

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)

INTERPOL WASHINGTON

U.S. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

FY 2016 PERFORMANCE BUDGET

CONGRESSIONAL SUBMISSION

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I. Overview for INTERPOL Washington, the U.S. National Central Bureau

A. Introduction

In FY 2016, INTERPOL Washington, the U.S. National Central Bureau, requests a total of \$33,437,000, 74 FTE and 87 direct positions to prevent crime, enforce federal laws, and prevent terrorism. This request includes an Adjustment-to-Base (ATB) increase of \$1,437,000. With these resources, INTERPOL Washington will maintain its current level of services while providing additional services and funding for resources necessary to respond to the increase in transnational crime and international terrorism resulting in a greater need for international law enforcement cooperation and access to international law enforcement information.

B. Background

INTERPOL Washington, the United States National Central Bureau, is the statutorily-designated representative to the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) on behalf of the Attorney General. As such, it is the official U.S. Point of Contact in INTERPOL's world-wide, police to police communications and criminal intelligence network. INTERPOL Washington is co-managed by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding that ensures a continuing commitment to the guidance and oversight of the organization and reinforces its role in effectively sharing and exchanging international criminal investigative and humanitarian assistance information. Consequently, its mission encompasses a broad spectrum of activities and responsibilities that support the effective administration of justice and security of the homeland – an end-state that fully reflects the Administration's strategic approach to combating transnational criminal threats. In carrying out these wide-ranging responsibilities, INTERPOL Washington utilizes a highly integrated, multi-sector workforce that includes analysts and agents detailed from both DOJ and DHS, as well as other federal, state local and tribal agencies, including: the FBI, DEA, U.S. Marshals Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the United States Secret Service, among others.

As the National Central Bureau for the United States, INTERPOL Washington is authorized unrestricted access to INTERPOL's secure, encrypted communications network, as well as its entire array of investigative databases. Populated with millions of records contributed by INTERPOL's 190 member countries, these databases contain vital investigative information on international fugitives; stolen and lost travel documents; stolen administrative documents; missing persons; unidentified bodies; images of child sexual abuse, and other matters of investigative interest. This capability facilitates law enforcement interaction in real time on investigative matters ranging from simple criminal history checks to the sharing of sensitive criminal intelligence and investigative leads targeting transnational organized crime groups.

In addition, INTERPOL Washington is *exclusively* responsible for securing the publication of INTERPOL Notices – a system of international lookouts or advisories used to assist law enforcement authorities in locating fugitives, identifying suspects, and other investigative purposes – on behalf of U.S. law enforcement agencies, and for ensuring that such Notices published on behalf of other member countries are entered and maintained in U.S. indices including the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Department of Homeland Security's TECS. It also supports the exchange of

international humanitarian assistance requests involving such matters as threatened suicides, death notifications, and health and welfare checks on U.S. citizens overseas, as well as foreign nationals in the U.S.

Operating 24/7/365, INTERPOL Washington is the primary nexus between domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies and as such is solely dedicated and equipped to assist the more than 18,000 U.S. law enforcement agencies and their foreign counterparts in overcoming the very real cultural, linguistic, and legal barriers that complicate the exchange of criminal investigative information and support across national administrations and boundaries – including situations where there is no alternative police communication channel for U.S. authorities. Even for U.S. law enforcement agencies with a well-developed international criminal investigative presence, INTERPOL Washington’s services are complementary, not competitive or duplicative.

In all instances, INTERPOL Washington serves to coordinate U.S. law enforcement actions and responses, ensuring that it is consistent with U.S. interests and law, as well as INTERPOL policies, procedures, and regulations. This includes strict adherence to Article 3 of the INTERPOL Constitution, which expressly forbids the Organization to “...undertake any intervention or activities of a political, military, religious or racial character.”

C. Full Program Costs

INTERPOL Washington is one decision unit, and all requested funds must sustain operations that support DOJ’s key priorities, as well as those of DHS and INTERPOL. Therefore, each performance objective is linked with the costs of critical strategic actions that necessarily reflect the diverse requirements of all three organizations. Moreover, through its on-going communications with its domestic and foreign counterparts, INTERPOL Washington continues to identify service gaps and emerging needs that will require additional investment.

The total costs include the following (Figure 1):

- Operating costs
 - The direct costs of all outputs, and
 - Common administrative systems
- Indirect costs
 - Contribution of U.S. dues to INTERPOL

