

Office of the Correction Ombudsman
55 Farmington Avenue, Suite 427
Hartford, CT 06103

March 12, 2025

Appropriations Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700
Hartford, CT 06106

To: Connecticut Appropriations Committee

From: Connecticut Office of the Correction Ombuds

Subject: Revised Budget Request - FY 2026-2027

The Connecticut Office of the Correction Ombuds respectfully submits this budget request totaling \$1,354,392, encompassing essential expenditures across Personal Services, Equipment, and Other Expenses as detailed in our attached revised budget request spreadsheet.

This revised appropriation includes:

- \$1,283,076 for Personal Services to effectively staff our office and ensure the necessary expertise and capacity to fulfill our statutory obligations.
- \$36,324 designated for Equipment expenses, critical to maintaining operational readiness through vehicle fleet support, technology upgrades, and communications equipment.
- \$34,992 in Other Expenses, which covers essential operational costs, including organizational memberships, professional development, office supplies, and related travel costs.

The requested funding is essential for our office to continue providing independent, effective oversight of the correctional facilities, uphold transparency, and ensure the rights and wellbeing of individuals in custody.

We appreciate the committee's consideration of this crucial investment, which will directly enhance our capacity to serve the interests of justice, oversight, and accountability within Connecticut's correctional system.

Thank you for your continued support and attention to this request.

Respectfully,

DeVaughn Ward, Esq.
Interim Correction Ombudsman