

Adequate Staffing for LOPD

- Over the last decade staff positions have been repeatedly reclassified to attorney positions to ensure that clients had attorneys.
- This reclassification needs to be rebalanced to ensure that attorneys are efficiently doing attorney-level tasks with appropriate level of staff support.
- Consequently, the FY2016 request was for 176 additional staff and 33 additional attorneys.
- The Law Offices of the Public Defender received funding for 30 additional staff positions for FY2016.
- The NM Sentencing Commission recommends that LOPD needs 61 additional attorneys, but additional staff will make a smaller number of attorneys more efficient.