



JOHN THURSTON
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 ARKANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE

July 13, 2020

The Honorable David Wallace, Co-Chairperson
 The Honorable Jim Wooten, Co-Chairperson
 Arkansas Legislative Council - Personnel Subcommittee
 State Capitol, Room 315
 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Senator Wallace and Representative Wooten,

The Secretary of State respectfully submits, for your review and approval, this request to add ten (10) additional Capitol Police full-time positions from the Office of Personnel Management Growth Pool under provisions of A.C.A. § 21-5-225(e).

These ten (10) positions are requested as follows:

Number of Positions Requested	Class Code	Classification	Line Item Maximum
2	Q187U	Secretary of State Police Sergeant	\$65,265
8	Q201U	Secretary of State Corporal	\$58,493

The annual estimated cost for these positions, including the requisite 28.78 percent (28.78%) match, is \$770,714.82, and will be presented for funding consideration at a future PEER meeting.

The current Capitol Police force of 21 officers, 1 Captain, 1 Chief of Police, and 2 dispatchers is the cognizant entity responsible for providing safety and security to tenants, guests, and visitors of the State Capitol building, Capitol Hill building, and all surrounding State Capitol grounds on a 24 hour-a-day, seven (7) day-a-week basis.

The ability to schedule sufficient staffing for security at all State Capitol events and ongoing activities, especially during the past few months, has been extremely difficult, resulting in considerable overtime hours and officer fatigue. These additional ten (10) staff will provide much-needed security coverage at all times to the State Capitol and its tenants, guests, and visitors. If approved, this would be the first increase in Capitol Police staff in approximately fifteen (15) years.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Kurt Naumann at kurt.naumann@sos.arkansas.gov or 501-680-0239.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

John Thurston
 John Thurston
 Secretary of State