

TESTIMONY

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Office of Attorney General

Government Services Interim Committee

August 6, 2014

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, you have before you a list of properties presently occupied by the Office of Attorney General. Each item includes the square footage, the staff, and the cost – both total and per square foot - of each property.

The list does not include various outlying offices occupied by the Bureaus of Criminal Investigation (BCI) around the state. There are 12 of those offices, with several more planned for the Western Counties. In most if not all instances these satellite offices are co-located with other law enforcement agencies.

Because of the ever expanding duties of BCI, the building at 4204 State Street, which used to house four divisions, now houses only BCI and our IT. With increased responsibilities in the areas of background checks and concealed weapons permitting the space requirements for BCI has increased to the point where we've had to move the Consumer Protection Division as well as the Fire Marshall's Division to other premises. It will soon become necessary to find IT a new home. A portion of the space, in the Judiciary Wing, soon to be vacated by ITD, would be ideal as we can move our servers from one secure area to another.

Predictably the space requirements of the OAG will expand. As North Dakota grows, more law enforcement personnel and support staff will be required in the areas of Criminal Prosecution and Natural Resources. For the same reason it is reasonably predictable that our recently new and state of the art Crime Laboratory may warrant an expansion.

The building occupied by the Natural Resources Division and the Civil Litigation Division is the only space which may yield addition offices, and then only if we ask the Racing Commission to seek other facilities – which we have.

In short, as the state grow, the requirements for public safety will grow. Predictions are hazardous, at best, as they presume legislative action. Having been a member of the Legislature I know that would be foolhardy. So what you have is at least a glimpse into a crystal ball, and at best an educated guess.

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CURRENT SPACE UTILIZATION AND NEEDS

Updated 8/1/2014

Location	Divisions	FTE's	Occupied Square Footage	A Lease Term	ANNUAL Rent	Rental Cost Per Square Foot
Capital Complex -- Ground Floor	Finance & Administration	5				0.00
Capital Complex -- First Floor	AG Administration, Finance & Administration, and State & Local Government	17				0.00
Capital Complex -- 17th Floor	Criminal Regulation, Gaming, and State & Local Government	21.5	11,448.00	2013-2015	\$ 125,570.12	10.97
4204 State Street, Bismarck, ND	Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Information Technologies and Fire Marshal	61	23,376.00	2013-2015	\$ 338,952.00	14.50
418 East Rosser Avenue, Bismarck, ND	Finance & Administration, Civil Litigation, and Natural Resources & Indian Affairs	21	10,000.00	2013-2015	\$ 96,000.00	9.60
1050 E. Interstate Avenue, Bismarck, ND	Consumer Protection & Antitrust and Lottery	19.5	8,300.00	2013-2015	\$ 121,263.00	14.61
250 N. 31st Street, Bismarck, ND	Fire Marshal & BCI agents	7	2,957.00	12/1/13 - 12/1/15	45,109.04	15.26
2441 E. Main Avenue, Bismarck, ND	Crime Lab	27	18,000.00	N/A Building Owned by Office of Attorney General	N/A Building Owned by Office of Attorney General	N/A Building Owned by Office of Attorney General
Total		179	74,081.00			

Current Average rental cost per square foot

12.99