



GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES Civil Division (CIV)

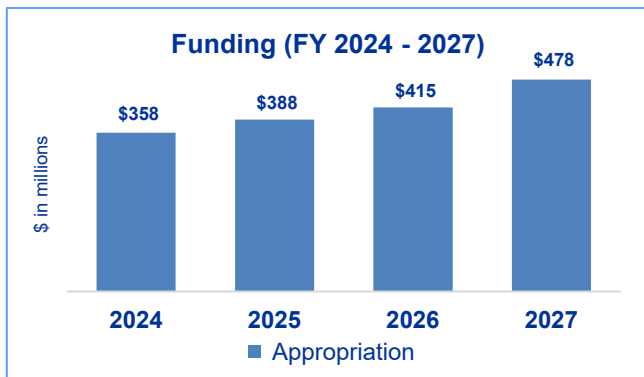
FY 2027 Budget Request At A Glance	
FY 2026 Enacted:	\$414.6 million (1,385 positions; 1,063 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$51.7 million
Program Changes:	+\$11.3 million
FY 2027 Budget Request:	\$477.6 million (1,508 positions; 1,166 attorneys)
Change From FY 2026 Enacted:	+\$63.0 million (+15.2%) (+123 positions; +103 attorneys)

Mission:

The Civil Division (CIV or “Division”) is critical to the safety and security of the United States, and the American people. CIV represents the legal interests of the United States, and safeguards taxpayer dollars. CIV litigates matters on behalf of over 100 different Federal agencies and is integral to the implementation of the President’s domestic and foreign agenda. The Division’s work ensures the success of all Administration priorities, policies, and programs, including but not limited to national security and combating terrorism; immigration enforcement and border security; public safety; trade and economic policies; and efforts to reform government and regulations. Litigation handled by CIV also encompasses cases relating to Congressional enactments; trade and customs violations; efforts to combat fraud and abuse of federal funds and benefits programs; multi-million-dollar tort claims; consumer protection matters; alleged takings of property; civil tax matters; and intellectual property disputes. Across these cases, CIV not only defends the Government’s interests, but also saves billions of taxpayer dollars. In addition, CIV recovers billions of dollars for taxpayers and protects Americans through affirmative litigation, such as its efforts to challenge sanctuary jurisdiction policies, to combat fraud under the False Claims Act; and to enforce the nation’s tax laws fully, fairly, and consistently. The Civil Division provides an excellent return on taxpayers’ investment by not only bringing additional funding into the fisc but also by providing vital defense of critical United States policies, programs, and agencies.

Resources:

The FY 2027 budget request for CIV totals \$477.6 million, which is a 15.2 percent increase over the FY 2026 Enacted.

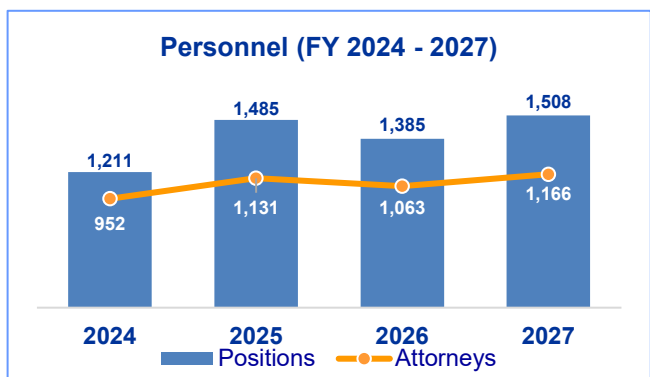


Organization:

The Civil Division’s Assistant Attorney General is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. CIV is comprised of seven litigating branches and an administrative office. The seven litigating branches are: the Commercial Litigation Branch, the Federal Programs Branch, the Office of Immigration Litigation, the Torts Branch, the Tax Litigation Branch, the Enforcement and Affirmative Litigation Branch, and the Appellate Staff.

Personnel:

CIV’s direct authorized positions for FY 2027 total 1,508 positions, including an increase of 123 positions from the FY 2026 Enacted of 1,385 direct authorized positions.



FY 2027 Strategy:

CIV will continue to represent the legal interests of the United States and provide zealous advocacy on behalf of the Government, vigorously safeguard taxpayer dollars, and protect the health, safety, and economic security of the American people.

The vast majority of CIV's work is defensive litigation: legal challenges to Federal activities and policies; tort, contract and other suits against the United States seeking monetary damages; tax refund claims stemming from abuse of complex tax shelters, or injunctive relief. Opposing parties file constitutional, contractual, and accident-liability challenges, and many other lawsuits against the United States in domestic and foreign courts. As opponents decide the time, nature, and location of the claim, the Federal Government must respond to the suit once litigation commences, lest it face a default judgment or sanctions. The underlying events that give rise to litigation are typically beyond the Division's control, and CIV must vigorously represent the Federal Government in these increasingly complex matters that are fast-moving consequential cases, which are often against litigious and well-represented, well-resourced challengers. These matters have significant impacts, with CIV playing a critical role in defending federal programs, laws, regulations, and Executive decisions that are challenged in court.

