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# **COLORADO**

## **Department of Public Safety**

# Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Performance Plan

### [Accessibility](#)

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# CDPS Guiding Principles

## Mission

Engaged employees working together to safeguard the public and deliver diverse public safety services.

## Vision

Creating safer and more resilient communities across Colorado.

## Core Values in Action

Unity: Reach Out.

Honor: Speak Up.

Service: Pitch In.

Diversity & Inclusion: All voices are respected and heard.

# Introduction

## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Coloradans,

As we embark on Fiscal Year 2026 I am pleased to share the Colorado Department of Public Safety's (CDPS) Performance Plan. This document outlines our strategic priorities and operational goals reflecting our unwavering commitment to safeguarding lives and enhancing the wellbeing of communities across our state.

CDPS is composed of six divisions responsible for delivering diverse and far-reaching public services for our Colorado communities including law enforcement and investigation, fire prevention and response, emergency management, victim assistance, and criminal justice research.



Our charge is clear: To work collaboratively with our partners, listen to communities and support our dedicated employees in making Colorado safer. Our team of nearly 2,300 professionals continues to work together to address the evolving challenges of public safety with integrity, innovation and inclusivity.

With our motto of “Safer Together” top-of-mind, we recognize that public safety is achieved through the collaborative efforts of numerous local, state and federal agencies in partnership with the people and communities we serve.

Our fiscal year 2026 (FY26) Wildly Important Goals aim to save lives and enhance service to individuals and communities across our state:

- Reduce Auto Theft;
- Reduce Sexual Assault Forensic Testing Time;
- Increase Fire Investigations;
- Reduce Fatal and Injury Crashes on Colorado's Roadways;
- Increase our Aerial Support to Fire Agencies for Wildland Fire and All-Hazard Incidents

These initiatives and the ongoing public safety work of CDPS provide critical support for the Polis Administration's vision of making Colorado one of the top ten safest states. Safe communities, roads, and classrooms are foundational for achieving a strong economy, healthy population, and successful education system.

CDPS tracks our Wildly Important Goals in the [Governor's dashboard](#), utilizing the lead and lag measures described in this report. In addition to these goals, CDPS pursues

continuous improvement across all of our services and programs. We encourage our employees to innovate and to always seek to improve, every day.

Finally, it is important to note the environment in which the Department of Public Safety operates. Colorado's home rule status means that nearly all decisions and responses start locally. Local jurisdictions manage disasters, wildfires, investigations, and criminal justice in their communities, and turn to CDPS for support, guidance, and resources.

Additionally, although CDPS engages in public awareness campaigns and proactive strategies aimed at achieving our public safety goals, major factors beyond our control influence safety outcomes in Colorado.

The members of CDPS have adapted and responded to multiple and complex crises. They will continue to work tirelessly with our local and state partners to find innovative solutions to enhance public safety in the face of new challenges.

Sincerely,  
Stan Hilkey

# Department Description

The Colorado Department of Public Safety (CDPS) has approximately 2,000 dedicated employees who are committed to providing excellent public safety services to local communities and people in Colorado. At CDPS, we understand that when we collaborate with our partners, listen to our customers, and support our employees, we make Colorado Safer Together.

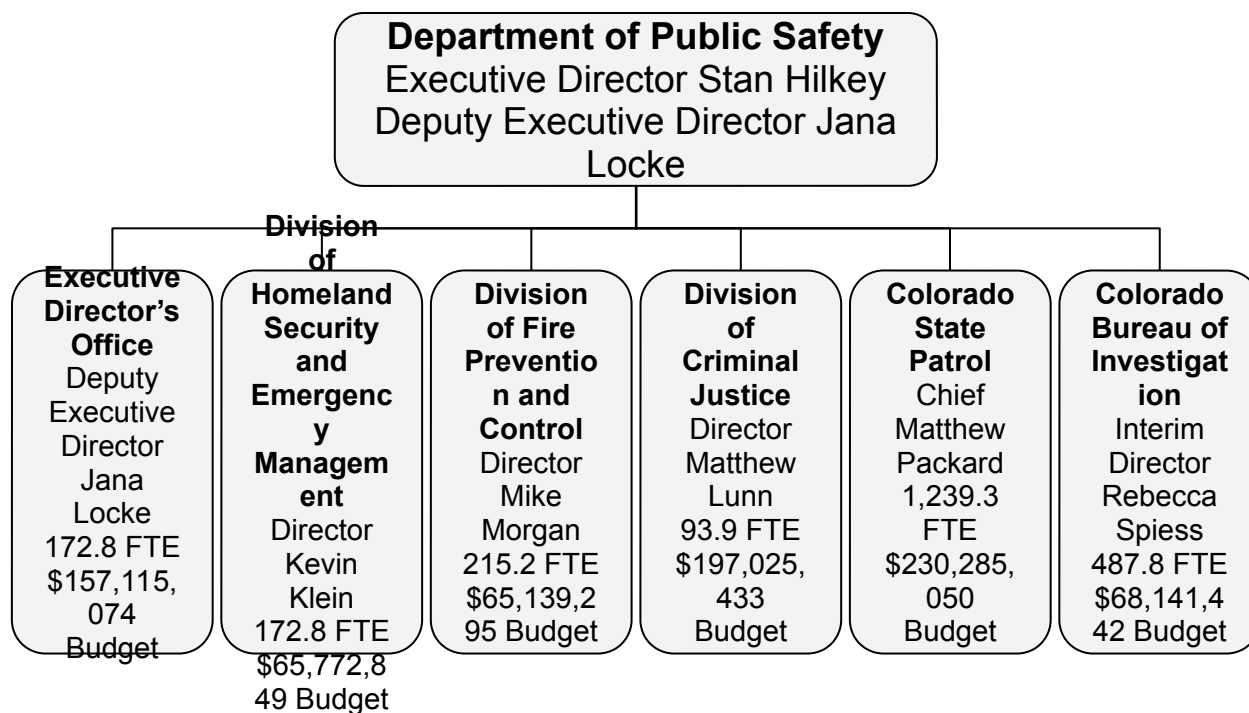
The operating divisions of CDPS are:

- Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
  - Interim Director Rebecca Spiess
  - 487.8 Full Time Employees
  - \$68,141,442 Budget
- Colorado State Patrol (CSP)
  - Chief Mathew Packard
  - 1,239.3 Full Time Employees
  - \$230,285,050 Budget
- Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ)
  - Director Matthew Lunn
  - 93.9 Full Time Employees
  - \$197,025,433 Budget
- Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC)
  - Director Mike Morgan
  - 215.2 Full Time Employees
  - \$65,139,295 Budget
- Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM)
  - Director Kevin Klein
  - 172.8 Full Time Employees
  - \$65,772,849 Budget

These divisions are supported by the Executive Director's Office (EDO).

- Deputy Executive Director Jana Locke
- 172.8 Full Time Employees
- \$157,115,074 Budget





# Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

The CBI is dedicated to providing exceptional support to public safety organizations and Colorado residents across the state. As a 'by request' agency, the dedicated CBI team offers assistance through comprehensive criminal investigations, scientific testing in its internationally accredited forensic laboratories, and through the management of millions of criminal justice records.

## Forensic Services

Scientists conduct the forensic testing of evidence submitted to the Bureau's three full-service laboratories, and at one regional facility. CBI scientists provide testing in nine disciplines: Biological Sciences, DNA Database, Latent Prints, Firearms and Tool Marks, Footwear and Tire, Drug Chemistry, Toxicology, Trace Chemistry and Digital Media.

## Investigative Services

Agents, analysts and crime scene responders provide a full range of criminal investigative assistance to more than 300 police departments, sheriff offices, district attorneys and state agencies in Colorado. The types of crimes investigated include homicide, officer-involved uses of force, illicit market marijuana and other drugs, gun crimes, sexual assault, cybercrime, fraud, identity theft, missing persons, and public corruption. Agents assigned to the Investigations Section routinely conduct fugitive and human trafficking operations across the state. Crime Scene teams are available to provide crime scene response 24 hours a day.

## **Office of Professional Standards**

Ensures adherence to national accreditation standards, standardizes policies and training, investigates complaints and allegations of misconduct, and reports on CBI statistics and inspections.

## **Support Services**

### **InstaCheck**

This CBI team conducts hundreds of thousands of background checks for firearms transfers each year, as well as background checks for Colorado sheriffs as part of the Concealed Handgun Permit process. This team also processes appeals for prospective purchasers who have been denied a firearms transaction.

### **Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS)**

The CBI serves as the conduit for nationwide criminal justice information for law enforcement in Colorado. This team provides policy and regulation for the handling, security, and integrity of criminal justice information for every organization that uses this information in Colorado. CBI also manages access and monitors use of the Colorado Crime Information Center (CCIC) and the Colorado Crime Stats repositories. Respectively, these systems provide real-time information regarding individuals, property and vehicles sought by law enforcement, and statistical data related to crime within a jurisdiction. Through connections to these systems, Colorado law enforcement agencies have split-second communications with all law enforcement nationwide, as well as internationally. Additionally, the CBI's Sex Offender Registry group coordinates with local law enforcement to track more than 20,000 registered sex offenders currently living in the state.