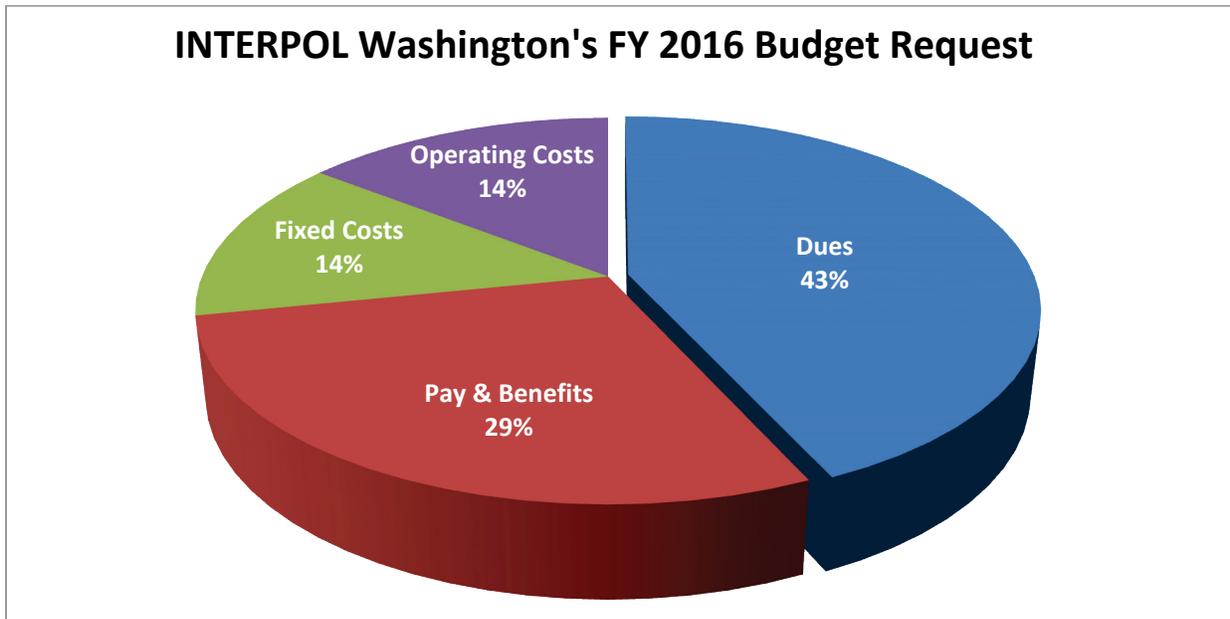


Figure 1

Both performance and resource tables define the total cost of achieving the strategies INTERPOL Washington will implement in FY 2016. Also included are the indirect costs of continuing activities, which are central to its operations.

D. Challenges

The Administration’s *National Security Strategy* explicitly recognizes that transnational crime is a serious and growing threat to public safety and national security. Similarly, the *Worldwide Threat Assessment of the US Intelligence Community* cites transnational organized crime as “...an abiding threat to US economic and national security interests...”^[1] Of particular concern, both documents point to an increasing convergence between transnational crime and terrorism. In order to combat these threats, the United States government is seeking to integrate elements from within the homeland security and national security mission spaces into a whole-of-government approach designed to disrupt, defeat, and dismantle transnational criminal and terrorist organizations.^[2]

Performance Challenges

The challenges that impede progress toward achieving the strategic goals of DOJ and DHS are complex and ever-changing. Developments in technology, enforcement priorities, and shifting patterns of criminal behavior are only a few factors that impact law enforcement practices and pose challenges that demand attention. The following challenges are among those that INTERPOL Washington views as highly significant, and as having the greatest potential to impact its budget, operations, and resources.

^[1] Unclassified Statement for the Record on the *Worldwide Threat Assessment of the US Intelligence Community* for the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, James R. Clapper, Director of National Intelligence, January 31, 2012

^[2] *National Security Strategy*, p.15

External Challenges:

Balancing Reduced Funding with Increased Demand

INTERPOL Washington, as with other federal organizations throughout the entire Federal Government, continues to face funding and resource challenges. The economic environment and the subsequent impact of tightened budgets have placed pressures on all federal agencies. INTERPOL Washington is committed to the Administration's efforts to cut waste in spending and to identify opportunities to promote efficient spending. In FY 2016, INTERPOL Washington faces the challenge of responding to an increasing demand for our services while adhering to economic realities, constricted budgets, and efforts to reduce overall government spending.

The unprecedented growth of transnational criminal and terrorist organizations has created a corresponding demand for international law enforcement cooperation and timely access to law enforcement information worldwide. Consequently, INTERPOL Washington's requirement to respond to all requests for assistance from its domestic and international law enforcement partners continues to place substantial and increasing demands on its fiscal and operational resources. INTERPOL Washington anticipates that the volume of requests for assistance will continue to increase as its outreach efforts and information technology initiatives develop and take hold. Some examples are listed below:

- Increased awareness and usage of INTERPOL databases has led to significant increases in message traffic across the network resulting in increases in new cases year after year (Figure 2).
- INTERPOL Washington's aggressive outreach efforts have significantly increased availability of INTERPOL databases to domestic law enforcement agencies resulting in 56 million queries in 2014, an increase of 8.14 million queries over 2013. Additionally, in 2014, U.S. law enforcement authorities accounted for more than 366 million queries against INTERPOL databases.
- INTERPOL Washington has partnered with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) in an initiative to distribute investigative leads via INTERPOL's I-24/7 network regarding foreign hosted child pornography discovered by U.S. based Electronic Service Providers. Following a pilot program, INTERPOL Washington began full-scale distribution of investigative leads in May, 2014. To date, approximately 228,166 leads have been distributed to approximately 140 remaining INTERPOL member countries not currently serviced by a NCMEC or DHS VPN.
- INTERPOL Washington submitted over 40,000 images to the FBI "FACE" team for additional screening of INTERPOL Notices and Diffusions by facial recognition.
- INTERPOL's Headquarters in Lyon has ceased translating notices and diffusions from French and Spanish into English. As a consequence, INTERPOL Washington has absorbed the cost of translating diffusions, notices, and other INTERPOL message traffic.

- INTERPOL Washington receives no funding from participating agencies for operating expenses (such as guard service, telecommunication, equipment, and supply expenses) for their detailed personnel.

