

# U.S. Department of Justice FY 2014 Budget Request

# CIVIL RIGHTS

### +\$7.5 million in Program Increases

### FY 2014 Overview

It is the mission of DOJ to uphold the civil and constitutional rights of all Americans, particularly the most vulnerable members of our society. Accomplishing this requires necessary resources both to investigate and to litigate. The Department's civil rights efforts are enforced by the Civil Rights Division, Community Relations Service, Criminal Division, FBI, INTERPOL-Washington, OJP, Office of the Inspector General, and the U.S. Attorneys' Offices.

The Department maintains substantial responsibilities with respect to enforcing the Nation's civil rights laws and protecting vulnerable populations. The FY 2014 Budget will support the Department's vigorous enforcement of federal civil rights laws – including human trafficking, hate crimes, police misconduct, fair housing, fair lending, disability rights, and voting. As such, the DOJ FY 2014 Budget requests \$258.6 million to help meet the Nation's civil rights challenges. The request includes an additional \$7.5 million in program increases for the Civil Rights Division and Community Relations Service.

For the Civil Rights Division, the FY 2014 Budget request includes \$7.0 million and 70 positions for programs that require further investment and to support areas the Attorney General has determined warrant specific attention. In particular, \$5.1 million and 50 positions (including 25 attorneys) are requested to strengthen civil rights enforcement efforts across all programmatic areas, specifically human trafficking, hate crimes, voting rights enforcement, and enforcement of the Civil Rights for Institutionalized Persons Act. In addition, \$1.9 million and 20 positions (including 9 attorneys) are requested to expand civil and criminal enforcement efforts in combating police misconduct. The Division is also included in the Department's Financial and Mortgage Fraud Initiative.

For the Community Relations Service, the Budget includes an increase of \$547,000 and 8 positions to support an increase in workload and responsibilities related to the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA). The HCPA has greatly expanded the Service's mandate, requiring the Service to help communities prevent and respond to violent hate crimes committed on the basis of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability in addition to race, color, and national origin. The additional resources will maximize the Service's crisis response across the entire United States and enable it to fulfill both its original mandate and expanded mandate under the HCPA.

# **Program Increases**

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

#### • Civil Rights Enforcement: \$5.1 million and 50 positions (25 attorneys)

The Department is requesting additional resources of 50 positions (25 attorneys) and \$5.1 million to strengthen civil rights enforcement efforts that the Attorney General has identified as part of his Vulnerable People Priority Goal and for other programs that require renewed emphasis. The requested increase would benefit all programmatic areas and specifically enable CRT to increase its efforts against civil rights violations associated with human trafficking, hate crimes, voting rights enforcement, and enforcement of CRIPA. In addition, CRT would be able to expand opportunities for people with disabilities, and broaden overall protections for equal education, equal housing, and equal employment. These are areas that the Attorney General has determined warrant specific attention and has identified as part of his Vulnerable People Priority Goal. The FY 2013 President's Budget included this request; the FY 2014 President's Budget includes the same request in the same amount. FY 2014 current services for this initiative are 714 positions (383 attorneys) and \$146.7 million.

• Financial and Mortgage Fraud: \$1.5 million and 15 positions (10 attorneys) CRT will expand civil enforcement efforts, including investigations of predatory lending; pricing discrimination matters involving allegations of potentially fraudulent behavior; and redlining discrimination involving allegations that reputable lenders failed to provide loan opportunities on an equal basis in majority-minority neighborhoods leaving those markets open to fraudulent or predatory lenders. The FY 2013 President's Budget included this request; the FY 2014 President's Budget includes the same request in the same amount. FY 2014 current services for this initiative are 12 positions (9 attorneys) and \$1.4 million.

• Police Misconduct Enforcement: \$1.9 million and 20 positions (9 attorneys) The Department is requesting additional resources of 20 positions (9 attorneys) and \$1.9 million to expand CRT's efforts in combating police misconduct. Criminal prosecutions will focus on the conduct of individuals and they address the most egregious incidents of police misconduct. Civil pattern or practice investigations will focus on systemic problems within police departments and unlawful conduct. Additionally, CRT will initiate Title VII litigation against police departments where there is reason to believe that a "pattern or practice" of discrimination exists. CRT will use its enhanced resources to take a multifaceted approach in combating police misconduct. CRT will use its law enforcement arsenal to ensure police officers, and police departments as a whole, are carrying out their missions lawfully. FY 2014 current services for this initiative are 71 positions (52 attorneys) and \$12.2 million.

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

#### • Hate Crime Prevention and Response: \$547,000 and 8 positions

This request supports additional staff for CRS to ensure that the capacity of law enforcement and community leaders to respond to and prevent violent hate crimes is not impaired. CRS's caseload associated with responding to alleged hate crimes on the basis of race, color, or national origin as well as on the basis of the newly added categories of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability has dramatically increased. With the additional resources, CRS will be able to address increasing hate-related activity and bring law enforcement officials, advocacy groups, and individual community members to the table in a way that creates lasting stability and harmony and enables those communities to address future conflicts without outside assistance. The FY 2013 President's Budget included this request; the FY 2014 President's Budget includes the same request but in a different amount. The current request is higher because we have re-examined the need and adjusted the amount requested accordingly. FY 2014 current services for this initiative are 9 positions and \$1.9 million.

### FY 2014 Program Increase Summary (Amount in \$000s)

Component/Initiative	Positions	Attys	Amount
Civil Rights Division	70	34	\$7,000
Civil Rights Enforcement	50	25	\$5,072
[Financial and Mortgage Fraud] <sup>*</sup>	[15]	[10]	[\$1,500]
Police Misconduct	20	9	\$1,928
Community Relations Service	8	0	\$547
Hate Crime Prevention and Response	8	0	547
Grand Total, Program Increases	78	34	\$7,547

<sup>\*</sup>This ispart of the Department's Financial and Mortgage Fraud initiative and is not included in the Civil Rights program increases total.