

# U.S. Attorneys (USA)

FY 2011 Budget Request At A Glance		
FY 2010 Enacted:	\$1,934 million (10,629 positions; 5,451 attorneys)	
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$84.9 million (4.4% above FY 2010 enacted)	
Program Changes:	+\$22.4 million	
FY 2011 Budget Request:	\$2,041 million (10,731 positions; 5,519 attorneys)	
Change from FY 2010 Enacted:	+\$107.3 million (+5.5%) (+102 positions; +68 attys)	

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### Mission:

The United States Attorneys (USAs) serve as the nation's principal litigators under the direction of the Attorney General. They provide advice and counsel to the Attorney General and senior policy leadership through the Attorney General's Advisory Committee (AGAC) and its various subcommittees. The Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys provides the USAs with general executive assistance and direction, policy development, administrative management direction and oversight, operational support, and coordination with other components of the Department and other federal agencies.

#### **Resources:**

in millions

The budget request for FY 2011 totals \$2,041 million, which is a 5.5 percent increase from the FY 2010 Enacted level.

### Organization:

There are 93 U.S. Attorneys located throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. USAs are appointed by, and serve at the discretion of, the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate. One U.S. Attorney is assigned to each of the judicial districts, with the exception of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands where a single U.S. Attorney serves both districts. Each U.S. Attorney is the chief federal law enforcement officer of the U.S. within his or her particular jurisdiction. The Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys was created on April 6, 1953, by AG Order 8-53, to provide for close liaison between the Department of Justice (DOJ) in Washington, DC, and the 93 U.S. Attorneys.

### Personnel:

USAs' authorized positions for FY 2011 total 10,731 positions, including 5,519 attorneys. Of the total authorized positions, 10,408 are located in domestic field offices. USA's FY 2011 request includes an increase of 102 positions, including 68 attorneys, over the FY 2010 level of 10,629 direct authorized positions.



## Funding (FY 2001 - 2011)

2010

\$1,934

2011

\$2,041

## Personnel (FY 2001 - 2011)



\* Includes reimbursable attorneys

For 2011 the U.S. Attorneys will focus their efforts on a range of financial fraud offenses, including mortgage fraud, corporate fraud, and official corruption. While financial fraud has shaken the world's confidence in the U.S. financial system, prosecutorial efforts can provide a deterrent to those who would engage in these activities, as well as a means of recovering funds for fraud victims.

Caseload for financial fraud is expected to increase substantially due to the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). With this legislation, the U.S. is facing the largest infusion of government funds over the shortest period of time in our nation's history, making it likely that opportunists will attempt to criminally defraud industry and government The U.S. Attorney's Offices (USAOs) must financiers. proactively deter financial fraud activities that will accompany the financial recovery program. Regarding mortgage fraud, USA notes that FBI reviews of Suspicious Activity Reports on mortgage fraud trends have shown an 80% increase in fraud reports from FY 2005-FY 2008, and further increases are projected in the continuing fallout of the collapse of the housing market and due to significant increases in FBI resources for mortgage fraud investigations.

FY 2011 also brings challenges in the fight against International Organized Crime. The objective of the Department's Law Enforcement Strategy to Combat International Organized Crime is to significantly disrupt and dismantle those international criminal organizations posing the greatest threat to the United States, including, but not limited to, those criminal organizations named to the Top International Criminal Organizations Target (TICOT) List.

Recent legislative changes and amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure have also led to an increase in the number and expense of civil defensive cases. Civil defensive caseload (where the United States or federal employees are the defendants) cannot be declined.

USA also requires additional E-Discovery support personnel to handle electronic document discovery during litigation.

### FY 2011 Program Changes:

Combating Financial and Mortgage Fraud: \$17.2 million and 109 positions (88 attorneys) to combat numerous White Collar Crimes, especially mortgage fraud, corporate and securities fraud, and financial fraud and public corruption related to the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) spending. The number of Assistant United States Attorneys available to investigate and prosecute financial fraud cases has not kept pace with the growing caseload in these areas. Moreover, it is critical that our USAOs build the capacity to handle the increased demand for financial fraud prosecutions relating to the financial crises (e.g., the influx of Ponzi-scheme investigations) and the government recovery This request annualizes \$10.6 million and 55 efforts. positions (45 attorneys) originally provided as a one time supplemental funds in FY 2009. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are captured under the White Collar Crime reporting category, which totals 2,262 positions (1,476 attorneys) and \$305.2 million.

**IOC Organized Crime Strike Forces:** \$881,000 and 8 positions (5 attorneys) to increase staffing for the Executive Office of the United States Attorneys Organized Crime Strike Forces. The new Strike Force positions will be located strategically in cities where IOC poses a known threat. The current services for this initiative are 104 Assistant U.S. Attorneys working in 21 established Strike Forces.

**Preserving Justice Initiative:** \$3.4 million and 30 positions (20 attorneys) to support civil defensive litigation. Despite increasing caseloads of over 97 percent between FY 2000 and FY 2008 in some areas, no new funding has been enacted for additional civil defensive Assistant U.S. Attorney positions in more than 20 years. Additionally, continued increases in case filings are likely due to recent legislative changes and amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which also increase the complexity and costliness of the cases. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are 683 positions (442 attorneys) and \$94.0 million.

**E-Discovery:** \$2.0 million and 12 positions (2 attorneys) for electronic discovery and litigation support. There are no current services for E-Discovery.

**Travel Management Efficiencies:** The Department is continually evaluating its programs and operations with the goal of achieving across-the-board economies of scale that result in increased efficiencies and cost savings. In FY 2011, DOJ is focusing on travel as an area in which savings can be achieved. For the U.S. Attorneys, travel or other management efficiencies will result in offsets of \$1,166,000. This offset will be applied in a manner that will allow the continuation of effective law enforcement program efforts in support of Presidential and Departmental goals, while minimizing the risk to health, welfare and safety of agency personnel.

	Financial	Snapshot	2009
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Clean Opinion on Financial Statements	Yes
Timely Financial Reporting	Yes
Material Weaknesses	None