PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
October 7, 2026

Call to Order: Public Safety Committee Chairman Steven Havey called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

Roll Call: S. Havey, G. Barnes, C. Bessette, D. Healy, J. Ricketts-Swales, P. Stockin (2:17 p.m.), B. Harris (Absent: R. Whitney)

Other Attendees: B. Broach, J. Burdick, A. Carrow, JR Carter, S. Decker, P. Degnan, K. Demick, S. Golden, G. Hanchett, T. Hand, J. Kelley, C. Knapp (2:19 p.m.), K. LaForge, S. Lanphier, W. Mackney, J. McKnight, W. Meunier, L Morris, M. Regan, J. Ricci, M. Short

Approval of Agenda

The Public Safety Committee meeting agenda of October 7, 2026, was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried.

Approval of Minutes

The Public Safety Committee meeting minutes of September 2, 2026, were approved on a motion made by Legislator Ricketts-Swales, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Acting District Attorney Peter Degnan attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Authorization to Apply for Solicitation of Interest (SOI) 2026-1 Criminal Wage Theft Investigations Grant Program

Acting District Attorney Degnan requested a resolution authorizing him to apply for the Solicitation of Interest (SOI) 2026-1 Criminal Wage Theft Investigations Grant Program. The New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) announced a $5 million grant program designed to support District Attorneys in undertaking new criminal wage theft investigations. The program particularly encourages offices that have not previously pursued criminal wage theft cases to apply, aiming to help build their capacity from the ground up to ensure all New Yorkers are protected from wage theft. Eligible activities for this grant funding can cover operational costs, including staff time, overtime, new investigator or Assistant District Attorney positions, training, and equipment. The total maximum award is $500,000. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

Legislator Burdick asked if this is a recurring grant or if the position would end when the grant funding ended. Mr. Degnan said yes, the position is based on the grant so when the grant money ends so does the position and that would be known during hiring.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Public Defender J. R. Santana Carter attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Contract Combining the Distribution and 4th Upstate Quality Grants through ILS-Public Defender

Public Defender Carter requested a resolution approving, accepting, and appropriating the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) combined Distribution and Fourth Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grants (Distribution 27-29), and ratifying the prior or subsequent signature of

the County Administrator or W. Brooke Harris, Chairperson of the Board of Legislators, on the grant contract, upon the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney, as follows:

Contract No.: CD27002 Contract Term: January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2029

A1170

Grant Year	Term	Amount
Year 1	January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027	$255,867.00
Year 2	January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2028	$255,867.00
Year 3	January 1, 2029 – December 31, 2029	$255,867.00
Total Contract Amount		**$767,601.00**

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Ricketts-Swales, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

Hurrell - Harring Extension-Public Defender and Conflict Defender

Public Defender Carter and Conflict Defender Michael Regan requested a resolution approving, accepting, and appropriating the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) extension of the Second Statewide Expansion of the Hurrell-Harring Grant, and ratifying the prior or subsequent signature of the County Administrator or W. Brooke Harris, Chairperson of the Board of Legislators, on the grant contract, upon the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney, as follows:

Contract No.: CSTWIDE202 Extension Year Term: April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027

A1174

Office	Amount
Public Defender	$621,578.00
Conflict Defender	$499,672.90
Total Year 3 Contract Amount	**$1,121,250.90**

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

Three-Year Contract for 4th Upstate Quality Grant-Public Defender

Public Defender Carter requested a resolution approving, accepting, and appropriating the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) Fourth Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grant, and ratifying the prior or subsequent signature of the County Administrator or W. Brooke Harris,

Chairperson of the Board of Legislators, on the grant contract, upon the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney, as follows:

Contract No.: C4TH602 Contract Term: July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026

A1170

Grant Year	Term	Amount
Year 1	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	$50,000.00
Year 2	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025	$100,000.00
Year 3	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	$100,000.00
Partial Year 4	July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026	$50,000.00
Total Contract Amount		**$300,000.00**

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

Service Agreement for Upgrade of Existing Case Management System (PDCMS)-Public Defender

Public Defender Carter requested a resolution approving the service agreement for an upgrade of the Public Defender's existing Case Management System (PDCMS) and ratifying the prior or subsequent signature of the County Administrator or W. Brooke Harris, Chairperson of the Board of Legislators, on the software agreement, upon the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney.

The upgrade includes:
- Access to the PDCMS Pro Application
- Unlimited support
- Virtual training
- Discovery storage
- Access to the training Learning Management System (LMS)

Annual Cost: $13,680
One-Time Upgrade Cost: $19,680
Total Initial Cost: $33,360 (annual cost-plus one-time upgrade cost)
Funding Source: ILS grant funding (Hurrell-Harring grant)

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Ricketts-Swales, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

CONFLICT DEFENDER

Conflict Defender Michael Regan attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review. Stated that custody visitation numbers continue to go up.