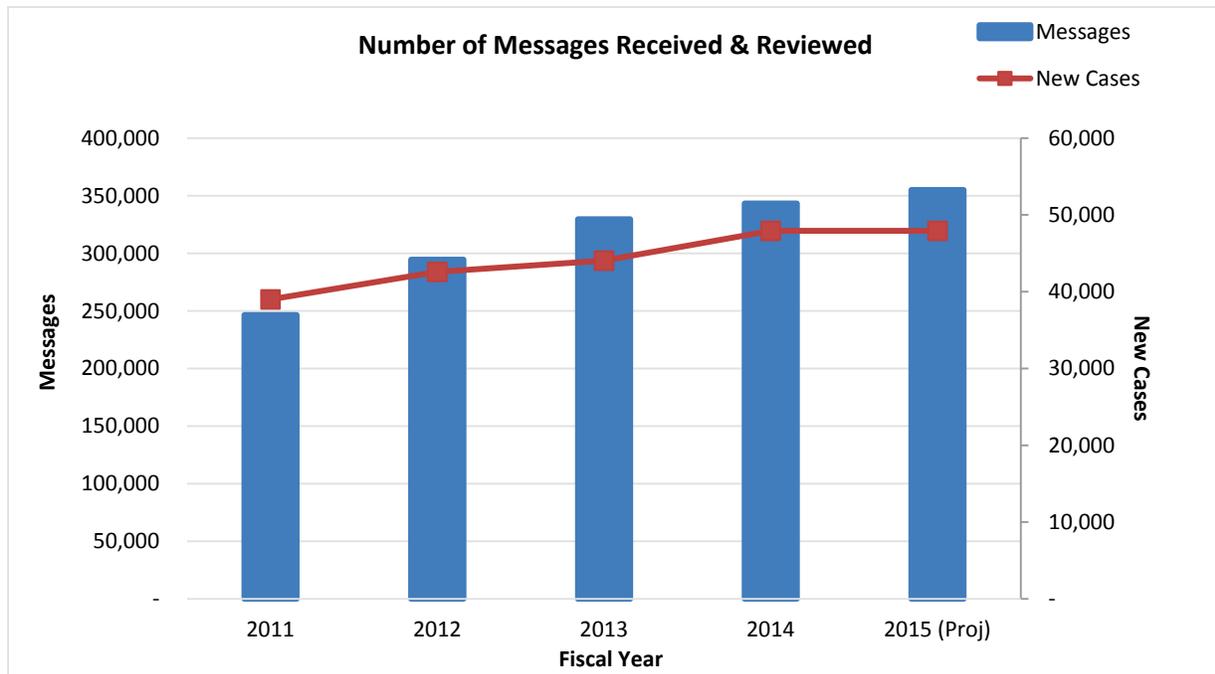


Figure 2

Funding U.S. Dues to the INTERPOL Organization

In October 2013, the INTERPOL General Assembly (GA) adopted a new model for the distribution of statutory contributions among INTERPOL member countries. This new scale incorporates the economic performance of member countries by averaging the INTERPOL scale and the United Nation’s scale. The United Nation’s scale includes various economic indicators including, Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Under the new dues structure, not only will the United States continue to pay the largest percentage but our contribution percentage will escalate markedly from 17.4 percent in 2014 to 19.4 percent by 2017 (Figure 3).

The U.S. dues contribution is paid in Euros (€) from INTERPOL Washington’s budget, and has increased from €1.23 million in 2001 to €10.11 million or \$14.5 million USD in 2016. The estimated dues contribution, as paid in U.S. dollars in 2016 represents **43 percent** of INTERPOL Washington’s annual budget. Moreover, the newly adopted scale will raise the U.S. dues contribution to €10.7 million by 2017, assuming that INTERPOL’s budget increases are consistent with inflationary rates. Although INTERPOL is pursuing alternative funding streams, it has indicated that it will seek additional annual increases to its budget to fund inflationary costs. The budgetary effect of these annual increases may be further compounded by the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the Euro, which impacts INTERPOL Washington’s ability to pay its dues commitment at either an advantageous or disadvantageous rate of exchange.

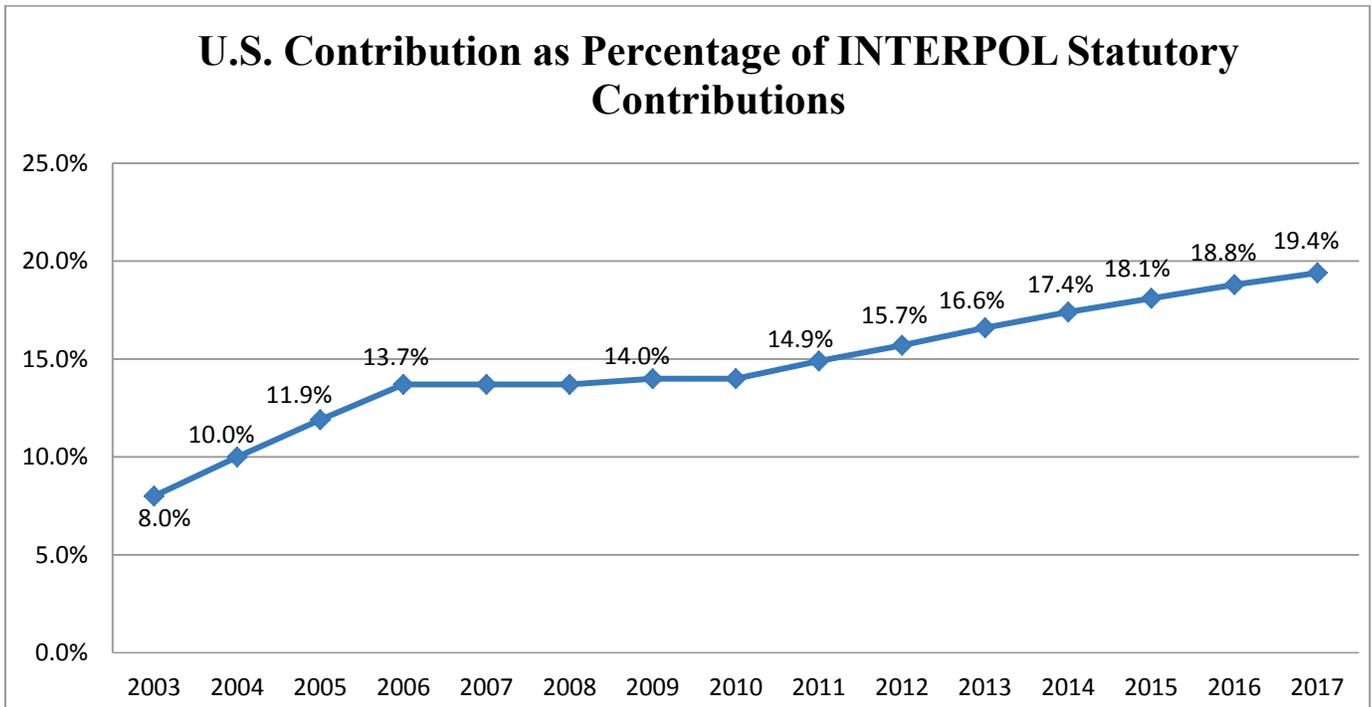


Figure 3

Internal Challenges:

INTERPOL Washington faces many internal challenges in FY 2016, primarily in regards to its analytical capacity and Information Technology (IT) infrastructure. These challenges also present INTERPOL Washington with considerable risks, such as an over-reliance on contractors in key analytical and IT positions. This practice makes INTERPOL Washington susceptible to factors such as annual contract renewals, and the challenges are exacerbated by an increase in the volume of information and data received from foreign and domestic law enforcement partners as a result of outreach efforts. This increase in volume has significantly outpaced INTERPOL Washington’s analytical capabilities, resulting in costly delays and backlogs.

