



## Administrative Review and Appeals Office of Pardon Attorney (OPA)

### FY 2013 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2012 Enacted:	\$2.7 million (15 positions; 7 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$25,000
Program Changes:	+\$45,000
FY 2013 Budget Request:	\$2.8 million (15 positions; 7 attorneys)
Change From FY 2012 Enacted:	+\$70,000 (+2.6%)

#### Mission:

The Office of the Pardon Attorney, in consultation with the Attorney General or his designee, assists the President in the exercise of his executive clemency power as authorized under Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution. Under the Constitution, the President's clemency power extends only to federal criminal offenses. All requests for executive clemency for federal offenses are directed to the Pardon Attorney for investigation and review. The Pardon Attorney prepares the Department's recommendation to the President for final disposition of each application. Executive clemency may take several forms including pardon, commutation of sentences, remission of fine or restitution, and reprieves.

#### Resources:

The FY 2013 budget request for OPA totals \$2.8 million, which is a 2.6% increase over the FY 2012 Enacted.

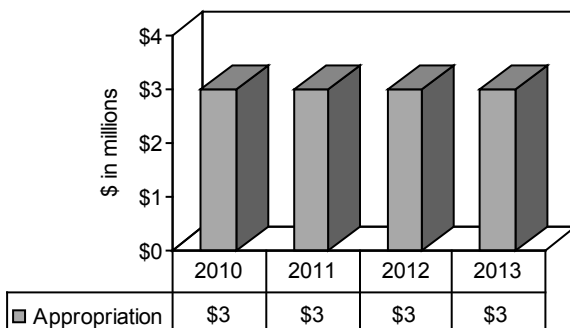
#### Organization:

OPA is headed by the Pardon Attorney who is appointed by the Attorney General. The Office is located in Washington, DC.

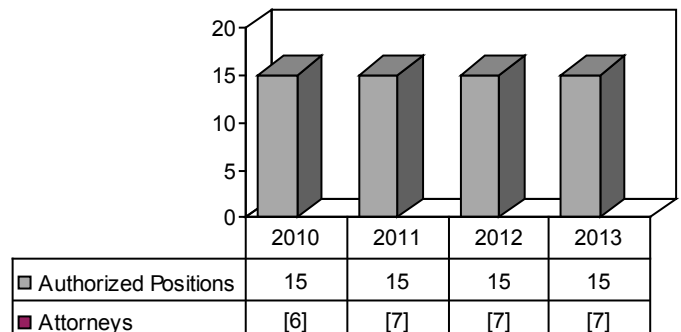
#### Personnel:

The OPA's direct authorized positions for FY 2013 total 15 positions and is the same as FY 2012 Enacted.

**Funding (FY 2010 - 2013)**



**Personnel (FY 2010 - 2013)**



**FY 2012 Strategy:**

OPA maintains in paper records and on compact discs, copies of documents signed by Presidents from George Washington through the current President granting pardons or other forms of clemency.

OPA faces external and internal challenges. Starting in FY 2008, the number of applications for executive clemency submitted to the Office of the Pardon Attorney for processing grew to exceed 2,000 petitions annually, a historically high amount. This trend of approximately 2,000 annual filings has continued in each subsequent fiscal year. During FY 2011, OPA received 331 pardon applications and 1,585 commutation applications, for a total of 1,916 new petitions.

While the submission of pardon applications has begun to level off to more normal levels (approximately 300), the numbers of petitions for commutation of sentence are likely to remain extremely high for the foreseeable future, due to the growth of the federal prison population, the elimination of other possibilities of release such as parole, and the variety of federal crimes subject to mandatory minimum sentences.

In addition to the volume of new cases, many of the letters of advice prepared by OPA are, of necessity, more detailed than was common in the past. There have been significant increases in media and public interest in clemency matters, and particularly in specific grants or denials of clemency by the President.

**FY 2012 Program Changes:**

**Pardons & Commutations Increase:** \$45,000 and 0 positions

For additional support to achieve OPA's mission of advising and assisting the President in the exercise of his executive clemency power. These additional resources will help OPA address its increasing caseload and growing number of pardon and commutation applications received and reviewed annually. The FY 2013 current services for this initiative are 15 positions (7 attorneys) and \$2.75 million.

**Office of Pardon Attorney**  
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Office of Pardon Attorney		
	Pos	FTE	Amount
<b>2011 Enacted</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,725</b>
<b>2012 Enacted</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,725</b>
<b>2013 Request</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,795</b>
<b>Change 2013 from 2012 Enacted</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Technical Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Technical Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Adjustments to Base</b>			
<b>Increases:</b>			
ATB Transfers	0	0	-12
Pay & Benefits	0	0	29
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	8
Subtotal Increases:	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Decreases:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Adjustments to Base</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Total Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>2013 Current Services</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,750</b>
<b>Program Changes</b>			
<b>Increases:</b>			
Pardons & Commutations Increase	0	0	45
Subtotal, Program Increase	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Decreases:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Program Changes</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>2013 Request</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,795</b>
<b>Change 2013 from 2012 Enacted</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>

**Office of Pardon Attorney**  
(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2012 Enacted			2013 Current Services		
	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount
Office of the Pardon Attorney	15	15	2,725	15	15	2,750
<b>Total</b>	15	15	2,725	15	15	2,750
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	15	15	2,725	15	15	2,750

Comparison by activity and program	2013 Total Program Changes			2013 Request		
	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount
Office of the Pardon Attorney	0	0	45	15	15	2,795
<b>Total</b>	0	0	45	15	15	2,795
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	0	0	45	15	15	2,795