Legislative Hanchett shared that Mr. Regan is picking up cases. Mr. Regan responded that he is taking advice files as well as standing in for attorneys that have a last-minute court date and are unable to attend. Doing this is saving the County $158 per hour in Assigned Counsel fees. He was thanked by members of the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Regan expressed thanks to Mr. Carter and Lisa Morris in the Public Defender's office for securing grant funds to benefit his office. Legislator Burdick asked him how the new offices were working and Mr. Regan stated that making heating adjustments at night improve the temperature of the offices in the morning.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Director of Emergency Management Scott Golden attended the meeting and submitted the monthly report to the committee for review.

Contract for FY2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

Mr. Golden requested a resolution to accept the contract for the FY2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) for $19,521, allowing for the usage of the funds in 2027. This grant is used to offset salary costs of $16,521 within the Office of Emergency Management regarding mitigation, preparing, planning, and recovery from man-made and natural disasters, and allocates $3,000 for training of the OEM staff. Resolution No. 392-25 provided the Office of Emergency Management authorization to apply for the DHSES (Department of Homeland Security Emergency Services) FY25 EMPG grant. This is a 50/50 grant with a County match of $19,521. No 2026 Budget Adjustment is necessary as this will be included in the 2027 Budget as follows:

A3677* new account - Homeland Security - Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) FY 2025

Expenses		
A3677.101	Regular Pay	$16,521
A3677.405	Conference Expense	$ 3,000
		$19,521
Revenue		
A3677.4306.EMP25	Fed Aid HS – OES EMPG FY25	$19,521

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Accept the FY2025 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Awarded by FEMA

Mr. Golden requested a resolution to accept the FY2025 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant awarded by FEMA. This grant includes the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) & State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (SLETPP). This grant, totaling $37,507, is shared between the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the Sheriff's Office, with Emergency Management receiving $24,375 and the Sheriff's Office receiving $13,132. No 2026 Budget Adjustment is necessary as this will be included in the 2027 Budget as follows:

A3678* new account

Expenses

A3678E.207	Emergency Services	$18,375
A3678E.408	General Supplies	$ 6,000
A3678S.208	Police	$13,132
		$37,507

Revenue

A3678E.4306.FY25	Fed Aid HS – SHSP FY25 T# TBD	$24,375
A3678S.4306.FY25	Fed Aid HS – SHSP FY25 T# TBD	$13,132
		$37,507

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Authorization to Apply for a Grant from the Allegany Area Foundation

The Office of Emergency Management requested authorization to apply for a grant from the Allegany Area Foundation in the amount of $5,015.76 to fund the purchase of twelve (12) handheld GPS units, twelve (12) SD map/data card inserts, and seventy-two (72) NiMH or Li-Ion batteries. The intent of the purchase is to provide this equipment to the Allegany County Search and Rescue Team, which is overseen by the Department of Conservation Forest Rangers, and responds county-wide to instances of missing persons, typically in remote and wooded environments. The team requires the GPS units to effectively perform their duties, which include wayfinding, grid and linear search operations, and maintaining personal navigational awareness and safety. The Search and Rescue Team does not have the capacity to apply for the funding independently. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Probation Director Jessica McKnight attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. McKnight brought attention to the domestic violence numbers in the report, stating that nearly half of all their current cases involve domestic violence. She highlighted that Probation Officer Kami Doane will be recognized by the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA) for her efforts in domestic violence cases.

Acceptance of NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Supervision and Treatment of Juvenile Program Services (STSJP) Grant Award-Youth Justice Program

Ms. McKnight requested a resolution to accept $292,087 from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Supervision and Treatment of Juvenile Program Services (STSJP) Grant Award to the Probation Department for use toward Youth Justice Programming. The funds are included in the 2027 Budget request, and no budget adjustment is necessary at this time. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Ricketts-Swales, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Acceptance of NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services State Aid Block Grant to the Probation Department -Operational Costs

Ms. McKnight requested a resolution to accept $151,101 from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services State Aid Block Grant to the Probation Department for use toward operational costs. The funds are included in the 2027 Budget request, and no budget adjustment is necessary at this time. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Undersheriff Walter Mackney attended the meeting and submitted the monthly report to the committee for review. Legislator Healy asked how many federal inmates are currently at the facility. Officer Mackney stated that information was in the report and there are currently six male and no female.

