

Public Safety

Public safety continues to be a top priority for Governor DeSantis, with Florida currently experiencing a 50-year low in crime. The Focus on Florida's Future Budget makes necessary investments in our public safety, including enhancing correctional officer safety, and combatting the flow of fentanyl and other drugs into Florida from the Southern Border.

Keeping Floridians Safe from Terror

Governor DeSantis has led the way for Florida's support of the State of Israel in its battle against Hamas terrorists, and he was the only Governor to send planes to Israel to bring Americans in harm's way home. The Governor has also been front and center in fighting the scourge of antisemitism in our state. The Focus on Florida's Future Budget provides **\$10 million** to continue the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, providing nonprofit organizations such as houses of worship, schools, museums, and community centers at risk for violent attacks with resources to increase security and safety.

Transport of Unauthorized Aliens

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget continues the efforts by Governor DeSantis to protect Floridians against the harm resulting from illegal immigration, by providing an additional **\$5 million** for the Illegal Alien Transport Program which facilitates the transport of unauthorized aliens to other locations outside of Florida.

Combatting Fentanyl & Illegal Drugs

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes **\$25 million** to support law enforcement efforts to combat the opioid epidemic affecting Florida's communities:

- **\$25 million** to expand the State Assistance for Fentanyl Eradication (S.A.F.E.) in Florida Program for the second year. The funds have and will continue to assist local law enforcement in combatting the illicit trafficking and sale of fentanyl within Florida. Funds will be provided to the Department of Law Enforcement to be distributed to local agencies.

Enhancing Law Enforcement Officer Safety

- The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes **\$2 million** for the Department of Law Enforcement to provide body armor to our state's brave men and women in law enforcement.
- The Focus on Florida's Future Budget provides **\$540,000** to equip law enforcement with the ability to detect fentanyl without the risk of exposure.

Keeping Florida Roads Safe

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes:

- **\$14 million** to provide the Florida Highway Patrol with an additional 50 state trooper positions.
- **\$3.5 million** for the replacement of aging Florida Highway Patrol vehicles.

Agricultural Law Enforcement

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes:

- **\$9 million** to provide an additional 25 officers, and additional equipment and law enforcement vehicles.
- **\$1.9 million** to create a dedicated K9 Unit, including 8 additional officers, within the FDACS Division of Agricultural Law Enforcement to safeguard Florida's agricultural commodities from drug trafficking.

Recognizing those "Behind the Fence"

While the entire Correctional Officer Series receives Special Risk retirement benefits, there are a number of positions within the Department of Corrections that involve direct contact with correctional patients or inmates that do not receive those benefits. The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes an investment of **\$14 million** to provide Special Risk retirement benefits to those positions that spend more than 75 percent of their time in direct contact with correctional patients or inmates.

Safer Correctional Operations

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes **\$24.5 million** to make Florida's correctional facilities more safe. This includes:

- **\$12 million** for security equipment, such as drone detection equipment, thermal fence cameras, drone support for K-9 operations, and license plate readers;
- **34 FTE and \$3.5 million** to modernize departmental training and begin the process of having dedicated training staff at each facility; and,
- **\$9 million** to improve infrastructure including environmental systems, regional evidence facilities, maintenance, repairs, and renovations.

Improving Infrastructure at Florida Correctional Facilities

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes **\$87.7 million** for the Florida Department of Corrections to improve correctional infrastructure, including:

- **\$75 million** for general maintenance and repair at facilities across the state;
- **\$12 million** for support facilities, including creating regional evidence storage facilities for the Office of Inspector General; and
- **\$750,000** for repairs related to ADA compliance.

Enhancing Florida's Crime Databases

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement maintains a variety of databases used daily by law enforcement to investigate crimes and apprehend criminals. Many of these resources are publicly accessible to help keep Floridians safe. The Focus on Florida's Future Budget provides more than **\$22 million** to expand and enhance these databases, including:

- **\$11.8 million** for the second phase of the modernization of the Biometric Identification Solution (BIS) database;
- **\$3.1 million** for the technology enhancement of breath test instrumentation and associated software within the Alcohol Testing Program;
- **\$3 million** to increase the Criminal Justice Network bandwidth;

- **\$1.9 million** to enhance the Missing and Endangered Person Information Clearinghouse applications;
- **\$1.6 million** to upgrade and provide additional staff for the Career Offender Application for Statewide Tracking; and
- **\$600,000** for implementing the Statewide Sexual Assault Tracking System.

Supporting State Courts

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes **\$5.1 million** and **20 FTE** for the State Court System to provide workload support and additional due process resources.

Florida Scholars Academy

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes an additional **\$12 million** for the continued implementation of the Department of Juvenile Justice's Florida Scholars Academy. The Academy provides various educational opportunities and trade skills in high-demand occupations. The total investment of **\$24 million** will fully finance the operational and programming needs of the Academy.

Enhancing Emergency 911 Call Services

Ensuring our first responders have the technology and resources necessary to provide lifesaving aid quickly and effectively to our residents and visitors of Florida remains a priority through the continued investment in our state's emergency 911 (E911) call services. The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes an additional **\$42 million** for the following E911 enhancements:

- **\$13 million** for distributions and grant awards to local governments for E911 system maintenance, integration with the Next Generation (NG) 911 system and implementation of text-to-911.
- **\$18.8 million** for distributions to local governments to begin upgrading all 911 public safety answering points within the state to allow the transfer of calls from one local, multi-jurisdictional, or regional E911 system to another.
- **\$10 million** to continue supporting and improving the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS).

Schools and Libraries E-Rate Match Program

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget aims to make telecommunication and information services more affordable for schools and libraries through the investment of **\$5 million** in grant funds for the design, engineering, project management and construction related costs to build or upgrade telecommunication and internet access, such as broadband infrastructure.

Safeguarding Florida against Cybersecurity Threats

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget continues the commitment to harden Florida's cybersecurity framework through the funding of over **\$100 million** in various state agencies for security intelligence, modernization, training, and resiliency. While Florida has improved its cybersecurity posture in recent years, it is vital to continue to invest in modern cybersecurity initiatives to maintain pace with the ever-evolving technology

landscape to ensure Floridians' sensitive information and critical infrastructure are protected.