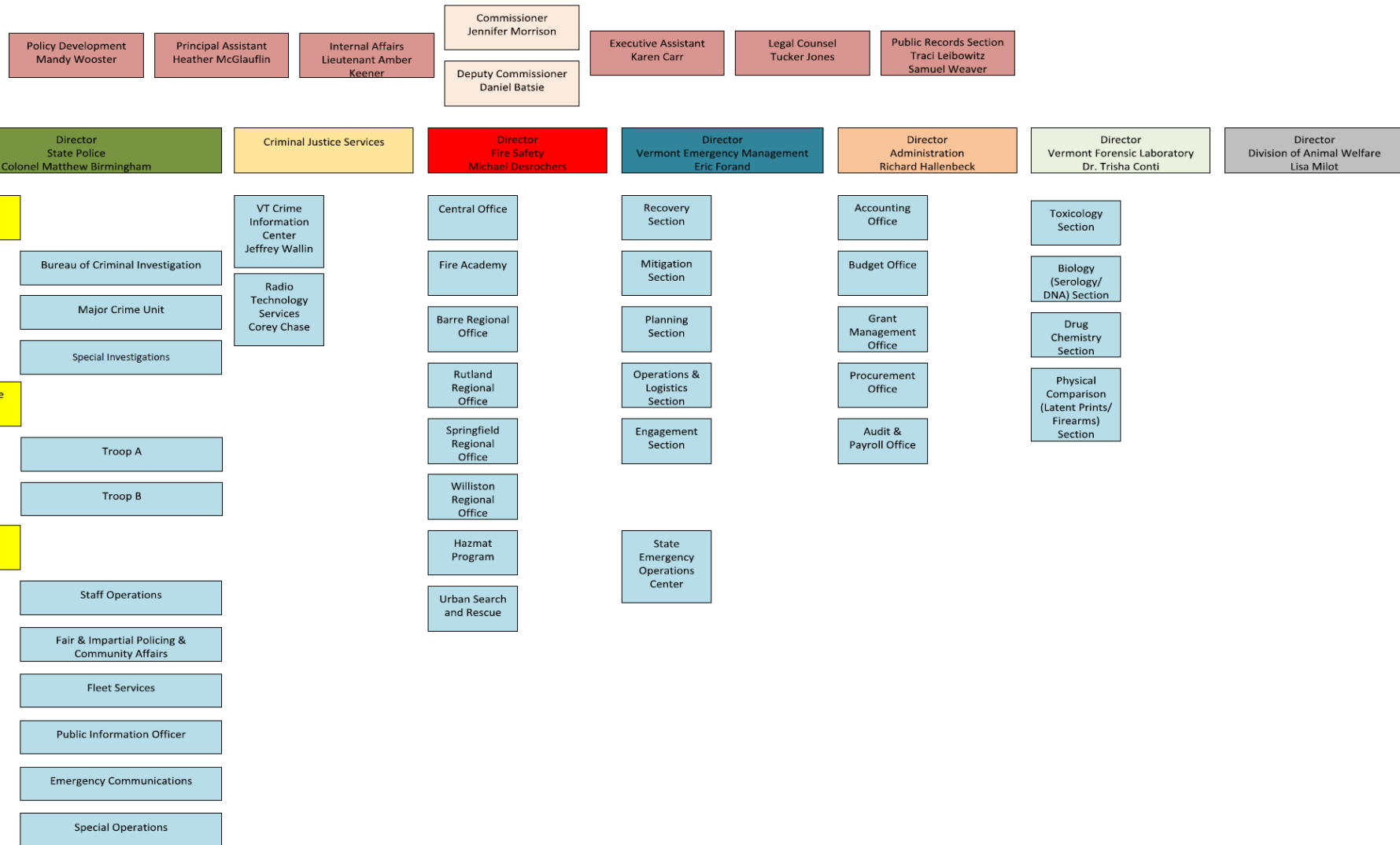


Department of Public Safety

Overview 2026



Department of Public Safety



VERMONT

Department of Public Safety



Division of Fire Safety

Executive Director Michael Desrochers

Sections:

Plumbing & Electrical Licensing
Building Codes – Permitting (numerous trades represented)
HazMat Team
Fire Academy – Pittsford
Urban Search & Rescue (USAR)
Fire Investigation Unit
Public Education

Subject Matters:

Rental Housing
Fire Safety Code
Electrical/Plumbing/Boiler/Elevator Licensing
Energy Efficiency
Short Term Rental
Fire Safety Training



 **VERMONT**

Department of Public Safety

DPS Priorities 2026

- Continue work on the Public Safety Omnibus bill from 2025
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Ongoing efforts to increase accountability
 - Other components are in the AHS portfolio
- Division of Fire Safety
 - Rental Housing Safety Code Enforcement





Vermont Emergency Management

Director Eric Forand

Sections:

Engagement Section
Operations and Logistics Section
Planning Section
Recovery Section
Mitigation Section

Subject Matters:

Management of Emergency Operations Center
Disaster Recovery/Public Assistance
Mitigation Project Management
Municipal Outreach and Support
Training/Exercise



 VERMONT

Department of Public Safety



Vermont Crime Information Center

Director Jeffrey Wallin

Sections:

Fingerprint Section
Record Check Section
Criminal History Section
Vermont Sex Offender Registry
Audit & Training Section (NCIC, NIBRS Data)

Subject Matters:

Fingerprint Supported Record Checks
National Crime Information Center (Warrants, Protection Orders, etc.)
Firearm Check Inquiries
Expungement and Sealing Processing
National Crime Statistics

Programs above support every law enforcement agencies statewide and VCIC processes all fingerprint submissions for licensing and employment in Vermont



Department of Public Safety

Radio Technology Services

Director Corey Chase

Subject Matters:

State Land Mobile Radio (LMR) networks

- Maintains networks for SOV agencies: DPS, AOT, ANR
- Maintains mobile and portable radios for SOV users
- Used by first responders from many non-SOV agencies

Tower sites

- Over 40 towers for LMR service, most on mountain tops
- Microwave network connecting towers
- Used by many local dispatch agencies for their LMR networks

DPS telephone system

- Over 700 lines including in PSAPs and DPS administrative offices

Interoperability

- VCOMM Interoperable LMR network for first responders
- Subject matter expertise support for local and county officials





Vermont Forensic Laboratory

Director Dr. Trisha Conti

Subject Matters:

- Chemistry (Seized Drugs, Clandestine Labs)
- Biology (Serology, CODIS, DNA, Sex Assault Kits, Forensic Nurse Examiners)
- Toxicology (DUI/DUID, DRE Program)
- Physical Comparison (Firearms, Toolmarks, Latent Prints, ABIS)
- Quality (Audits, Accreditation)
- Evidence (Chain of Custody, Evidence Storage)





Administration & Finance

Director Richard Hallenbeck

Sections:

Accounting Office

Budget Office

Grant Management Office

Procurement Office

Audit & Payroll Office

Federal Grant Programs

- Manage 31 federal grant programs from FEMA, ARPA, DOJ, BJA, PHMSA, etc. Disbursed \$114M during SFY 2024. \$95M in disaster grant funding alone. \$99M was passed through to subrecipients, serving 219 communities, private non-profits, law enforcement agencies, etc.



 **VERMONT**

Department of Public Safety



Animal Welfare

Director Lisa Milot

**New division to Department of Public Safety
Hired Director Lisa Milot in May 2025**

**First year priority to develop a comprehensive
statewide animal welfare plan.**

**Legislative report will be delivered to committees of
jurisdiction next week.**



 **VERMONT**

Department of Public Safety



Vermont State Police

Colonel Matthew Birmingham

Divisions:

Field Force Division

- Field Force
- Traffic and Recreational Safety Programs

Criminal Division

- Bureau of Criminal Investigation
- Major Crime Unit
- Technology Investigation Unit
- VT Homeland Security Unit (Intelligence Center, School Safety and Grants)
- Narcotics Investigation Unit

Support Services Division

- Special Operations
- Fair & Impartial Policing and Community Engagement
- Staff Operations
- Emergency Communications
- Fleet Services



DPS Priorities 2026

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Department of Public Safety

Public Safety Communications Task Force

- Legislative preview was circulated in Nov. 2025
- Comprehensive recommendations are currently under review.
- Expected circulation within 2-3 weeks.



Department of Public Safety

Other People's Priorities

- We are aware of numerous pieces of drafted legislation that intersect with our portfolio.
- We will track these and offer prompt feedback if any of them begin to move.



Department of Public Safety