### **Biometric Identification and Records Unit (BIRU)**

This team serves as the state repository for millions of criminal history records. Members of BIRU conduct fingerprint-based and name-based criminal history background checks for nearly 500 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The team also provides criminal history checks for licensing purposes for more than 1,000 government and private entities. Another function of the unit is to update criminal history records based on information provided by law enforcement agencies and courts throughout the state. They are also responsible for researching and sealing criminal records for those who either qualify by law or those who seek a court order to move forward with the sealing process.

### **CBI Customers**

- Police departments and sheriff offices
- District attorney offices
- General public
- Crime victims
- Colorado firearms dealers (Federal Firearms Licensees)
- Federal partners
- State partners

- Media

### **“Right Sizing” the CBI**

June 2025 marks the conclusion of the legislative effort that resulted in the most substantial growth of the CBI in its nearly 60-year history. By June 30, 2025, the CBI is expected to have hired 107 new full-time employees (FTE) designated in the decision item. This expansion was initiated with legislation in 2022 to ‘Right Size’ the Bureau. With the primary goal of making Colorado safer, the new employees are concentrated in Investigations and Forensic Services.

The result of this expansion has enabled Investigations to provide additional support to law enforcement agencies across Colorado, especially for rural communities. At fiscal year-end (June 30, 2024), Investigations totaled 696 cases, with 566 of those from rural agencies agents supported throughout the year. Those numbers are taking a similar trek in 2024-25. In Forensic Services the expansion has meant adding new scientists with the goal of providing more timely support to victims and the public safety community.

## **Colorado State Patrol (CSP)**

The Colorado State Patrol ensures a safe and secure environment for all persons by providing professional law enforcement services that reflect the Core Values of honor, duty and respect. Through a high visibility, education and enforcement strategy, CSP works to save lives through the following programs:

### **Traffic Safety**

Enforces Colorado laws on 8,400 miles of highway and 57,000 miles of county roads, including selective enforcement, saturation patrols, crash investigations, and educational safety programs.

### **Executive and Capitol Security**

Provides 24-hour security at the State Capitol and Capitol Complex, and security for the Governor, First Family, and other dignitaries.

### **Communications**

Supports Colorado residents, members of the Patrol, and other state, local, and federal agencies.

### **Criminal Interdiction and Automobile Theft**

Proactively investigates motor vehicle theft and related offenses, inspects Vehicle Identification Numbers, interdicts illegal drugs, weapons and currency, and gathers intelligence to support state and national homeland security efforts.

**Hazardous Materials Enforcement**

Enforces permitting and routing rules, develops safe transportation rules and regulations, and provides timely response and mitigation for hazardous materials events on roadways.

**Smuggling and Trafficking Interdiction Section**

Enforces the state's human smuggling and human trafficking laws on Colorado roadways.

**Port of Entry and Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program**

Collaborates with the motor carrier industry to support the safe transport of materials on commercial motor carriers in Colorado.

**Aircraft Program**

Supports traffic enforcement activities and transports state officials and employees.

**Victims Assistance**

Provides direct services to victims of highway traffic crimes in accordance with the Victim Rights Act.

**State Patrol Customers**

- Motoring public, including residents and visitors of Colorado
- Commercial motor vehicle industry
- Local and federal law enforcement agencies
- Media
- Colorado Governor and First Family
- Other executive branch agencies and the Governor's Office
- Staff and visitors at the Colorado Capitol
- State officials and employee
- Highway traffic crash victims, survivors, and family members.

## Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ)

DCJ provides services to crime victims, conducts criminal justice research and analysis, and supports the management of offenders. DCJ's range of statutory charges includes technical assistance, grants management, data collection and reporting, victim assistance, and the creation of standards for community corrections, sex offender management, and domestic violence offender management. The offices described below carry out DCJ's multi-faceted responsibilities:

**Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice Assistance (OAJJA)**

OAJJA administers federal and state criminal and juvenile justice grant programs.

Additionally, OAJJA supports the Justice Assistance Grant Advisory Board, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Council, and multiple State Crime Prevention Grant Advisory Committees. OAJJA is the designated state agency to ensure the states compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and administers state funding and guidance for Juvenile Diversion Programs. In collaboration with multiple stakeholders, OAJJA is actively involved in policy initiatives intended to improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems and engaging in statewide criminal juvenile justice strategic planning efforts.

#### **Office of Community Corrections**

Community Corrections provides a sentencing or placement alternative in lieu of prison incarceration for felony offenders, combining residential supervision and specialized treatment for individuals ineligible for probation supervision or for those who have spent time in prison and are awaiting parole placement by the state parole board. The State Office of Community Corrections sets the standards for community corrections programs and distributes funding through performance-based contracting to local community corrections boards. In addition, the office is responsible for conducting performance evaluations and providing technical assistance. Local boards establish contracts with and provide oversight for community corrections programs serving their judicial district.