A foreseeable shortage of analytical and IT staff exists, as approximately **14.2 percent** of INTERPOL Washington’s current permanent workforce will be eligible to retire over the next three years. Another internal challenge is that **28 percent** of its on-board workforce (excluding interns) is detailed from domestic law enforcement partner agencies. To mitigate the skills gap that may result from the retirement of its employees and the turnover of detailees, INTERPOL Washington must further develop the tools necessary to recruit, hire, train, and retain qualified applicants. In response to this urgent business requirement, INTERPOL Washington conducted a comprehensive assessment of its human capital and information technology program, which resulted in the publication of human capital, IT, and mission strategic plans to guide the organization through FY 2016.

E. Strategic Goals and Objectives

This request identifies specific outcome-based, strategic mission objectives that will continue to advance the mission of INTERPOL Washington. Achieving these objectives will move the

agency toward fulfilling its statutory mandate to secure greater cooperation and share information among law enforcement organizations throughout the world.

Linking INTERPOL Washington to the Department of Justice’s Strategic Plan	
Goal #1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation’s Security Consistent with the Rule of Law	Objective 1.1 Prevent, disrupt, and defeat terrorist operations before they occur by integrating intelligence and law enforcement efforts to achieve a coordinated response to terrorist threats
	Objective 1.4 Combat cyber-based threats and attacks through the use of all available tools, strong private-public partnerships, and the investigation and prosecution of cyber threat actors
Goal #2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law	Objective 2.1 Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent offenders and illegal firearms traffickers
	Objective 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims
Goal #3: Ensure and Support the Fair, Impartial, Efficient, and Transparent Administration of Justice at the Federal, State, Local, Tribal and International Levels	Objective 3.5 Apprehend fugitives to ensure their appearance for federal judicial proceeding or confinement

F. Environmental Management System

INTERPOL Washington will continue to implement its agency-wide Environmental Management System. The agency has adopted a policy whereby INTERPOL Washington personnel incorporate environmental stewardship into their decision-making and day-to-day activities. The policy mandates *inter alia*:

- Incorporation of environmental management principles into planning and budget preparation.
- Promotion and encouragement for all employees to practice energy conservation, waste stream reduction, and recycling.
- Compliance with applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations.
- Identification and reporting to the agency leadership any unsafe working conditions or environmental concerns.

II. Summary of Program Changes

Item Name	Description				Page
		Pos.	FTE	Dollars (\$000)	
Border/Transportation Security and Transnational Crime	Will authorize the additional positions necessary to handle the substantial growth in Command Center workload as a result of increased transnational crime and international terrorism	10	5	[600]	16

III. Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language

For proposed language change, please refer to the General Legal Activities Consolidated Justification.

IV. Program Activity Justification

A. INTERPOL Washington

<i>INTERPOL Washington</i>	Direct Pos.	Estimate FTE	Amount
2014 Enacted	77	64	32,000
2015 Enacted	77	69	32,000
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	0	1,437
2016 Current Services	77	69	33,437
2016 Program Increases	10	5	[600]
2016 Request	87	74	33,437
Total Change 2015-2016	10	5	1,437

<i>INTERPOL Washington-Information Technology Breakout (of Decision Unit Total)</i>	Direct Pos.	Estimate FTE	Amount
2014 Enacted	5	4	2,150
2015 Enacted	5	4	2,400
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	0	0
2016 Current Services	5	4	2,400
2016 Program Increases	1	.5	0
2016 Program Offsets	0	0	0
2016 Request	6	4.5	2,400
Total Change 2015-2016	1	.5	0

1. Program Description

INTERPOL is the world's largest international police organization and coordinates information sharing between its 190 member countries, providing a neutral venue where jurisdictions and mandates are interwoven to permit cooperation and assistance in combating international crime. Pursuant to its statutory authority, INTERPOL Washington, the U.S. National Central Bureau, facilitates international law enforcement cooperation by serving as a police-to-police communications and intelligence network for both American and foreign police seeking assistance in criminal investigations. In addition INTERPOL transmits information of a criminal justice, humanitarian, or other law enforcement related nature between domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies in INTERPOL member countries, and coordinates and integrates information in investigations of an international nature.

