

# FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE FLEET

## QUICK STATS

- ✘ **CONFERENCE:** Spending
- ✘ **TEAM:** Federal Protective Service
- **FUMBLE:** \$2.5 million mismanagement of vehicle fleet
- **HOW TO RECOVER THE BALL:** Institute greater oversight and cost reductions for the federal vehicle fleet

One federal law enforcement agency has a more generous vehicle give-away program than Oprah. A recent oversight report found that FPS has 101 more law enforcement vehicles than law enforcement positions at an additional cost of \$9,500 per year.<sup>208</sup>

FPS, which is under DHS, is tasked with providing security and law enforcement services to more than 9,500 federal facilities across the United States. To accomplish its mission, FPS commands a fleet of more than 1,000 vehicles, which costs American taxpayers more than \$10 million annually.<sup>209</sup>

A recent report by the IG for DHS found FPS failed to provide proper oversight and justification for its vehicle fleet size. In addition to the aforementioned excess vehicles, the report found that FPS did not have adequate justification for 32 administrative vehicles, that FPS overwhelmingly used more expensive SUVs without justification for the \$1.1 million in additional costs, and that it could not justify 1.2 million miles of home-to-work miles as essential to the agency's mission. In total, FPS's overly generous vehicle fleet policies have cost taxpayers an extra \$2.5 million.<sup>210</sup>

Interagency oversight is vital to ensure employees efficiently utilize resources to accomplish each organization's mission.<sup>211</sup> The

FPS report is emblematic of a larger problem within the entire federal government, namely the inability to effectively manage its \$4 billion vehicle fleet budget.<sup>212</sup>

According to a 2012 study by GAO, the number of federal vehicles, excluding postal and non-tactical military, increased about seven percent since FY 2005 (from 420,000 to 449,000 vehicles)<sup>213</sup> While these numbers have since decreased, there remain some very questionable vehicle holdings in the fleet, including: 54 SUVs and 18 heavy trucks for the Broadcasting Board of Governors, 63 vehicles for the National Archives, and 92 SUVs for FCC.<sup>214</sup>

## RECOVERY

Administrative and legislative efforts are necessary to address ballooning vehicle expenditures. One potential solution would be the enactment of S. 427, the Drive Less' Act introduced by Senator Jeanne Shaheen (NH). The bill seeks to reduce the federal fleet by 20 percent and save the taxpayers \$5.6 billion over ten years.<sup>215</sup> This is an important area for Congress to pick up the ball. Hard-working American families pay their taxes each year so their government can properly serve them and not buy vehicles by the truck load.

***For more information, please visit:***

[DHS OIG: The FPS Vehicle Fleet is Not Managed Effectively](#)

[GAO: Federal Fleets: Overall Increase in Number of Vehicles Masks That Some Agencies Decreased Their Fleets](#)