



General Legal Activities Office of Dispute Resolution (ODR)

FY 2010 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2009 Enacted:	\$574,000 (3 positions; 2 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$228,000 (39.7% above FY 2009 Enacted)
Program Changes:	+\$0
FY 2010 Budget Request:	\$802,000 (3 positions; 2 attorneys)
Change from FY 2009 Enacted:	+\$228,000 (+39.7%)

Mission:

ODR's mission is to promote and facilitate the broad and effective use of alternative dispute resolution processes by the Department of Justice and throughout the executive branch of the Federal Government.

Resources:

The budget request for FY 2010 totals \$802,000, for direct salaries and expenses, which is a 39.7 percent increase from the FY 2009 enacted level.

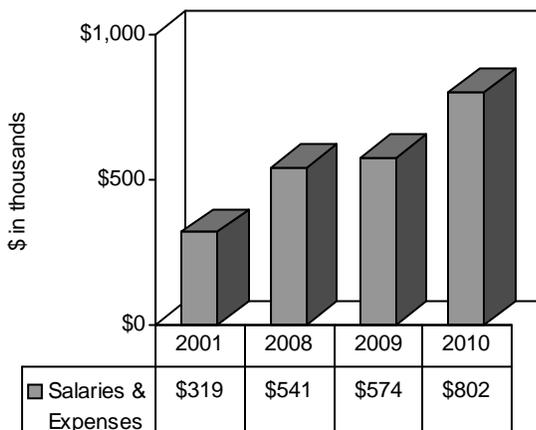
Organization:

On April 6, 1995, Attorney General Order 1160.1 was issued creating ODR for the purpose of promoting a broader use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in appropriate cases for more effective resolution of litigation and other disputes involving the Federal Government. In 1998, Congress passed legislation requiring the federal district courts to make ADR processes available to parties for all civil cases filed. Shortly thereafter, a Presidential Memorandum created an interagency ADR Working Group, headed by the Attorney General, which develops policy and reports regularly to the President on current ADR programs throughout the Federal Government. ODR is headed by a Director who is appointed by the Associate Attorney General.

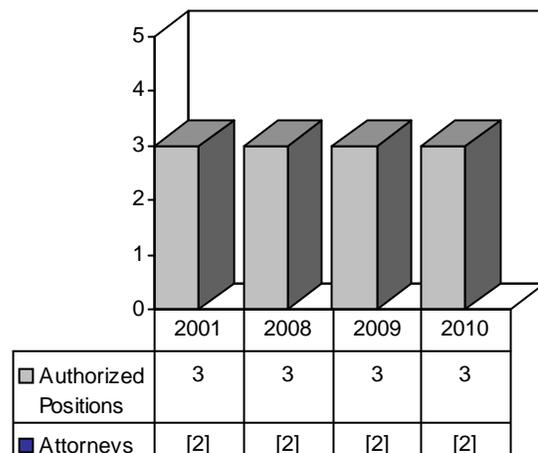
Personnel:

ODR's direct authorized positions for FY 2010 total 3 positions, including 2 attorneys. All the authorized positions are located in Washington, D.C. While the FY 2010 request does not include an increase in the number of authorized positions, funding is provided to ensure ODR may staff up to its authorized position ceiling.

Funding (FY 2001 - 2010)



Personnel (FY 2001 - 2010)



*Includes reimbursable attorneys

FY 2010 Strategy:

As the largest user of the federal court system, the Department employs over ten thousand attorneys and represents virtually all of the executive branch agencies. The Attorney General is responsible for facilitating and encouraging the use of ADR by all executive branch agencies and periodically reporting to the President regarding advances in ADR programs and usage in managing the government’s business cost-effectively and maximizing resources. ODR trains Department Attorneys, including Assistant United States Attorney’s (AUSA) in effective ADR techniques. After training sessions ODR evaluates the impact of training on trends of ADR usage. Department litigating attorneys and the AUSAs are provided the skills, advice and counseling on how to use ADR in an effective manner. The training provided by ODR promotes the effective use of ADR in appropriate cases, which translates into measurable benefits (both cost and time savings) to the Department. Additionally, ODR represents the Department before foreign delegations and private legal, businesses and other constituencies on federal ADR.

In FY 2007, ODR completely redesigned the Inter-agency ADR Working Group Website and updated the contents into four main substantive areas: workplace employment, contracts, procurement enforcement regulation, and claims against the government. This new design promotes ADR by making resources online available to government agencies as well as educating the general public about federal ADR programs. Based upon the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996 and the Presidential Directive of May 1, 1998, the Attorney General is the designated leader of federal ADR efforts and the Interagency ADR Steering Committee.

ODR’s challenges are of an internal and external nature. ODR’s internal challenge is obtaining sufficient resources to meet the ever-increasing demands from the Department and federal agencies for ADR funding and support. ODR’s FY 2010 current funding request will allow ODR to fund 3 authorized positions. ODR approves ADR funding requests for all of the litigating components of the Department, from the Fees and Expenses of Witnesses (FEW) Appropriation.

Each year, ADR usage has increased, ODR has asked for more money to meet the demands for ADR. This makes prioritizing ADR case funding throughout the year difficult. ODR obtains evaluation from Department attorneys once the ADR process is complete. This requires information technology resources to tabulate and report funding requests, to track, collect and update data for statistical analysis. To optimize the effective use of ADR, more training is necessary for Department attorneys who are customarily engaged in adversarial proceedings. The Attorney General Order of 1995 mandated comprehensive basic training in ADR for all civil litigators, as well as periodic supplemental ADR training. Training has been increased recently, but is currently offered to fewer than 100 attorneys per year.

FY 2010 Program Changes:

The FY 2010 Budget does not request a program change for ODR.

Financial Snapshot 2008

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

GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES
OFFICE OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION

(Dollars in Thousands)

	SALARIES AND EXPENSES		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount
2008 Enacted	3	3	\$541
2009 Enacted	3	3	574
2010 Request	3	3	802
Change 2010 from 2009 Enacted	0	0	228
Adjustments to Base			
Increases:			
Pay and Benefits	0	0	6
Annualization of 2009 Pay Raise	0	0	214
Health Insurance	0	0	1
GSA Rent	0	0	1
Government Printing Office (GPO)	0	0	1
Security Investigations	0	0	5
Total Adjustments to Base	0	0	228
2010 Current Services	3	3	802
2010 Request	3	3	802
Change 2010 from 2009 Enacted	0	0	228

**GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES
OFFICE OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**
(Dollars in thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2009 Enacted			2010 Current Services		
	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount
1. Office of Dispute Resolution	3	3	\$574	3	3	\$802
Total	3	3	574	3	3	802
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	3	3	\$574	3	3	\$802

Comparison by activity and program	Total Program Changes			2010 Request		
	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	FTE	Amount
1. Office of Dispute Resolution	0	0	\$0	3	3	\$802
Total	0	0	0	3	3	802
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	\$0	3	3	\$802