of Children’s Services
DCS Proposal 1 – “Safe Rooms” and critical responses for foster care placements

• Objective – Provide critically needed resources and spaces for foster children who have just been removed from their homes and are awaiting more permanent placement by developing “safe rooms” and providing part-time staff support.

• Cost – $4 million total ($3 million for space development and necessary supplies; $500K per year for part-time staff)

• Length of project – 2 years

• Temporary # of employees – 50 temporary part-time employees
DCS Proposal 1 – “Safe Rooms” and critical responses for foster care placements

• Funding will be used for furnishing and/or repurposing existing space within buildings owned or leased by our community and faith-based partners.

• These spaces will be designated as “safe houses” for DCS in the emergency safe holding of children awaiting longer placements.

• We will look to hire 50 part-time staff to assist our caseworkers by supervising children at these locations, allowing caseworkers, who are already stretched thin due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, to focus on finding placements and administering other crucial tasks.
DCS Proposal 2 – Human Resources/Hiring to fill vacancies and add workforce

- Objective – Hire temporary, full-time contracted case workers in key regions experiencing high turnover due to the pandemic to reduce caseloads; also provide funding to create and administer a recruitment marketing campaign.

- Cost – $6 million total ($5 million for contracted case workers; $1 million for hiring/recruiting marketing campaign)

- Length of project – 1 year

- Temporary # of employees – 50-60 contracted caseworkers
DCS Proposal 2 – Human Resources/Hiring to fill vacancies and add workforce

- The Department is committed to ensuring compliance with statute mandating a regional average of 20 cases per case manager.

- We have experienced high turnover since the start of 2021 due to high level of custodial entries and personal challenges and stress on case managers caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Utilizing temporary contract caseworkers will provide stability to regions experiencing the greatest challenges with turnover.

- Utilizing a marketing campaign will allow the department to retain our workforce while recruiting new staff and filling vacant positions.
DCS Proposal 3 – STS/Modernizing or replacing TFACTS and completing critical projects

- Objective – Complete critical process enhancements and correct identified strains on our IT systems recognized during COVID-19 pandemic.
- Cost – $3,500,000
- Length of project – 1 year
- Temporary # of employees – 0
DCS Proposal 3 – STS/Modernizing or replacing TFACTS and completing critical projects

• COVID-19 has identified strains on our IT systems that we can correct with more resources and planning.

• Our caseworkers are taxed with higher caseloads and challenges of remote work during the pandemic.

• This funding will allow STS to utilize strategic planning for development of a modernization of TFACTS (case management system) or identify a replacement.

• Funds will further allow completion of critical process enhancements and projects delayed during the strain of the pandemic and the rollout of groundbreaking federal legislation.
DCS Proposal 4 – Safe Baby Courts/Specific Assistance to Families

- Objective – Provide additional “specific assistance” funding to the 12 current Safe Baby Court sites and 2 sites being developed to provide vital reprieve and assistance to court participants. When setbacks occur, this funding allows a family to stay on the track to success rather than failing the program due to financial strain.

- Cost – $250,000

- Length of project – 1 year

- Temporary # of employees – 0
Specific assistance payments, paid by the individual Safe Baby Courts, can provide reprieve when “life happens” to a participant.

Without such assistance, often the person will spiral back into whatever problems, issues, addictions, cycles, or behavior that he/she was in before the intervention of Safe Baby Court began.

Examples of specific assistance payments:
- First and last month’s rent to allow parents to find stable housing;
- Repair bills for broken down cars; and
- Grocery store gift cards for food and gas.
DCS Proposal 5 – In-Patient Rehab Treatment for Uninsured and Underinsured Mothers

• Objective – Provide funding for uninsured and under-insured Tennessee mothers to attend inpatient rehabilitation while also caring for their children. The funding will provide in-patient treatment programming for up to 20 mothers per year.