2. Performance and Resource Tables

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE												
Decision Unit: INTERPOL Washington												
Strategic Objectives: 1.4 Combat cyber-based threats and attacks through the use of all available tools, strong public-private partnerships, and the investigation and prosecution of cyber threat actors; 2.1 Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent offenders and illegal firearms traffickers; 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims; 3.5 Apprehend fugitives to ensure their appearance for federal judicial proceedings or confinement.												
RESOURCES			Target		Actual		Projected		Changes		Requested (Total)	
TYPE	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	PERFORMANCE	FY 2014		FY 2014		FY 2015		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2016 Program Changes		FY 2016 Request	
Program Activity			FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
	1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.5	Exchange of International Investigative Information/ Assistance	69	32,000	[]		69	32,000	5	1,437	74	33,437
Performance Measure:		New cases initiated	43,403		47,934		44,271				44,713	
Performance Measure:		Number of TECS/NCIC "lookouts" entered/updated	21,756		27,434		24,691				25,925	
Performance Measure:		Number of U.S. requested INTERPOL Notices issued	1,581		1,200							
Performance Measure:		Number of INTERPOL diffusions issued	240		190							
Performance Measure:		Number of "lookouts" issued to domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies on INTERPOL wanted/missing persons and suspects within 48 hours	8,874		16,649		14,984				15,733	
Performance Measure:		Number of locates on fugitives obtained through database queries or lead information provided by a foreign NCB	449		874		538				592	
Performance Measure:		Number of red notices published on U.S. fugitives and sex offenders	487		437		501					
Performance Measure:		Number of green notices published on U.S. fugitives and sex offenders	792		655		816					
Performance Outcome:		Arrests, extraditions, and deportations on INTERPOL Notices/Diffusions with a U.S. nexus	168		183		172				170	
Data Definition, Validation, Verification, and Limitations: INFORMATION REQUIRED: Use this section to discuss data terms, data sources, how the information is collected, how the information is verified, and data limitations to include how well the indicator measures performance in this area.												
TECS/NCIC "Lookouts" are defined as records created by the USNCB in the Department of Homeland Security's TECS and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center system. Both systems are checked at U.S. border entry points. By placing the entries, the USNCB is able to alert U.S. law enforcement to international wanted persons who may attempt to enter the U.S. The USNCB considers "locates" to be the identification, through queries or lead information provided by another country, of a potential address or location of a wanted fugitive. USNCB Workload and Performance data is collected from the USNCB Envoy system and the INTERPOL General Secretariat. Data is validated through manual random sampling. A continuing data limitation is the fact that USNCB is sometimes left out of the information loop once a fugitive is located and/or arrested by national authorities, making it difficult to track and report final outcome. The USNCB continues to make improvements to its statistical reporting.												
Note: The Performance Measures for Diffusions issued, and U.S. Notices Issued are discontinued in FY 15. Red, and Green Notices are blank for FY 16 as the USNCB plans to discontinue them.												

PERFORMANCE MEASURE TABLE										
Decision Unit: INTERPOL Washington										
Strategic Objective	Performance Report and Performance Plan Targets		FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014		FY 2015	FY 2016
			Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Target
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	Number of lookouts within 48 hours	7,587	8,882	8,036	9,334	8,874	16,649	14,984	15,733
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	Number of INTERPOL Diffusions issued	N/A	460	585	647	240	190		
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	New Cases Initiated	33,820	38,964	42,549	44,605	43,403	47,934	44,271	44,713
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	Number of US requested INTERPOL Notices	N/A	1,272	1,818	1,436	1,581	1,200		
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	Number of TECS/NCIC "lookouts" entered/updated	N/A	21,165	20,720	22,495	21,756	27,434	24,691	25,925
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	Number of locates on fugitives obtained through database queries or lead information provided by a foreign NCB	374	390	439	441	449	874	538	592
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	Number of red notices published on US fugitives and sex offenders	N/A	N/A	N/A	473	487	437	501	
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	Performance Measure	Number of green notices published on US fugitives and sex offenders	N/A	N/A	N/A	769	792	655	816	
1.4, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4	OUTCOME Measure	Arrests, extraditions, and deportations on INTERPOL Notices/Diffusions with a US nexus	143	146	165	145	168	183	172	170

N/A = Data unavailable

3. Performance, Resources, and Strategies

a. Performance Plan and Report for Outcomes

INTERPOL Washington will support DOJ's strategic priorities by executing the following functions:

- Coordinating arrangements for payment of mandatory INTERPOL member dues;
- Communicating and exchanging information between international and domestic law enforcement agencies;
- Ensuring that the interests of the United States are represented to the international law enforcement community;
- Identifying trends and patterns in international criminal activity;
- Providing leadership and expertise at global law enforcement symposia, conferences, and meetings;
- Extending access to INTERPOL data by U.S. federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies; and,
- Championing the greater use by U.S. federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies of International information and communication tools available through INTERPOL Washington.

INTERPOL Washington will continue to facilitate cooperation among foreign and domestic law enforcement by making it easier to obtain information and evidence needed to pursue fugitives and track criminal activity by leveraging authorized and existing information sharing environments.

b. Strategies to Accomplish Outcomes

INTERPOL Washington has formed strategic partnerships with U.S. law enforcement agencies that have assigned agents to INTERPOL Washington to initiate and respond to international inquiries. INTERPOL Washington further participates in such international law enforcement initiatives as: Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) and Fusion Task Force (provides link analysis on terrorist groups and individuals); Human Trafficking Programs; Project Cargo Net (maritime piracy); International Stolen Motor Vehicle Program; Cultural Antiquities Program; Stolen/Lost Travel Documents Program; International Child Sexual Exploitation Program, and the INTERPOL Bioterrorism Program. The Notice and Diffusion program builds member countries' capacity to rapidly identify and arrest known and internationally wanted individuals leading to their eventual extradition, deportation or prosecution.

INTERPOL Washington will also continue to use its expertise to assist in halting international parental abductions in progress, pursue child abductors, and locate child victims.

Through INTERPOL Washington, every law enforcement agency in the United States can contact police, customs, and immigration authorities in 189 other member countries. The anticipated outcome is the reduction of crime domestically and internationally.

c. Priority Goals

The following are specific examples of how INTERPOL Washington supports the Attorney General's Priority Goals:

Priority Goal 1: “Protecting Americans from national security threat”

National Central Bureaus representing more than 40 member countries have coalesced into a dedicated Foreign Terrorist Fighter program. This program currently supports a working group - an international symposia that serves as a vehicle for sharing information and best practices; a multinational fusion cell, and an analytical database populated with information contributed by and accessible to participating member countries. The criminal intelligence information contained in the database includes detailed identity particulars that are especially valuable to law enforcement and border control authorities in making determinations of the terrorist threat posed by subjects located in, or attempting to enter their respective jurisdictions.