#### **Office of Domestic Violence and Sex Offender Management (ODVSOM)**

ODVSOM supports the Domestic Violence Offender Management Board and the Sex Offender Management Board. These boards set and review standards of practice for the evaluation and treatment for individuals convicted of domestic violence or sex offenses. The standards are designed to enhance victim and community safety, promote offender accountability, and provide an opportunity for individuals to eliminate violent and abusive behavior.

#### **Office of Research and Statistics (ORS)**

ORS analyzes justice policies and problems, evaluates criminal justice programs, conducts recidivism studies, and distributes information through publications, presentations, and its website. This work informs the General Assembly, the Governor's Office, state and local agencies, and the public for the purpose of enhancing the administration of justice.

#### **Office for Victim Programs (OVP)**

OVP supports the lives of crime victims through a series of programs. Some programs provide indirect support to victims, while other programs work directly with crime victims and agencies to ensure the rights of crime victims are upheld and grant funding supports victims in their recovery. Programs include victim compensation, sexual assault response initiatives, anti-human trafficking efforts, victim assistance through grant funding, and more.

#### **Office of Liaison for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (OMMIR)**

OMMIR serves as a liaison on behalf of the indigenous community on issues related to missing or murdered indigenous relatives. The office collaborates with the Colorado

Commission of Indian Affairs, federally recognized tribes, indigenous-led organizations, tribal and local law enforcement agencies, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Colorado State Patrol, and others.

#### **DCJ Customers**

- Crime victim services agencies
- Criminal justice agencies
- Community corrections boards and providers
- Sex offender treatment providers and sex offender victim services agencies
- Domestic violence offender treatment providers and victim services agencies
- Juvenile justice practitioners
- District attorney offices
- Colorado law enforcement agencies
- Colorado General Assembly
- The Governor's Office
- Colorado residents

## **Division of Fire Prevention & Control (DFPC)**

The mission of the Division of Fire Prevention and Control is to serve and safeguard the people and protect the property, resources, environment, and quality of life in Colorado. Each of the sections described below supports the Division's mission in various ways:

#### **Wildland Fire Management**

Assists and supports local agencies and counties with a range of wildfire management programs including administrative, technical assistance, preparedness and planning, funding, response, resource coordination and mobilization, and prescribed fire functions. Mitigates, detects, and responds to wildfires with aggressive initial attack strategies and manages wildfires that exceed the capacity of local agencies.

#### **Fire and Life Safety**

Administers the Division's adopted fire, building, and life safety codes and is available to assist local fire and building officials with plan review, inspection, code analysis of non-regulated facilities, community risk reduction efforts, and investigations at their request.

- The Building Code Branch ensures that public schools, charter schools, and junior colleges comply with building codes by conducting plan reviews and inspections or certifying local plan reviewers and inspectors.
- The Fire Prevention Branch issues building permits, performs inspections, and

ensures that state-licensed health facilities, public schools, charter schools, and junior colleges comply with fire and life safety codes.

- The Fire Investigations Branch is available to aid in determining the origin, cause, and circumstances of fires (structural, vehicle, and wildland) that occur throughout Colorado.
- The Community Risk Reduction and Education Branch supports the state's CRR initiative, Fire Safe Colorado, by assisting local jurisdictions in conducting Community Risk Assessments and establishing Community Risk Reduction Plans and is available to aid in the professional development of building and fire code inspectors and plan reviewers through education and training.

The Fire & Life Safety Section also ensures that all fire suppression systems installed in Colorado are properly installed and maintained by certified and registered professionals; establishes minimum standards for the sale and use of fireworks; establishes minimum building and fire safety standards for limited gaming establishments; enforces flammability standards on cigarettes; and creates rules for fire safety in waste tire facilities.

#### **Professional Qualifications & Training**

Provides educational offerings for Firefighter, Hazardous Materials Responder, Driver Operator, Fire Officer, Youth Firesetter Prevention, Fire and Life Safety Educator and Fire Instructor programs. The Section also administers the state's voluntary firefighter certification program, hosts fire schools annually featuring National Fire Academy courses, and supports other fire educational and training programs as needed by fire services.

#### **Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting**

Researches, tests, and evaluates new technologies related to public safety. Manages the Colorado Team Awareness Kit (CoTAK), a resource tracking program statewide for all first responders in the State of Colorado. Facilitates Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) pilot certification for all CDPS employees.

#### **Chief Administrative Office**

Promote collaboration with internal and external partners by providing guidance, analysis, and timely communication in service of the DFPC mission. Responsible for the general administrative management of the division. This includes reviewing, updating and developing standard operating guidance; leading strategic initiatives; employee engagement; and the division's strategic planning.

