

## U.S. Department of Justice FY 2011 Budget Request

### PROTECT CIVIL RIGHTS AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

+ \$19.8 million in Program Increases

#### FY 2011 Overview

Throughout its history, the Department of Justice has helped safeguard the civil rights of all Americans by targeting discrimination through investigation, litigation, outreach, technical assistance and training efforts, and by providing guidance to federal, state, local and tribal agencies. The President and Attorney General have recommitted the Department to performing this historic role. As such, the Department is revitalizing its work in these critical areas. The resources requested for the FY 2011 Budget builds on the progress made in the FY 2010 Budget to restore the Department's unparalleled role in leading the enforcement of our civil and constitutional laws. Indeed, the FY 2011 Budget provides for increased enforcement of several Department priorities—including combating discrimination in lending and foreclosures, preventing employment discrimination, protecting voting rights, prosecuting bias-motivated crimes, and preventing crimes against children.

The FY 2011 Budget requests a \$19.8 million increase, including an additional 99 positions (43 attorneys and 4 agents), to protect civil rights and vulnerable populations. These resources will provide for increased enforcement of fair housing and fair lending laws and the expansion of the Civil Rights Division's voting rights enforcement program. The request also will allow the Department to enhance its hate crime enforcement responsibilities, including additional resources for the Community Relations Service. The Department's prosecution of hate crime incidents has increased over the last few years and the prosecution rate is expected to continue to increase as well. Also provided within the request are resources for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, INTERPOL Washington, and the Criminal Division to defend the basic rights of children to be free from exploitation. The FY 2011 Budget also will support the Department's ability to address significant challenges posed by international crimes and increasingly sophisticated child pornography offenders. These new resources will expand our capabilities for tracking convicted sex offenders, recovering missing and abducted children, and combating sex tourism.

#### **Program Increases**

#### **Civil Rights Division (CRT)**

- Discrimination in Lending and Foreclosures: \$2.1 million and 22 positions (12 attorneys) to address CRT's fair lending enforcement responsibilities by combating discrimination in lending and foreclosures. The need for strong federal enforcement has increased in recent years with the disproportionate targeting of minorities for subprime mortgages and other discriminatory practices. The Department has a leading role in the multi-agency federal and state effort to crack down on loan modification fraud, which includes reviewing loan servicing practices, loan modifications and foreclosures for possible discrimination. With the requested resources, CRT will devote additional personnel to protecting people from discrimination in lending and foreclosures. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are 12 positions (9 attorneys) and \$2.5 million.
- Voting Rights Enforcement: \$1.2 million and 14 positions (9 attorneys) to expand CRT's voting rights program. One of the most important areas of CRT's enforcement of federal voting laws concerns the thousands of submissions made each year by state and local jurisdictions seeking administrative preclearance for election-related changes as required by the Voting Rights Act. This area of activity is anticipated to increase as the release of the 2010 Census data prompts many jurisdictions to file redistricting plans that must be submitted for federal preclearance. The recent Supreme Court ruling in Northwest Austin will greatly expand the number of sub-jurisdictions that are now entitled to file an action seeking a bailout from coverage of the Section 5 preclearance provisions of the Voting Rights Act. CRT has a duty of representing the Attorney General in these types of lawsuits, and for enforcing the federal voting rights statutes that are aimed at guaranteeing American voters the opportunity to participate equally in fair and open elections free from discrimination. FY 2011 current services for this program are 118 positions (43 attorneys) and \$21.6 million.
- Hate Crimes: \$1.4 million and 15 positions (10 attorneys) to effectively investigate and prosecute hate crimes. The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) 2007 Annual Hate Crimes Statistics Report released October, 2007 reflects a marked increase of 40 percent in hate crimes over the last four years since 2003 targeting Latinos. For the past decade, of all reported hate crime offenses, an average of 15.7 percent were motivated by bias against sexual orientation. The number of sexual orientation bias crimes committed in 2008 increased by more than 10 percent over those committed in the preceding year. Based on the increase in hate crime activity over the last several months, CRT expects an increase in the need for resources devoted to investigating and prosecuting these crimes. In addition, Congress passed new legislation (the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009) that expands the reach of federal hate crimes laws and substantially increases CRT's workload in this area. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are 25 positions (14 attorneys) and \$3.7 million.

• Employment Initiative: \$1.5 million and 12 positions (10 attorneys) to address an increase in litigation demands related to employment pattern or practice litigation. The Department files these kinds of lawsuits when a person or business has engaged in a "pattern or practice" of discrimination against a group of persons that raises an issue of "general public importance." These suits are among the government's most effective tools in combating employment discrimination and were instrumental in desegregating the nation's police and fire departments in the 1970s and 1980s. Unfortunately, this important enforcement tool was neglected in recent years, and many public workforces are again beginning to show increased patterns of segregation. This request also provides \$375,000 for essential litigation consultants. FY 2011 current services for CRT's Employment Section are 60 positions (44 attorneys) and \$11.0 million.