• Cost – $3 million total ($1 million annually over 3 years)

• Length of project – 3 years

• Temporary # of employees – 0
DCS Proposal 5 – In-Patient Rehab Treatment for Uninsured and Underinsured Mothers

• This program will be administered in partnership with DMHSAS.

• This program meets a drastic need heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic to support the efforts of Tennessee mothers who are fighting to overcome addictions, substance use disorders, and other roadblocks in their lives that hinder them from providing suitable homes for their children.

• This will allow 40-50 children (2-3 per mother) to remain with their mothers while the mothers obtain the mental health and treatments services needed to be successful parents.
Department of Correction
Electronic Health Records project and supporting infrastructure

- Objective: To provide non-recurring funding for the approved Electronic Health Records (EHR) project across the state at each prison. Requested funding is proposed to replace approved state funding (FY 2022) for execution of the project. The supporting infrastructure is included in the request, currently the required connections are not available to service the devices and software that will be included in the EHR project.

- Cost: $13,050,000

- Length of project: 36 months

- Temporary number of employees: 0
Project Number 1 - Description

Electronic Health Records project and supporting infrastructure

• Objective: To provide non-recurring funding for the approved Electronic Health Records (EHR) project across the state at each prison. Requested funding is proposed to replace approved state funding (FY 2022) for execution of the project. The supporting infrastructure is included in the request, currently the required connections are not available to service the devices and software that will be included in the EHR project.

• Cost: $13,050,000

• Length of project: 36 months

• Temporary number of employees: 0
Project Number 1 - Background

Electronic Health Records project and supporting infrastructure

- Scope includes licensing, hosting fee, implementation, software and customization as needed. The physical LAN infrastructure is included.
- Replaces the antiquated hard copy system currently utilized.
- Improved confidentiality with limited access and elimination of physical hard copies currently transmitted by fax and email.
- Improved efficiency in the audit process
- Improved efficiency in telehealth utilization with health records on demand
- Eligible use of funds due to reduced capacity to provide medical care and behavioral health services during the pandemic. This will provide a more effective delivery of services going forward.
Project Number 2 - Description

Debra K. Johnson Rehabilitation Center Audio-Video (AV) Distribution

- Objective: To provide non-recurring funding for the installation of a new Audio/Video (A/V) infrastructure system to allow in-cell dissemination of religious services, guaranteed by the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA), and educational programs to the female inmate population that promotes the development of alternative strategies to allow for the continuation of “safe” practices for the inmate population.

- Cost: $800,000

- Length of project: 18 months

- Temporary number of employees: 0
Project Number 2 - Background

Debra K. Johnson Rehabilitation Center Audio-Video (AV) Distribution

• Scope includes all materials & labor to install a complete audio/video system throughout the prison compound.

• During the pandemic and as COVID variants emerge, the required social distancing has limited educational programming opportunities and access to religious services.

• The proposed project will provide the means for offenders to participate in the programming and Tele Med from their cells.

• The women incarcerated at DJRC will have an expanded opportunity to strengthen their education and faith which is a major component of successful transition when released.
Community Violence Intervention Grant Fund

- Objective: The goal of this program is to create a grant program to support local communities in their effort to reduce violent crime and attack the root causes of violent crime— including advancing community policing strategies and assisting those persons harmed by violent crime in our Tennessee communities.

- Cost: $10 million

- Length of project: January 1, 2022, thru December 31, 2024

- Temporary # of employees: will use existing contractors and staff
Total violent crime in TN (including murder, rape, aggravated assault, & robbery) increased 14% from FY19 to FY20.

- OCJP, under F&A, functions as a strategic planning agency that secures, distributes, and manages federal and state funds related to criminal justice and victim services.
- In FY 21, OCJP oversaw 31 state and federal funding streams resulting in 618 contracts totaling over $80 million to local communities for criminal justice initiatives and victim services.
- The priorities of this program build upon OCJP’s current strategic plan.
- This grant program will also lessen the strain on local victim services programs funded by OCJP who are expecting a decrease in funding due to a decrease in the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) block grant administered by OCJP.