In its affirmative litigation, CIV has recovered billions of dollars for the United States; protected Americans against fraud and other threats, such as consumer safety; ensured government resources are not misused; pursued customs enforcement matters; and protected the federal fisc through suits to collect outstanding tax liabilities and to stop tax scam promoters and unscrupulous tax preparers.

Additionally, the Civil Division plays a vital role in multiple aspects of immigration enforcement and border security, defending challenges to removal orders, border initiatives, interior enforcement efforts, and the Executive's policies and actions. CIV works to ensure the integrity of the naturalization system by pursuing denaturalization proceedings against individuals such as those who engaged in the commission of war crimes, extrajudicial killings, or other serious human rights abuses; gang members and individuals convicted of crimes who pose an ongoing threat to the United States; and convicted terrorists. The Division also serves as a liaison and provides training to all the government's immigration agencies and dependable counsel before the courts. Finally, outside of traditional litigation, CIV administers three compensation programs: the Radiation Exposure Compensation (RECA) Program, the September 11th Victim Compensation Program, and the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

Overall, the Division's work reflects and enables the breadth, complexity, and crucial nature of the Federal Government's activities. In FY 2027, CIV will continue to use innovative and advanced litigating strategies and tools, as well as employ expert attorneys to ensure the Department's continued success in litigation. Through its newly formed Enforcement and Affirmative Litigation Branch, the Division will ensure nationwide compliance with the U.S. Constitution and through affirmative litigation enforce federal laws and regulations, enjoin actions that conflict with or violate federal law, and obtain declaratory judgements regarding the laws of the United States, as well as pursuing affirmative litigation to protect Americans health, safety, security, and prosperity.

FY 2027 Program Changes:

Camp Lejeune PACT Act: +\$11.3 million and +45 positions (+35 attorneys)

The "Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022" (CLJA) aims to provide "appropriate relief" to service members and others who were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, NC, between 1953 and 1987, and developed cancer and other ranges of health problems that were at least "as likely as not" caused by the exposure. There are currently 3,711 filed lawsuits, and 409,000 non-duplicative administrative claims that were submitted by the August 10, 2024, deadline. Litigation in each case, from the administrative claims phase through the appeal period, is estimated to last between two and five years, with the workload expected to continue for at least a decade. Likewise, the Navy sends dozens of requests for Elective Option (EO) settlement approvals to DOJ on a weekly basis and estimates that 63,633 claims allege an injury that may be considered for an EO offer.

The Civil Division's Environmental Torts Litigation Section (ETL) Camp Lejeune Unit handles all associated casework and has been greatly impacted by the intensive and overwhelming workload. It has been impossible for the currently constrained number of CLJA attorneys to meet all of the deadlines originally established by the court and subsequently set by the Settlement Masters. The requested resources would provide for critically needed attorneys, contract support, a shared database, and office space to help litigate claims filed by eligible individuals in a timely manner, meet crucial deadlines, and provide due process to impacted parties.

Civil Division
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Civil Division		
	Pos	FTE	Amount
2025 Enacted^{1/}	1,485	1,130	387,528
2026 Enacted	1,385	1,184	414,578
2027 Request	1,508	1,403	477,557
Change 2027 from 2026 Enacted	123	219	62,979
Technical Adjustments			
Technical Adjustments Tax Funding to CIV	0	0	8,967
Technical Adjustment CIV Consumer Protection Branch to CRM	0	0	-1,494
FY 2026 Rebaseline Adjustment	78	161	27,672
Position/FTE Adjustment	0	0	0
Total Technical Adjustments	78	161	35,145
Base Adjustments			
Pay & Benefits	0	35	7,358
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	8,557
Other Adjustments	0	0	524
Foreign Expenses	0	0	95
Total Base Adjustments	0	35	16,534
2027 Current Services	1,463	1,380	466,257
Program Changes			
Increases:			
Camp Lejeune PACT Act	45	23	11,300
Subtotal, Program Increases	45	23	11,300
Decreases:			
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	0
Total Program Changes	45	23	11,300
2027 Request	1,508	1,403	477,557

^{1/} FTE is actual.

Civil Division
(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2026 Enacted			2027 Current Services		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Legal Representation	1,385	1,184	414,578	1,463	1,380	466,257
Total	1,385	1,184	414,578	1,463	1,380	466,257
Reimbursable FTE		89			99	
Total Direct and Reimbursable	1,385	1,273	414,578	1,463	1,479	466,257
<i>Sub-Allotments and Direct Collections (FYI)</i>		210			214	
FTE Grand Total		1,483			1,693	

Comparison by activity and program	2027 Total Program Changes			2027 Request		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Legal Representation	45	23	11,300	1,508	1,403	477,557
Total	45	23	11,300	1,508	1,403	477,557
Reimbursable FTE		0			99	
Total Direct and Reimbursable	45	23	11,300	1,508	1,502	477,557
<i>Sub-Allotments and Direct Collections (FYI)</i>		0			214	
FTE Grand Total		23			1,716	