

2018-2019 BUDGET QUESTION
Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Police

REQUEST NO.: 31

REQUESTED BY: Alter

DATE REQUESTED: 8/14/18

DATE POSTED: 8/20/18

REQUEST: Please provide the number of sworn Austin Police Department positions redeployed from staff assignments to operations in an effort to reduce overtime expenditures from FY 2017 to FY 2018 year-to-date. Also, please include how long this strategy will continue in your response.

RESPONSE: Due to a staffing shortage of more than 100 positions, the Austin Police Department (APD) implemented a mandatory backfill rotation program in July 2016 that included 452 detectives and non-patrol officers. The Department took this action to increase the number of officers available to respond to 9-1-1 calls for service from our residents. The detectives and non-patrol officers were required to work patrol for one week every four months and served as a stopgap measure to serve the public's safety and increase the number of officers on the street. This program continued for one year until July 2017 and was a necessary measure to maintain a strong base of officers working on the street due to the large number of vacancies at that time.