- Colorado Fire Commission - Leads an integrated, statewide process focused on the fire service's capacity to conduct fire management and preparedness, prevention, and response activities.
- Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code Board - Helps enhance community safety and resiliency from wildfires through the adoption of codes and standards.
- Data & Analytics Unit - Responsible for managing the DFPC Records

Management System as well as the Federal and State Fire Incident Reporting Systems, and providing data analysis on data collected to a wide range of stakeholders.

### **Grants**

Administers grants intended to help volunteer, combination, and career fire and rescue companies improve their capabilities to provide firefighting and rescue services.

### **DFPC Customers**

- Fire chiefs, training officers, emergency responders
- Fire departments and fire protection districts
- County Sheriffs
- County commissioners
- Other state and federal agencies
- Contractors, regulated businesses, property owners
- Healthcare facilities, school districts, gaming establishment owners
- General public

## **Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM)**

The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) provides leadership to Colorado communities to prevent, mitigate, respond to and recover from all-hazard events including natural disasters and human acts. DHSEM was created in 2012 to consolidate homeland security and emergency management functions that were previously located in multiple state agencies. DHSEM's offices and units include:

### **Director's Office**

Is responsible for the general administrative and organizational management of the division. This includes reviewing, updating and developing policies and procedures; leading strategic initiatives; staff development and engagement; and the division's strategic planning. In addition, this office includes internal and external communications and stakeholder outreach. The business sections include:

- Deputy Director
  - Support Services Section
  - Strategic Communications Section

### **Office of Emergency Management**

Conducts the four phases of emergency management (preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery) in coordination with other state agencies and in support of local jurisdictions. The office integrates emergency management efforts across all



levels of government: state, local, tribal and federal. Sections include:

- Field Operations Section
- Integrated Preparedness Section
- Planning Section
- Mitigation Section
- State Recovery Section
- State Emergency Operations Center

#### **Office of Preparedness (Office of Grants Management)**

Works to standardize, streamline, and improve federal and state grant management practices. This office manages over \$2.5 billion in grants for projects and programs to build, sustain, and deliver the capabilities necessary to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all-hazards events. The support provided includes all phases of the grant life cycle, from application and awarding of the grant agreements to close-out of the grant program and agreements. Sections include:

- Subrecipient Monitoring Section
- Preparedness Grants and Contracts Section
- Recovery Grant Section

#### **Office of Security and Prevention: Colorado Information Analysis Center (CIAC)**

Serves as the focal point within the state for receiving, analyzing and sharing threat-related information among private sector, local, tribal, and federal partners. The CIAC includes representatives from all levels of government and serves as a clearinghouse for threat information with a focus on protecting civil rights, civil liberties and privacy concerns. The CIAC also provides situational awareness, a common operating picture, and coordinated information collection, analysis and dissemination for CDPS. Sections include:

- All Threats Intelligence
- Preventing Targeted Violence
- Watch Center
- Safe2Tell
- Cyber, Infrastructure Protection and GIS
- Federal, State, Local and other partnering agencies

#### **Office of Public Safety Communications**

In accordance with HB22-1353 Public Safety Communications Transfer the Office of Public Safety Communications (OPSC) transferred from the Governor's Office of Information Technology to the Department of Public Safety's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) on July 1, 2023.

The Office of Public Safety Communications (formerly known as the Public Safety Communications Network) includes the Digital Trunked Radio System, a near-seamless

statewide wireless system that enables direct communications to the more than 1,000 state, local, federal and tribal public safety agencies and emergency responses across the state. The system allows them to communicate both daily and for emergency incidents.

OPSC provides operability and interoperability between public safety agencies and emergency responders to 256 sites across the state and serves more than 1,000 state, local, federal, and tribal agencies using over 128,000 subscriber units. OPSC is the primary method for mission-critical public safety communications across the state.

Sections include:

- Microwave Section
- Engineers and Program Support Section
- Northeastern Region
- Southern Region
- Western Region
- Digital Trunk Radio Monitoring and Network Operations Center

## Executive Director's Office (EDO)

The EDO is the backbone of CDPS, providing effective administrative and management support services to the Department's five operating divisions. The EDO includes:

- The Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director
- Financial Services (accounting and procurement)
- Human Resources
- Operational Excellence
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
- Logistics (such as Fleet and Facilities Maintenance)
- Compliance, Auditing, and Professional Standards.
- Legislative Affairs

The EDO also includes the Office of School Safety (including the Colorado School Safety Resource Center), which assists local schools and communities to create safe and positive school climates, and the Colorado Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (CICJIS), which develops cost-effective information sharing services for criminal justice agencies.