Chairman Havey asked for more information regarding the pistol instruction certification. If Allegany County is not outsourcing our employees to do civilian instruction why do we have officers completing pistol instruction certification? Officer Mackney responded that the Sheriff's Office provides annual and semi-annual in-service firearms training to Correction Officers and Deputy Sergeants. Qualified instructors are needed for that. Legislator Healy asked if the training is required by law. Officer Mackney said that Correction Officers are required to qualify once a year but Police Officers are not required to qualify after they graduate from the academy. However, it makes sense from a civil liability standpoint that these officers be constantly trained, evaluated, and tested. Certification is good for life so there will not be additional costs. The certification was done to increase the number of qualified instructors as others age out of service.

Reappropriation of Unspent Funds from the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office requested a resolution to reappropriate unspent funds from the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant. Resolution No. 379-23 was previously approved and budgeted for this grant. The Sheriff's Office amount of the grant is $29,875. The relevant contract is #T190241, and the DHSES reference number is WM23190241. No money was spent in 2024-2025, leaving the whole grant amount of $29,875 to be reappropriated in the 2026 Budget as follows:

Reappropriations: A 3674S ACSO HS SHSP FY 23 T#190241

Expenses		
A3674S.208	Police/Sheriff Equipment (for specialized response)	$29,875
Revenue		
A3674S 4306.FY23	Fed Aid-Homeland Security SHSP 23	$29,875

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

Reappropriation of Unspent Funds from the 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office requested a resolution to reappropriate unspent funds from the 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant. Resolution No. 149-23 was previously approved and budgeted for this grant. The Sheriff's Office amount of the grant is $26,887. The relevant contract is #T190104, and the DHSES reference number is WM22190104. The grant should be reappropriated as follows:

Reappropriations: A 3672S ACSO HS SHSP FY 22 T#190104

Expenses		
A3672S.208	Police/Sheriff Equipment (for specialized response)	$14,030
Revenue		
A3672S 4306.FY22S	Fed Aid-Homeland Security SHSP 22	$14,030

The total grant is $26,887, less Police/Sheriff Equipment of $12,857 spent in 2022-2025, equals the remaining balance to be reappropriated $14,030. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

Legislator Burdick asked why haven't these grants been spent from previous years? Officer Mackney said it is due to the communication equipment ordered. The bidding process causes it to go longer.

Reappropriation of Unspent Funds from the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office requested a resolution to reappropriate unspent funds from the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant. Resolution No. 479-24 was previously approved and budgeted for this grant. The Sheriff's Office amount of the grant is $29,875. The relevant contract is #T190382, and the DHSES reference number is WM24190382. The grant should be reappropriated as follows:

Reappropriations: A 3675S ACSO HS SHSP FY 24 T#190382

Expenses		
A36725.208	Police/Sheriff Equipment (for specialized response)	$28,475
Revenue		
A3675S 4306.FY24S	Fed Aid-Homeland Security SHSP 24	$28,475

The total grant is $29,875, less Police/Sheriff Equipment of $1,400 spent in 2025, equals the remaining balance to be reappropriated $28,475. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried. ***Refer to Ways and Means***

Acceptance and Appropriation of Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant Funds

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office is requesting a Resolution accepting the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant and appropriating funds for the program. Allegany County was awarded $172,413 under the FY2023 Domestic Terrorism Prevention (DTP) Grant Program. Funding for this state grant award is directed to be utilized to support the county's capability to prevent targeted violence and domestic terrorism through the utilization of Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) teams and the development of comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans. The New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) will manage and administer these program funds and the performance period for this grant will be from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2026.
The grant should be reappropriated as follows:

Appropriations ($172,413):		
H 3036.200	Capital Project	$ 172,413
Revenue ($172,413):		
H 3036.4089.DTPHS	Fed Aid – Domestic Terrorism	$ 172,413

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Legislator Burdick asked how the money would be spent. Officer Mackney said it would mostly be for training and to offset the salary of Lieutenant Tim Hand who is in charge of the Domestic Terrorism Program.

2026 Bid Awards for the Allegany County Sheriff's Office Fleet Vehicles

Two (2) 2026 Dodge Durango Police Pursuit Vehicles, WDEE75, V6 or V8 AWD

Awarded to: Sawyer Chrysler, Dodge, Inc., DBA Sawyer Motors
Saugerties, New York

Vehicle Bid: $82,136.00

One (1) 2027 Ford Police Interceptor Utility, K8A, V6 EcoBoost AWD

Awarded to: Ferrario Ford, DBA Ferrario Auto Team
Elmira, New York

Vehicle Bid: $48,946.50

One (1) 2027 Ford F-150 Police Responder, W1P, V6 EcoBoost 4X4

Awarded to: VanBortel Ford
East Rochester, New York

Vehicle Bid: $48,501.47

Total of all Awards: $179,583.97

County Administrator Carissa Knapp stated that the bids were awarded and the vehicles have been purchased.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly R. Broach, Confidential Secretary
Allegany County Board of Legislators