



DANIEL P. MCCOY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

COUNTY OF ALBANY
VETERANS SERVICE BUREAU
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BUREAU/

SCOTT LESLIE
DIRECTOR

To whom it may concern, please see the Albany County Veterans Service Bureaus response to Budget Call Letter.

1. Identify the department representative appearing before the Audit & Finance Committee for your agency budget presentation.
Scott Leslie

2. Identify by line item all vacant positions in your department. **None**

3. Identify by line item any new position(s), how the position(s) will be funded and the reimbursement rate(s), if applicable.
Requesting a Deputy Director Position for 2026. This line will be 100% County Share.

4. Identify by line item any proposed salary increase(s) beyond union contract commitments. Include justification for the raise(s).
Salary increases will remain consistent with historic patterns and reflect the substantial growth in workload and programming commitments. The department has significantly expanded its services, developed and delivered an increased number of community events and initiatives for the Veteran community, and added staff requiring additional supervision. These expanded responsibilities justify an adjustment to the Director's salary to ensure compensation is commensurate with the increased scope of oversight, leadership, and after-hours commitments. The department routinely conducts outreach and community programs beyond standard business hours, including evenings and weekends, further supporting the proposed increase.

5. Identify by line item any position proposed to be eliminated or salary decreased. **One VSO1 Position has been eliminated.**

6. Identify by line item all positions that are funded by grant money, the percentage of funding provided by the grant, and indicate whether there is a commitment that the grant has been renewed for 2026. **The Directors position receives a yearly grant from New York State Dept of Veterans Services in the amount of \$35,000, the commitment continues.**

7. Identify by line item all job titles proposed to be changed or moved to another line item (e.g., reclassifications).
A VSO in our office went from a VSO1 position to a Temp Help Line.

8. Provide an itemized breakdown of specific expenditures regarding fees for service lines and miscellaneous contractual expense lines, and indicate 2025 budgeted expenditures compared to 2026 proposed expenditures.

2025 FEES FOR SERVICES	2026 FEES FOR SERVICES	2025 CONTRACT EXPENSES	2026 CONTRACT EXPENSES
FITNESS PROGRAMS \$30,000	FITNESS PROGRAMS \$30,000	March On	March On
WELLNESS PROGRAMS \$9,000	WELLNESS PROGRAMS \$9,000	Office Supplies	Office Supplies
VETERANS LUNCHES \$4000	VETERANS LUNCHES \$4000	Postage	Postage
FEMALE VETERAN PROGRAMMING \$3500	FEMALE VETERAN PROGRAMMING \$3500	Telephone	Telephone
HOMELESS VETERAN SUPPORT \$4000	HOMELESS VETERAN SUPPORT \$4000	Insurance	Insurance
FAMILY ACTIVITIES \$28,000	FAMILY ACTIVITIES \$28,000	Travel Mileage Freight	Travel Mileage Freight
PROFESSIONAL SPORTS EVENTS \$20,000	PROFESSIONAL SPORTS EVENTS \$20,000	Conferences Training Tuition	Conferences Training Tuition
E-SPORTS \$1000	E-SPORTS \$1000	Computer Fees	Computer Fees
FAMILY OUTINGS \$10,000	FAMILY OUTINGS \$10,000	Printing and Advertising	Printing and Advertising
		Fees for Services	Fees for Services
		Special Programs	Special Programs
		Photocopier Lease	Photocopier Lease
		Flags	Flags
		Association Dues	Association Dues
			Homeless Initiative
		DGS Shared Services Charges	DGS Shared Services Charges

9. Identify any new initiatives and/or eliminated programs, and reimbursements associated with those programs. **We've carved out a program in our budget dedicated to emergency assistance to Homeless Veterans.**

10. Identify all County vehicles used by your department. Include the title of any employee(s) assigned to each vehicle and the reason for the assignment of a County vehicle to that employee. **One Ford Focus is assigned to our department, the Director is responsible for the car.**

11. Provide a specific breakdown of the use for the proposed funding for all Conferences/Training/Tuition line items in your department budget. **We propose to send our Veteran Service Officers to a yearly training conference, this will cover airfare, hotel, food, tuition and meals.**

12. Provide a specific breakdown of overtime line items in your department budget, including the actual overtime expenditures for the previous two years. **N/A**

13. Identify by line item any positions that were established/changed during the **2025** fiscal year. **A VSO1 position was converted to a Temp/Per Diem line in 2025.**

14. Please describe the biggest risk your department faces and the actions you have taken (or will take in **2026**) to better understand that risk and mitigate it. **No risks identified.**

15. Please list performance indicators and metrics used by your department and current statistics for those metrics. **Our Departments biggest source of metrics and statistics regarding performance is our VetPro software. At this time, we've submitted more than 400 claims for benefits with the Veterans Administration.**

16. Note specifically all potential new unfunded mandates, regulations, risks to grant revenues, risks to reimbursement revenues, from any source. **N/A**

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Budget Presentations to the Audit & Finance Committee

- An explanation of how your budget proposal will meet the Department's needs for 2026.

The proposed budget focuses on increasing the amount of claims and accuracy of the claims we can submit to the Veterans Administration with the creation of a Deputy Director position. This position will focus on standardization of claims submissions and ensure professional education is maintained throughout the Department.

- Any new or major data points, programs, or initiatives that are financially driving the budget structure of your Department for 2026.

No

- Any significant staffing and/or structural changes or salary increases above the standard nonunion inflationary or contractual increases. This includes position reclassifications and salary increases above the cost-of-living adjustments.

Yes, the creation of a Deputy Director position is significant.

- Any significant increases in contractual costs above standard inflationary adjustments, and the rationale behind them. This can include increased costs of supplies, economic factors beyond the County's control, and/or additional workloads for staff in the Department.

No

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