

ARLINGTON COUNTY FISCAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION
REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

FY 2016 PROPOSED BUDGET

BUDGET AREA:	Sheriff's Department
FAAC REVIEWERS:	Tenley Peterson, Paul Holland, Patrick Bogenberger
DATE OF FAAC ACTION:	March 26, 2015

FAAC Opinion:

The Sheriff's Office continues to operate the detention facility effectively and safely, with inmate services in mental health and education. Current staffing levels are causing a reliance on overtime costs and detention facility lockdowns that weaken morale and potentially undermine security. FAAC commends the Sheriff's Office for continuing to work on cost-saving strategies.

FAAC Recommendation #1			
The FAAC recommends that the County Board support the County Manager's proposal to provide the Sheriff's Office with five additional sworn officers.			
Vote:	Yes: 9	No: 0	Abstain: 0
Comment:			

FAAC Recommendation #2			
The FAAC recommends that the County Board support the County Manager's proposed FY16 budget for the Sheriff's office, to potentially include the proposed sworn officers in recommendation #1			
Vote:	Yes: 9	No: 0	Abstain: 0
Comment:			

Future Considerations

- Managing costs associated with overtime pay; finding the right balance between budgeting for overtime and supporting Department staff.
- Expectations: many newly hired Deputies like the alternative schedule and rely on the overtime they receive under the current staffing setup.
- Staffing levels: how does the department maintain quality of life and support existing employees when as many as 40 additional FTEs are necessary.
- Mental health is a concern for both the inmates and the staff. This should be a focus over the next several years.
- FAAC recommends that DHS consult with the Sheriff's office before making a decision regarding the privatization of Arlington County's volunteer programs