Attorney General Budget 125 Senate Bill No. 2003

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2003-05 legislative appropriation	182.00	\$17,054,217	\$17,429,474	\$34,483,691
2001-03 legislative appropriation	160.50	14,879,731	17,635,022	32,514,753
2003-05 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2001-03 appropriation	21.50	\$2,174,486	(\$205,548)	\$1,968,938

Item Description

North Dakota lottery - House Bill No. 1243 establishes a North Dakota lottery and creates a Lottery Division in the Attorney General's office. The Legislative Assembly authorized six full-time equivalent positions for administering the lottery. The 2003 Legislative Assembly estimated that 2003-05 biennium general fund revenues from the lottery will total \$1,431,000.

State crime laboratory - The Legislative Assembly approved Senate Bill No. 2151 providing for the transfer of the state crime laboratory from the State Department of Health to the Attorney General's office.

Special operations team services - House Bill No. 1350 establishes a special operations team reimbursement fund of up to \$250,000 and allows the Attorney General to spend money in the fund pursuant to a continuing appropriation for reimbursing a city or county that provides special operations team services to rural areas.

Racing Commission collections - The 2003-05 biennium legislative revenue forecast projected general fund revenue collections of \$3,270,000 from taxes related to horse racing.

Salary equity increases - The Legislative Assembly provided \$241,024 of special funds for salary equity increases for attorneys in the Attorney General's office.

Status/Result

The Attorney General has hired the six full-time equivalent positions for administering the lottery. Lottery tickets began to be sold in North Dakota on March 25, 2004.

The state crime laboratory has been transferred from the State Department of Health to the Attorney General's office.

Through April 2004, a total of \$20,353 has been reimbursed to special operations teams assisting local law enforcement entities.

Due to the nonreporting of certain horse racing wagers of Racing Services, Inc. (RSI) during the 2003-05 biennium, and its subsequent loss of license to do business in North Dakota, general fund tax collections from horse racing during the 2003-05 biennium may be more than \$3 million less than projected.

Attorneys in the Attorney General's office received salary equity increases that averaged 7.5 percent in July 2003.