### EDO customers

- Financial staff in CDPS and other agencies
- Internal fleet users
- Potential, current, and former employees of CDPS
- Colorado General Assembly and staff
- Media

- Local governments
- Other executive branch agencies and the Governor's Office
- Schools, teachers, students, and parents
- Criminal justice agencies that use CICJIS

## Process Improvement

At the Colorado Department of Public Safety (CDPS), we are always improving our operations so we can deliver excellent services to all of our customers. The Colorado State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive and Transparent Government (SMART) Act, along with CDPS's values of Honor, Unity and Service, are key drivers of innovation and improvement at CDPS. CDPS's Office of Operational Excellence, Leadership and Managers all work to ensure that employees have the tools, skills and ability to improve efficiency at all levels of the organization.

As part of this effort, CDPS works to spread innovative ideas through two official programs, CDPS's Innovation Driven by Employee Action (I.D.E.A) program and CSP's New Ideas for Research and Development (N.I.R.D) program. Both of these initiatives are focused on collecting and spreading efficiencies throughout CDPS.

Employees are the greatest asset that CDPS has. We believe in providing both technical training to our staff that helps them improve their own abilities and gives them the knowledge needed to problem solve and innovate, and training employees in soft skills such as change management, the people side of change.

### **Examples of process improvement efforts from FY25 include:**

- Launched the Colorado Innovation Academy Black Belt Certification program, which focuses on Lean process improvement principles and implementation.
- Build internal capacity to deliver training for supervisors focused on change management, the people side of change.
- Training employees on accessibility best practices to create documents, reports, websites and provide accessible services to all employees and customers who need information and lifesaving services from CDPS.
- Built digital workflows to replace PDF and paper processes, which improves record keeping and turn around time while reducing human error.
- Built custom applications in Google AppSheet to automate processes, such as overtime requests and training waivers.
- Traffic Electronic Citations (eCitation) at CSP Troop 1D Adams County. Proof of concept in eCitation completed with partners at Department of Revenue, Judicial Branch, Colorado Integrated Criminal Justice Information System and Office of Information Technology. The limited scale pilot project informed statewide partners on needed data standards, agreements, and governance structure, before proceeding in larger efforts.

# FY2025 Wildly Important Goals (WIG)

For FY25, CDPS selected and tracked three Strategic Policy Initiatives, also called Wildly Important Goals (WIGs). The tables below indicate progress toward the WIG metrics as of June 1, 2025. Full-year data for each FY25 strategic policy initiative will be available in mid-July 2025.

## WIG #1: Reduce Auto Theft

### Goal

In an effort to make Colorado a Top 10 Safest State, the Crime Prevention Working Group will decrease the rate of Auto-Theft by 25% from 466 to 349 per 100K residents, by June 30, 2025.

### Strategies to Support Reducing Auto Theft

- Increase Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) funded auto theft prosecution activities
- Increase police department engagement in Colorado Information Sharing Consortium (CISC) and utilization of the Accurant Virtual Crime Center (AVCC)
- Increase the number of victim support services to statewide victims of auto theft
- Deliver education and outreach activities statewide on awareness of auto theft victimization
- Reduce auto theft in targeted high risk areas

### Outcome

Metric	FY2024 Baseline	FY2025 Goal	FY2026 Goal	FY2025 Outcome
Auto theft rate reduction per 100K residents	466 per 100K residents	349 per 100K residents	286 per 100K residents	372.5 per 100K Residents (as of April 2025)

## WIG #2: Increase Support to Local Fire Agencies

### Goal

The Division of Fire Prevention and Control will fill 90% of requests for aerial assistance from local fire agencies by June 30th 2027.

### Strategies to Increase Responses and Support to Local Fire Agencies

- Increase year-round helicopter availability
- Increase qualified dispatchers
- Upgrade the Multi Mission Aircraft communication capability to a low orbit satellite
- Communicate fires detected by DFPC to local fire agencies within 30 minutes of detection

### Outcome

Metric	FY2024 Baseline	FY2025 Goal	FY2026 Goal	FY2027 Goal	FY2025 Outcome
Percent of requests for aerial assistance filled	Not previously tracked	82%	85%	90%	95% (as of March 2025)

## WIG #3: Advancing Transportation Safety

### Goal

In an effort to protect the traveling public, the Colorado Department of Transportation and Colorado State Patrol will reduce the number of traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries in fiscal year 2027 by 22.5%, compared to the same month in fiscal year 2023.

