



## Community Relations Service (CRS)

### FY 2017 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2016 Enacted:	\$14.4 million (74 positions; 2 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$1.1 million
Program Changes:	+\$3.4 million
FY 2017 Budget Request:	\$19.0 million (89 positions; 2 attorneys)
Change From FY 2016 Enacted:	+\$4.5 million (+31.5%) (+15 positions)

#### Mission:

Created by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, CRS serves as the Department's "peacemaker," dedicated to assisting state and local units of government, private and public organizations, and community groups to address community conflicts and tensions arising from differences of race, color, and national origin. CRS also helps communities develop the capacity to prevent and respond to alleged violent hate crimes on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability. CRS facilitates the development of viable mutual understandings and agreements as alternatives to coercion, violence, or litigation.

#### Resources:

The FY 2017 budget request for CRS totals \$19.0 million, which is a 31.5% increase over the FY 2016 Enacted.

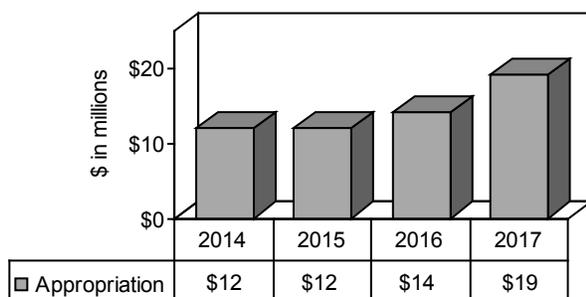
#### Organization:

CRS is headed by a Director, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. CRS has 10 regional offices and 4 field offices across the United States.

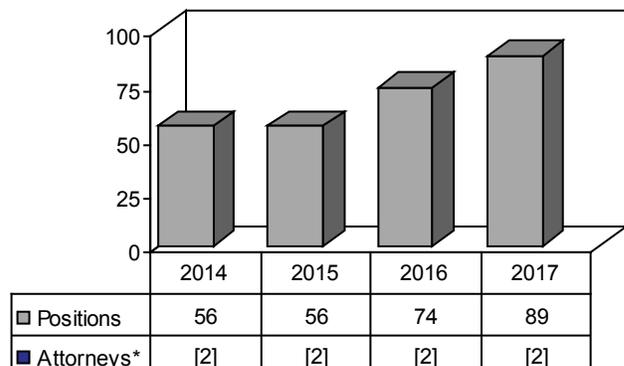
#### Personnel:

CRS's direct positions for FY 2017 total 89 positions. CRS's FY 2017 request includes an increase of 15 positions over the FY 2016 Enacted of 74 direct positions.

**Funding (FY 2014 - 2017)**



**Personnel (FY 2014 - 2017)**



## **FY 2017 Strategy:**

CRS serves as the Department's "peacemaker" for community conflicts and tensions arising from real or perceived discriminatory practices based on race, color, or national origin and helps communities prevent and respond to alleged violent hate crimes committed on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion or disability. CRS provides specialized mediation and conciliation services to state, local and federal officials and communities throughout the United States. CRS' goal is to assist in resolving and preventing racial, ethnic and national origin community conflicts, violence, and civil disorder and to help communities prevent or recover from alleged violent hate crimes.

To carry out its mission, CRS has implemented several strategies intended to effectively address the issues of discriminatory practices based on race, color, or national origin that impair the rights of people. CRS strategies also enable communities to develop the capacity to work with local government and law enforcement officials to prevent and respond more effectively to violent hate crimes. Examples of various CRS strategies and programs include: the Law Enforcement Mediation Skills Program; Anti-Racial Profiling Program; Arab-Muslim, Sikh (AMS) Cultural Awareness Program; and City-Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (City-SPIRIT) Program.

CRS must constantly reintroduce its services to community and local government leaders due to election turnover, term-limited positions, and a statutory mandate that prevents CRS from publicizing much of its work. Evolving community "flash points" increase the need to be knowledgeable and aware of the host of vulnerabilities that communities face. Obstacles to entry and the fluctuating nature of jurisdictional conflicts do not deter CRS from offering its services to communities in need. Through skillful conciliation and mediation, CRS' services can limit disruptions to community peace and stability. For any jurisdictional conflict, CRS stands ready to offer its conflict resolution services to communities across the United States.

## **FY 2017 Program Changes:**

**Law Enforcement Community Reconciliation Initiative:** \$1.7 million and 13 positions

This increase will fund additional personnel for the development and implementation of racial reconciliation and restorative justice programs that address the lack of mutual trust between minority communities and law enforcement agencies. CRS staff will be trained on how to lead law enforcement and communities through these processes and will execute training in 10 locations (one in each district). Funding also supports model approaches and best practices that can be shared with other communities. There are no current services for this program.

**Law Enforcement Organizational Change Initiative:** \$600,000 and 0 positions

This increase will fund short-term consultative, training, and technical assistance to 10 local law enforcement agencies who are party to potentially violent, public safety degrading conflicts with minority communities. Current services for this program are \$200,000.

**Research and Training Development:** \$1.2 million and 2 positions

This increase is requested to conduct research and development, social science research, publishing of best practices materials, evaluating performance measurement and training curriculum which focuses on building collaborative efforts between law enforcement and the communities they serve. There are no current services for this initiative.

**Community Relations Service**

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Community Relations Service		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount
<b>2015 Appropriation</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12,250</b>
<b>2016 Enacted</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>14,446</b>
<b>2017 Request</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>18,990</b>
<b>Change 2017 from 2016 Enacted</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4,544</b>
<b>Technical Adjustments</b>			
<b>Total Technical Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Base Adjustments</b>			
Pay & Benefits	0	4	1,088
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	25
<b>Total Base Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,113</b>
<b>2017 Current Services</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>15,559</b>
<b>Program Changes</b>			
<b>Increases:</b>			
Law Enforcement Community Reconciliation Initiative	13	7	1,676
Law Enforcement Organizational Change Initiative	0	0	600
Research and Training Development	2	2	1,155
<b>Subtotal, Program Increases</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3,431</b>
<b>Decreases:</b>			
<b>Subtotal, Program Decreases</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Program Changes</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3,431</b>
<b>2017 Request</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>18,990</b>

**Community Relations Service**

(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2016 Enacted			2017 Current Services		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Conflict Resolution and Violence Prevention - Program Operations	74	58	14,446	74	62	15,559
<b>Total</b>	74	58	14,446	74	62	15,559
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	74	58	14,446	74	62	15,559

Comparison by activity and program	2017 Total Program Changes			2017 Request		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Conflict Resolution and Violence Prevention - Program Operations	15	9	3,431	89	71	18,990
<b>Total</b>	15	9	3,431	89	71	18,990
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	15	9	3,431	89	71	18,990