At the start of the initiative in April 2013, there were only 12 messages or notices in the Fusion Cell’s database referencing Syria foreign fighters. Since then, the INTERPOL working group has met four times providing information on foreign fighters in the form of over 1,200 messages or notices.

Member countries have begun to integrate INTERPOL’s data into their respective border security and law enforcement lookout systems. As we all recognize, the sharing information on suspected foreign fighters is a critical, necessary tool to track, interdict, and hopefully prosecute suspected fighters. It is particularly paramount that transit countries receive timely information in order to interdict travelers.

Applied collectively, these resources provide a reliable platform for addressing the threat from foreign terrorist fighters by helping to monitor, deter and interdict their international movement. INTERPOL Washington is aggressively exploiting these resources in order to provide notification to other member countries and to communicate potential threats posed by individuals involved in terrorist activities. We have strategically used INTERPOL Notices to target, trace, locate and detain terrorists.

Currently, we have identified over 3,000 known terrorists who are subjects of INTERPOL Notices which include 885 suspects wanted on Red Notices that were previously unknown to the U.S. Government. Through our partnership with the FBI, this information was shared with the National Counter Terrorism Center for watch-listing. We also provided previously unknown supplemental information on 1,200 records and issued 1,005 Blue or Green notices targeting terrorism suspects. The value of this data - a large portion of which was unknown- is proof positive that the information contained within the INTERPOL system is important to the U.S. Law Enforcement and Intelligence communities and a key to continued homeland security.

Furthermore, to combat the growing threats posed by cybercrime and cyber-based attacks, INTERPOL Washington is working with INTERPOL to develop best practices and information sharing initiatives to overcome the inherent challenges to investigating, prosecuting, and disrupting cybercrime; develop capacity in its member countries; network and leverage INTERPOL’s global and regional resources in support of national efforts; and increase connectivity between U.S. law enforcement and foreign authorities worldwide. In order to meet these challenges, INTERPOL Washington is actively pursuing the development of training opportunities with INTERPOL and the DOJ to improve member countries’ use of the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) as a critical tool in support of global efforts to combat cybercrime; developing solutions to streamline the process of obtaining and communicating Basic Subscriber Information held by U.S. service providers, and transitioning the INTERPOL

Operational Expert Group on Cybercrime, which is chaired by INTERPOL Washington, from a planning and development body to a permanent entity that will drive the organization's strategic cyber direction. Through the newly established INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation and its Digital Crime Center, which is presently under the direction of a U.S. secondment from the FBI, INTERPOL Washington will also continue to promote the operational, technical, and investigative cyber capabilities of U.S. law enforcement and increase international cooperation in support of DOJ's National Security Priority Goal of disrupting and dismantling cyber threat actors.

Priority Goal 2: "Protecting Americans from violent crime"

INTERPOL Washington supports this priority goal by working with domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies to combat violent transnational criminal organizations and offenders. Its efforts include developing and exchanging criminal investigative information and intelligence designed to deny the illicit movement of and access to U.S. - sourced firearms, explosives, and ammunition by international traffickers, drug dealers, gang members, and terrorists. INTERPOL Washington's international data resources and communications network also support U.S. and foreign law enforcement agencies in investigating other violent offenses that include kidnapping, bank robbery, homicide, rape, and sexual assault. For example, INTERPOL Washington processes trace requests of U.S.-sourced firearms recovered or seized abroad for those member countries without electronic trace (E-Trace) capability and, through INTERPOL's secure I-24/7 network, and assists ATF's National Tracing Center with requests from member countries for assistance in tracing foreign-made firearms recovered in the U.S.

Additionally, INTERPOL Washington processes applications for Red, Blue, and Green INTERPOL Notices on subjects connected with a wide range of violent offenses. These subjects include deportees (including members of transnational criminal gangs such as MS-13) who have committed violent crimes, and members of outlaw motorcycle gangs (e.g., Hells Angels, Bandidos, Mongols, Vagos, and Outlaws). In addition to facilitating the location, capture, and removal of criminal fugitives, the publication of these notices supports the sharing of criminal intelligence and coordination of investigations and operations at a truly global level.

INTERPOL Washington also routinely facilitates emergency disclosure requests from internet service providers and online social media companies to prevent violent crimes in which serious threats of bodily harm, death threats, stalking, and extortion attempts are made using the internet, resulting in the identification, location and arrest of offenders posing a significant threat to persons and/or general public safety.

Priority Goal 4: "Protecting the most vulnerable members of society"

INTERPOL Washington provides substantial support to agency efforts to combat crimes against children. Using its exclusive authority, INTERPOL Washington has extended access to INTERPOL's online investigative resources to child sex crimes investigators from DOJ, DHS, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Forces, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). This access enables them to utilize INTERPOL's International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) database, a system that employs sophisticated software programs to automatically extract digital information from images and compare it to stored images seized worldwide. ICSE's performance capabilities enable users to initiate investigations online, comment on shared material, apply their unique knowledge of local circumstances, and consult and collaborate with their international counterparts. To date, over 3,538 victims from more than 40 countries have been identified

utilizing this database. Identifications increasing yearly as the database capabilities are propagated throughout the domestic and international law enforcement communities by INTERPOL as well as Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement entities. To date, there are 328 trained ICSE users world-wide. INTERPOL Washington continues to assist with coordinating/facilitating user training to increase database usage and knowledge.

INTERPOL Washington is using its exclusive authority to issue INTERPOL Green Notices as a systematic means of alerting domestic and foreign police agencies to the presence of serious child sex offenders travelling from abroad. In this regard, INTERPOL Washington's authority now includes the ability to publish Green Notices on U.S. citizens and Legal Permanent Residents with an international nexus that fit the definition of Tier II and III sex offenders under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), 42 USC § 16911(4).1. Complementing these efforts, INTERPOL Washington has entered into a partnership with the U.S. Marshals Service's National Sex Offender Targeting Center to identify, target, and track non-compliant sex offenders that travel internationally.