### Strategies to Reduce Highway Fatal and Injury Crashes

- Reduce fatal crashes caused by the top 3 fatal driver actions, which are Lane Violation, Careless Driving, Speed
- Reduce fatal crashes caused by driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Increase trooper visibility
- Reduce the number of struck-by incidents to increase officer safety

### Outcome

Metric	FY2023 Baseline	FY2025 Goal	FY2026 Goal	FY2027 Goal	FY2025 Outcome
Number of fatal and	4,555	4,282	3,940	3,530	FY2025

Metric	FY2023 Baseline	FY2025 Goal	FY2026 Goal	FY2027 Goal	FY2025 Outcome
injury crashes					outcome available in October 2025

This WIG aligns with Governor Polis’ goal of making Colorado one of the top ten safest states in the country.

Although Colorado experienced a decline in fatal crashes in 2023, there is still room for improvement. Colorado’s challenges with reducing fatal and injury crashes reflect the national trend, as fatalities have been on the rise across the country for the last few years.

## FY2026 Wildly Important Goals (WIG)

### WIG #1: Reduce Auto Theft

#### Goal

In an effort to make Colorado a Top 10 Safest State, the Working Group will decrease the number of Auto-Thefts by 28% by June 30, 2027.

Metric	FY2025 Baseline	FY2026 Goal	FY2028 Goal
Percent reduction in auto thefts	0% <sup>1</sup> (20,999 thefts)	20% Reduction from FY2025 baseline (16,799 thefts)	8% Further reduction from FY2025 baseline (15,119 thefts)

<sup>1</sup> Baseline is 0% because the FY26 goal is compared to the FY25 baseline

#### Problem Statement

Auto thefts per capita in Colorado is higher than 48 of the other states in the union, even after local partners and CDPS lead a 26% decrease in 2024. Stolen vehicles are often used to commit other crimes and therefore compound the crime rates in Colorado. In order for Coloradans to thrive and feel secure, and to make Colorado a top 10 safest state, auto theft must be dramatically reduced. Successful completion of this goal will make Colorado safer by reducing auto theft and violent crimes associated with auto theft such as aggravated assault, ultimately driving Colorado to become a top 10 safest state.

## Desired Outcome

Successful completion of this goal will reduce auto theft in Colorado and drive towards making Colorado a top 10 safest state.

## Impact on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Colorado

Coloradans rely on their vehicles for transportation to work, to take care of their family, and do many of life's activities. Lower-income Coloradans are often more negatively impacted by the theft of a vehicle due to having less of a safety net or additional household vehicles that could supplement their transportation needs. The sudden loss of a motor vehicle is often more devastating to a lower-income family or person; reducing the chance of theft will positively impact these communities and increase psychological safety.

## Strategies to Support Reducing Auto Theft

- Continue the Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) funding for enforcement activities in high risk areas
- Increase the number of CATPA funded auto theft prosecution activities
- Continue victim support services to statewide victims of auto theft
- Continue the education and outreach activities statewide on awareness of auto theft victimization
- Continue building partnerships with police departments engaging in the centralized intelligence platform

# WIG #2: Sexual Assault Kit Testing Time

## Goal

CBI will reduce the average turnaround time for sexual assault kit forensic testing from 554 days to 99 days or less by January 31, 2027.

Metric	FY2024 Baseline	FY2026 Goal	FY2028 Goal
Turn around time for sexual assault kit forensic testing	554 days	199 days	90 or less days

## Problem Statement

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) Forensic Services Section is facing a historic backlog as it relates to its DNA discipline, with the driving factor being the significant impact of the Woods investigation on operations. Primary customers are seeing delays in processing of evidence. This causes ramifications for the public trust

that CBI holds. Operational efficiency is also impacted given that the Forensics team is facing a mounting workload burden as a result of this backlog.

There is an opportunity to build long-term relationships with reliable third party vendors to assist in the processing of these kits. There is also an opportunity to look at process improvement measures implemented internally to expedite the processing of kits. Supplemental funding will be used to reduce the current backlog of sex assault kits by utilizing third party vendors while determining long term solutions for sustainability.

### **Desired Outcome**

Successful completion of this goal will reduce the turn around time for CBI forensic testing of sexual assault kits to 199 days or less by June 30, 2026, followed by a further reduction to 90 days or less by June 30, 2027.

### **Impact on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Colorado**

The CBI serves all of Colorado. Many smaller and rural agencies tend to heavily supplement their capabilities by utilizing the CBI for investigation and forensic support. Prolonged turn around time will greatly impact the agencies served by the CBI and subsequently, the communities those agencies serve.

### **Strategies to Reduce Turn Around Time**

- Onboard new DNA scientists and successfully navigate them through their comprehensive training period to increase internal capacity.
- Partner with trusted and accredited labs to outsource sex assault kit with the goal of consistently reducing turnaround time for all DNA casework.
- Implement internal efficiency improvements with a focus on: case assignment, serology workflow, DNA extraction and analysis, DNA data interpretation, batch review, and technical review.

