

**Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents
Budget No. 188
Senate Bill No. 2022; House Bill No. 1024**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2017-19 legislative appropriation	40.00	\$17,983,876	\$2,946,747	\$20,930,623
2015-17 legislative appropriation	<u>40.00</u>	<u>17,105,184</u>	<u>2,295,914¹</u>	<u>19,401,098</u>
2017-19 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2015-17 appropriation	0.00	\$878,692	\$650,833	\$1,529,525

¹This amount includes a \$189,000 deficiency appropriation from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the purpose of defraying expenses relating to the provisions of Marsy's Law.

Item Description

Deficiency appropriation - In Section 1 of 2017 House Bill No. 1024, the Legislative Assembly provided a deficiency appropriation of \$189,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund to the Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents. The appropriation is for expenses related to the crime victim rights requirements of the November 2016 general election initiated measure No. 3, also known as Marsy's Law, which is now Section 25 of Article I of the Constitution of North Dakota.

Dakota Access Pipeline - In Section 2 of House Bill No. 1024, the Legislative Assembly provided \$1,027,000 from special funds received from the Adjutant General for pipeline protest trials related to the unlawful activity associated with the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Status/Result

The commission did not spend any of the deficiency appropriation.

Through March 2018 the commission has spent \$102,000 of the \$1,027,000 appropriation and does not anticipate spending the entire appropriation during the 2017-19 biennium due to fewer cases going to trial than anticipated. The total amount spent will be dependent on the number of cases going to trial throughout the biennium. As of March 2018 approximately 150 cases are scheduled to go to trial in late summer and early fall of 2018. The cost of these trials is unknown at this time. If any cases are delayed until after the 2017-19 biennium, the commission may request funding for Dakota Access Pipeline trial costs during the 2019-21 biennium.