INTERPOL Washington has partnered with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in support of Operation Predator to identify foreign sex offenders whose crimes make them removable from the United States. This includes child sex predators, smugglers, and traffickers, as well as individuals involved in the distribution of images of child sexual abuse via the Internet. To date, INTERPOL Washington has published nearly 6,000 Green Notices in support of this operation.

Furthermore, INTERPOL Washington currently partners with U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations along with foreign law enforcement counterparts to assist in the identification and location of human rights violators and those formerly engaged in war crimes. INTERPOL Washington also partners with the ICE Human Trafficking and Smuggling Center to utilize INTERPOL notices and diffusions to identify subjects that are either suspected of or wanted for crimes of human trafficking and/or smuggling. Requests from domestic and foreign law enforcement counterparts are reviewed and entered into appropriate U.S. indices and are then disseminated to the INTERPOL community.

V. Program Increases by Item

Item Name: **Border/Transportation Security and Transnational Crime**

AG Targeted Priority Options: 1 – Protecting Americans from national security threats
4 – Protecting the most vulnerable members of society

Strategic Goal: 1 – Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation’s Security
Consistent with the Rule of Law
2 – Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American
People, and enforce Federal Law

Strategic Objective: 1.1 – Prevent, disrupt, and defeat terrorist operations before
they occur by integrating intelligence and law enforcement
efforts to achieve a coordinated response to terrorist threats.
2.1 – Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent
crimes by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate,
arrest, and prosecute violent and illegal firearms traffickers
2.2 – Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable
populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to
America’s crime victims

Budget Decision Unit(s): INTERPOL Washington

Organizational Program: INTERPOL Washington’s Operations and Command Center
(IOCC)

Program Increase: Positions 10 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 5 Dollars [\$600,000]

Description of Item

INTERPOL Washington requests **10 positions and 5 FTE** to support the Department’s efforts to prevent terrorism; combat and prevent violent crimes’ and protect vulnerable people. Given the significant increase in transnational crime and the risk associated with international terrorism resulting in a greater need for international law enforcement and cooperation and access to international law enforcement, INTERPOL Washington’s resources are woefully inadequate to screen and detect the illicit international travel of criminals and terrorists.

Justification

The INTERPOL Washington Operations and Command Center (IOCC) operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, responding to requests for international criminal investigative and humanitarian assistance from more than 18,000 domestic law enforcement agencies and their counterparts in 189 other INTERPOL member countries. These requests are processed via I-24/7, an encrypted virtual private network that facilitates secure, police-to-police interaction in real-time for investigative matters ranging from simple criminal history checks to health and welfare checks to the sharing of vital criminal intelligence and investigative leads targeting transnational criminals and criminal organizations. The IOCC via I-24/7 also provides access to

INTERPOL's global investigative databases, including INTERPOL's Stolen/Lost Travel Document database and the Travel Documents Associated with Notices system, a proven means of screening and detecting the illicit international travel of criminals and terrorists. With access to I-24/7, the IOCC is the lone conduit for sharing international law enforcement information regarding transnational crime and terrorism. ***This police-to police information sharing function is not provided by any other U.S. law enforcement agency.***

In FY 2014, the IOCC received 343,320 messages or an average of 28,610 messages per month. Based on Fiscal 2014 actuals, IOCC projects to receive 355,000 messages in FY 2015 (a 3.4 % increase). These messages must be reviewed, triaged, prioritized, queried, indexed, and entered into U.S. indices. Moreover, the IOCC must translate of all incoming Spanish and French messages, as well as, translate outgoing English messages into these languages in exigent circumstances. These time-sensitive activities are particularly important for diffusions and notice cases pertaining to terrorists, international fugitives, witness, and victims. On a monthly basis in FY 2014, IOCC analysts were responsible for the review and action of over 87,000 incoming messages, opening over 3,900 new cases, and distributing in excess of 9,600 messages on existing cases.

Stolen/Lost Travel Document Database

Not only is the IOCC the designated, INTERPOL entry point for sensitive, global law enforcement information in the United States, the IOCC also processes and responds to the queries by U.S. authorities of INTERPOL databases and information services, including the Stolen/Lost Travel Document (SLTD) database. Almost immediately after the disappearance of Flight MH370, international attention was focused on INTERPOL's SLTD database. As a result of increased awareness of SLTD and recent procedural changes to address passenger safety concerns, usage of the database by U.S. authorities has increased dramatically in a matter of a couple of months in FY 2014.

The SLTD database is queried and relied upon heavily by border and transportation security elements of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and consular authorities of the Department of State (DoS). INTERPOL Washington assists DHS and DoS in examining all passports and travel documents presented at U.S. borders or at U.S. consulates as part of their screening processes. Prior to February 2014, DHS screened travel documents of all incoming travelers on international flights. However, on March 12, 2014, in response to passenger safety concerns raised in the aftermath of the MH370 disaster, INTERPOL Washington implemented a new procedure to assist DHS in screening all outbound international travelers as well. This new procedure has resulted in an increase in SLTD queries by DHS of over 54% in FY2014. INTERPOL Washington is currently collaborating with DHS to further expand this program and develop a capability to screen the passenger manifests against the SLTD of all foreign flights performed by U.S. air carriers operating overseas and foreign air carriers performing overflights of U.S. airspace. Based on estimates provided by DHS, this additional screening process will result in 68 million new queries of SLTD each year; resulting in another increase of over 50% from our FY2014 levels and almost doubling the number of queries from our FY2013 levels.

These increased queries will necessitate an increase in the number of "hits". In 2014, U.S. law enforcement, border security, and consular authorities queried SLTD more than 286 million times through INTERPOL Washington. These 286 million queries resulted in over 37,000 "hits" against the database. While the overwhelming majority of "hits" were resolved by INTERPOL Washington administratively, a small number represented a serious, potentially criminal concern,

and were referred to the appropriate law enforcement authority for further investigation and resolution.

