

## **Conference Committee Report House Bill 1030, 2016 Appropriations Act Selected Highlights for Justice and Public Safety**

The FY 2016-17 budgets for Justice and Public Safety (JPS) agencies include net appropriations of \$2.6 billion, which is \$98.8 million (3.9%) above the amount enacted for FY 2015-16.

The following selected JPS highlights may be found in **Section I** of the 2016 Conference Committee Report (page and item numbers noted); selected special provisions may be found in **Part XVII through XIX** of H.B. 1030 (section references are noted):

### **Department of Public Safety** Conference Committee Report

- Provides \$1.4 million to fund a Medical Claim processing contract for inmate medical services. **(Page I-7, Item #7)**
- Provides \$8 million for the State Bureau of Investigation to purchase a new airplane. **(I-8, #10)**

### **Department of Justice** Conference Committee Report

- Provides funds to equip and operate the new Western Crime Lab in Edneyville, including \$1.1 million in nonrecurring funds for new equipment. **(I-13, #18)**
- Provides \$2.2 million for outsourcing toxicology and DNA forensic analysis services. **(I-14, #20)**

### **Office of Indigent Defense Services** Conference Committee Report

- Provides \$3.5 million nonrecurring to the Private Assigned Counsel Fund to address the backlog of payments to lawyers who have represented indigent clients. **(I-19, #26)** H.B. 805, Section 7.1, directs \$100,000 of these funds to Pisgah Legal Services.

### Provisions from H.B. 1030

- Directs the Office of Indigent Defense Services (IDS) to study the prosecution of capital cases to determine whether there is a more efficient way to identify potential capital cases and how the State may more effectively utilize local counsel in these cases. **(Sec. 19A.3(a))**
- Directs IDS to study and, if feasible, to establish satellite or regional capital defender's offices. **(Sec. 19A.3(b))**
- Directs IDS, in conjunction with the Administrative Office of the Courts, to pilot a program of flat-fee payments for attorneys representing indigent clients. **(Sec. 19A.4)**

## **Administrative Office of the Courts**

### Conference Committee Report

- Provides funding for an additional District Court judge in District 19A (Cabarrus County) and in District 27B (Cleveland and Lincoln Counties). **(I-24, #34; Sec. 19B.3)**
- Restores funding for an additional Assistant District Attorney Position in District 9A (Caswell and Person Counties), District 15B (Orange and Chatham Counties), and in District 20B (Union County). These positions were eliminated in FY 2011-12 as part of a Voluntary Reduction in Force program. **(I-24, #35)**