## **WIG #3: Increase Support to Local Fire Agencies**

### **Goal**

Increase the number of fires investigated by DFPC from 160 a year to 360 a year by fiscal year 2027.

Metric	FY2025 Baseline	FY2026 Goal	FY2028 Goal
Fires investigate per year	160	250	360



## **Problem Statement**

The number of uninvestigated fires in the state of Colorado annually is estimated to be in the thousands. The majority of fire agencies across the state don't conduct fire investigations as they do not have investigators. To narrow the gap of uninvestigated fires, fire investigation training and education must be provided to those agencies along with on-the-job training that will allow them to evaluate fires and explosions in their jurisdictions. Fire investigation goes hand in hand with Fire Code Inspections and Community Risk Reduction. When we know how a fire starts, it allows training to be developed and provided to prevent future fires. With these combined efforts of being able to respond and provide additional training, we can limit the number of fires that go uninvestigated.

## **Desired Outcome**

Successful completion of this goal will result in over 600 fires being investigated, which allows us to understand the origin and cause of the fire and how to prevent future fires.

## **Impact on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Colorado**

This WIG is tracking the investigation support DFPC provides to local fire departments responding to incidents in their communities. Over the past several years, DFPC has worked to supplement local resources in areas that have less money for response resources locally (e.g. Sterling, La Junta, Alamosa). This WIG will impact EDI by increasing state support to fire departments in rural communities with fewer resources.

## **Strategies to Increase Fire Investigations**

- Outreach to local agencies to inform them of the investigative services offered by DFPC.
- Increase the number of attendees participating in DFPC's fire investigation training program.
- Increase the number of fires investigated by local agencies who are benefiting from DFPC's training program, supply of equipment, technology or technical assistance.

# **WIG #4: Transportation Safety**

## **Goal**

In an effort to protect the traveling public, the Colorado Department of Transportation and Colorado State Patrol will reduce the number of traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries in fiscal year 2027 by 22.5%, compared to the same month in fiscal year 2023.

Metric	FY2023 Baseline	FY2025 Goal	FY2026 Goal	FY2027 Goal
Number of fatalities and serious injuries	4,555	4,282	3,940	3,530

### Problem Statement

In recent years, highway fatalities have been steadily increasing along with the state's population, and CDPS would like to continue to focus on reducing fatal and injury crashes as a WIG. This continues to be an important overall focus for CDPS and it contributes to our department's vision of creating safe and resilient communities in Colorado.

### Desired Outcome

Successful completion of this goal will lead to the reduction of fatal and injury crashes and improved safety and well-being for people throughout the state.

### Impact on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Colorado

To better understand the impact of traffic in Disproportionately Impacted (DI) communities, CDOT will track fatal crashes involving vulnerable roadway users in 100% of Disproportionately Impacted communities during the next FY. Through our partnership, CSP will be able to target education and outreach based on this analysis. By better understanding the fatal crashes occurring in DI communities, it allows us to focus on residents of those communities (as opposed to those just traveling through).

### Strategies to Increase Transportation Safety

- Apply data-driven strategies, high visibility, and strict enforcement.
- Focus on reducing crashes caused by top crash causal factors.
- Decrease the number of commercial motor vehicle-caused crashes.
- Increasing Impaired Driving Enforcement Team dedicated hours.
- Implement high visibility DUI checkpoints.
- Increase impaired driving media impressions.

## WIG #5: Increase Support to Local Fire Agencies

### Goal

The Department of Fire Prevention and Control will fill 95% of requests for aerial assistance by local fire agencies by June 30th, 2027

Metric	FY2024 Baseline	FY2025 Goal	FY2027 Goal
Fill 95% of requests for aerial assistance from local fire agencies	95%	95%	95%

### Problem Statement

Fires have been steadily increasing in frequency, severity and cost to Coloradans due to a number of factors. Four of the five largest wildfires have occurred in the last five years. The three largest fires in Colorado's history all happened in 2020. DFPC is the Colorado fire authority and has the capability to help local fire agencies with fire prevention, mitigation and response. This specific goal is focused on aerial support to fires that DFPC can assist with.

### Desired Outcome

Successful completion of this goal improves safety and reduces losses for Colorado residents by providing cooperators helicopters in the state of Colorado for wildfires and all-hazard events.

### Impact on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Colorado

This WIG is tracking the support DFPC provides to local fire departments responding to incidents in their communities. Over the past several years, DFPC has worked to supplement local resources in areas that have less money for response resources locally (e.g. Sterling, La Junta, Alamosa). This WIG will impact EDI by increasing state support to volunteer fire departments in rural communities with fewer resources.

### Strategies to Reduce Unfilled Aerial Requests

- Increase year round helicopter availability