By extrapolating the actual increases identified in FY2014's data and annualizing it, we project processing approximately 400million queries against the SLTD, generating approximately 48,000 hits in FY2015 as a result of the procedural changes described above.

Sex Offender Travel Notification

Each year, millions of children fall prey to sexual predators. These offenders pose an ongoing and significant risk of re-engaging in sex offenses even after being released from incarceration or commitment, including by traveling internationally to locations where they may be less susceptible to detection by law enforcement authorities. In the United States, protecting the public from sex offenders is of paramount governmental concern.

In 2008, the U.S. Department of Justice convened a multi-agency working group whose purpose was to develop a comprehensive strategy for tracking registered sex offenders entering and departing the United States. To that end, in 2010 INTERPOL Washington amended its System of Records Notice (SORN) to enable it to issue Green Notices on U.S. citizens and Legal Permanent Residents who have prior convictions involving sex offenses and certain other violent crimes, and who may pose a threat to the international community.

Presently, there are an estimated 725,000 registered sex offenders in the United States. As such, it would be highly impracticable to issue Green Notices on even a small percentage of them. Consequently, INTERPOL Washington has targeted a population consisting of those sex offenders who are likely to travel internationally and who qualify as the "worst of the worst".

In addition to its use of Green Notices, INTERPOL Washington has partnered with the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) and other federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies, INTERPOL Washington plays a key role in providing notifications to 189 other INTERPOL member countries regarding convicted sex offenders that are planning to visit or relocate, or who are being deported. INTERPOL Washington has provided more than 5,000 such notifications since 2012. This partnership also extends locating and apprehending non-compliant fugitive offenders that flee overseas and coordinating investigations of fugitive sex offenders that flee to the United States.

Just recently, INTERPOL Washington has subsequently entered into discussions with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to screen all airline passenger manifests against the National Sex Offender Registry in furtherance of its existing traveling child sex offender notification program. These efforts when fully operational will ensure that U.S. law enforcement is providing more comprehensive information to our foreign counterparts regarding sex offender traveling internationally as well as address a recommendation made in the February 2013 GAO Report *Registered Sex Offenders: Sharing More Information Will Enable Federal Agencies to Improve Notification of Sex Offenders' International Travel*.

Under this new process, passenger flight information from CBP will be routinely screened against the national Sex Offender Registry database to identify traveling, convicted sex offenders. CBP will notify INTERPOL Washington, along with their current notifications to the USMS and ICE Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) of those travelers that are registered as convicted sex offenders. INTERPOL Washington will then send a secure message to the

inbound country advising of the impending travel with carbon copies to USMS, HSI, FBI and Department of State. Following the message, INTERPOL Washington will then issue a Green Notice for the convicted sex offender. This Green Notice will remain in effect for a period of five years, unless the offender is removed from the registry pursuant to legal, court action. The issue of the secure message helps foreign countries determine admissibility of the convicted sex offender. In those instances where a convicted sex offender is admitted into a country and purchases a ticket to a separate, unidentified foreign destination to possibly reoffend, the Green Notice will be in place to serve as a notification system to the ancillary inbound country.

These additional resources will allow INTERPOL Washington to issue messages and/or Green Notices 24/7/365 on traveling sex offenders. Currently, travel notifications made to INTERPOL Washington after normal business hours, weekends, and/or holidays, are triaged. Thus a delay may result in travel notifications being made *after* the convicted sex offender has already arrived in a foreign country.

INTERPOL Washington's publication of Green Notices on qualifying sex offenders to foreign countries through I-24/7 furthers those governments' interest in public safety and enhances strategies for crime detection and prevention against these offenders, including child pornographers, child sex tourists and facilitators, human smugglers, and those engaged in trafficking minors.

Impact on Performance

This initiative fully supports the Attorney General's Targeted Priority Goal 4 – Protecting the most vulnerable members of society and 1 – Protecting Americans from national security threats. INTERPOL Washington also supports the DOJ Strategic Goal 2 “Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and enforce Federal Law” and Objectives 2.1 – Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crimes by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent and illegal firearms traffickers and 2.2 “Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to America's crime victims.”

INTERPOL Washington's lack of existing resources to address the up-surge in time-sensitive messages associated with the Stolen Lost Travel Document database and traveling sex offenders not only jeopardize the public safety and national security of the U.S. by failing to identify, locate and remove terrorists and dangerous criminals but also the effectiveness of our working relationship with the other 189 member nations of INTERPOL.

The significant increase in transnational crime and terrorism has resulted in a greater need for international law enforcement and cooperation and access to international law enforcement information. INTERPOL Washington has an exclusive role in the United States law enforcement community that is not duplicated anywhere else in the federal, state, local, or tribal levels of government. These additional resources coupled with INTERPOL Washington's unique role and existing information sharing structure will provide for the timely communication of messages and notifications about the illicit international travel of criminals, sex offenders, and terrorists.

Funding

Base Funding

FY 2014 Enacted				FY 2015 President's Budget				FY 2016 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)
28	0	28	\$7,228	28	0	28	\$6,716	28	0	28	\$6,381

Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Type of Position/Series	Modular Cost per Position (\$000)	Number of Positions Requested	FY 2016 Request (\$000)	FY 2017 Net Annualization (change from 2016) (\$000)
Clerical and Office Services (0300-0399)	\$56	8	[\$447]	\$360
Clerical and Office Services (0300-0399)	\$97	1	[\$97]	\$45
Information Technology Mgmt (2210)	\$56	1	[\$56]	\$
Total Personnel		10	[\$600]	\$450

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non- Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2017 Net Annualization (change from 2016) (\$000)
Current Services	28	0	28	\$6,381	\$0	\$6,381	\$0
Increases	10	0	5	[\$600]	\$0	[\$600]	\$450
Grand Total	38	0	33	\$6,381	\$0	\$6,381	\$450

VII. EXHIBITS