#### **Community Relations Service (CRS)**

- **Indian Country:** \$176,000 for travel and training conciliators in tribal matters. CRS provides vital services to Indian Country during tense community events. There are no current services for this initiative.
- **Personnel Support:** \$672,000 to allow CRS to fill 4 Senior Conciliator positions. These are positions, which are currently within the allocated CRS position levels, but have been vacant due to budget considerations. The requested funding will allow CRS to fill these positions in order to more fully carry out its mission.
- Cold Case Conciliation Support: \$250,000 to provide technical assistance by bringing together law enforcement agencies and communities in the investigation of alleged violations of criminal civil rights statutes to comply with the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act of 2007. There are no current services for this initiative.

#### **Criminal Division (CRM)**

• Protecting Children: \$418,000 and 4 positions (2 attorneys) to support strategies for protecting children in the following areas: sex tourism, online child pornography, child prostitution, and nationwide law enforcement training. This new investment will strengthen efforts currently underway in the Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS). Currently, CEOS is leading efforts to develop a government-wide threat assessment in the area of sexual exploitation of children. Additionally, CEOS is creating a team of multinational expert working groups to facilitate the proactive investigation of online child exploitation crimes and to coordinate the international investigations of child sex tourism. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are 19 positions (12 attorneys) and \$4.7 million.

#### Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

• Child Exploitation: \$10.8 million and 20 positions (4 agents) to enhance child exploitation investigations and prevent child predator advances before they begin. Studies estimate between 200,000 and 300,000 children are being forced into prostitution at any

given time in the United States. The average age of a new child prostitute is 13, and the life expectancy after becoming a child prostitute is 7 years. The resources in this request will support the FBI's Innocence Lost field investigations, Child Sex Tourism investigations, and Innocent Images Initiatives. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are 811 positions (82 agents) and \$322.3 million

#### **INTERPOL Washington**

• Exploited and Missing Children: \$1.2 million and 12 positions to establish a child exploitation unit within the Terrorism and Violent Crime Division. The creation of a separate unit will address the 101 percent increase in requests for tracking convicted sex offenders from 2008 through 2009. Funding is requested for staffing to expand, enhance, and strengthen INTERPOL Child Exploitation efforts, including resources for combating sex tourism, tracking convicted sex tourism offenders, and recovering missing and abducted children. INTERPOL Washington is in the unique position to facilitate the sharing of information between U.S. law enforcement agencies and foreign law enforcement agencies in reference to the global fight against child exploitation. INTERPOL Washington has proactively developed initiatives to track convicted sex offenders, combat sex tourism, and work to eliminate the incidence of children exposed to violence. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are 6 positions and \$1.6 million.

# FY 2011 Program Increase Summary (Amount in \$000s)

|  | D 111            |               | -                |                   |
|--|------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Component/Initiative                       | <b>Positions</b> | <b>Agents</b> | <b>Attorneys</b> | Amount            |
| Civil Rights Division                      | 63               | 0             | 41               | \$6,283           |
| Discrimination in Lending and Foreclosures | 22               | 0             | 12               | 2,083             |
| Voting Rights Enforcement                  | 14               | 0             | 9                | 1,236             |
| Hate Crimes                                | 15               | 0             | 10               | 1,428             |
| Employment Initiative                      | 12               | 0             | 10               | 1,536             |
| <b>Community Relations Service</b>         | 0                | 0             | 0                | \$1,098           |
| Indian Country Conciliators                | 0                | 0             | 0                | 176               |
| Personnel Support                          | 0                | 0             | 0                | 672               |
| Cold Case Conciliation Support             | 0                | 0             | 0                | 250               |
| Criminal Division                          | 4                | 0             | 2                | \$418             |
| Protecting Children                        | 4                | 0             | 2                | 418               |
| Federal Bureau of Investigation            | 20               | 4             | 0                | \$10,838          |
| Child Exploitation                         | 20               | 4             | 0                | 10,838            |
| INTERPOL Washington                        | 12               | 0             | 0                | \$1,155           |
| Exploited and Missing Children             | 12               | 0             | 0                | 1,155             |
|  |                  |               |                  |                   |
|  | 0.0              |               |                  | <b>0.40 ■</b> 0.5 |
| <b>Grand Total, Program Increases</b>      | 99               | 4             | 43               | \$19,792          |