

Division of Criminal Justice Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

- Do you have any reports on this unit that reoccur regularly? If so, can you send?

	<u>Cases Opened</u>	<u>Arrests Made</u>	<u>Convictions</u>	<u>Pre-Arrest Cases</u>	<u>Post-Arrest Cases</u>	<u>Recovery Amount</u>
FY 25	52	10	10	151	13	\$ 7,730,392
FY24	56	9	12	144	19	3,234,968
FY23	65	7	9	139	21	16,219,081
FY22	42	5	4	128	25	10,787,790
FY21	45	10	2	106	23	5,436,892
TOTAL	260	41	37	668	101	\$43,409,123

- I received a couple questions about case load, funds recovered/saved, etc.
- Was a nurse investigator for federal compliance ever hired? *No, the position was not filled.*
Can you provide any relevant details here? Salary, federal reimbursement, etc.

In its latest budget request, the Division of Criminal Justice (Division) requested the establishment of a Nurse Investigator job class. This request is in accordance with Title 42 CFR §1007.13(a) which requires the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) to employ sufficient professional, administrative, and support staff to carry out its duties and responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner to meet federal requirements. The MFCU is prohibited from relying on individuals not employed directly by the Unit for the investigation and prosecution of cases.

Per the MFCU's 2021 Inspection report performed by the federal Department of Health and Human Services-Office of the Inspector General (OIG), the Unit's staff levels are low in relation to the State of Connecticut Medicaid expenditures. Without a Nurse Investigator, the MFCU is hindered from identifying appropriate abuse and neglect referrals for investigation, which may result in significant deficiencies in the successful investigations and prosecutions of the offending providers and individuals.

The Nurse Investigator job class is necessary to review and evaluate abuse and/or neglect allegations and will provide the MFCU staff an essential resource for explaining medical terminology, medical procedures, expected standards of care, and differing responsibilities of health care providers.

The expected General Budget Fund impact will be \$92,500. However, 75% will be reimbursed by the Federal Government. The total bottom line General Fund Budget impact is only \$22,000.

- If not, is this still needed? *Yes, this position is still needed.*

I also have a (hopefully) quick question about Personal Services.

- Do you currently have a hiring freeze?
- Does the holdback in PS affect hiring/vacancies currently?

The Division currently has a soft hiring freeze in place to be able to meet the Office of Policy and Management's (OPM) mandated holdback of \$3.5 million for FY2026. In order to achieve the holdback number of \$3.5 million, the Division must freeze 38 vacancies.