



## GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES Office of Legal Counsel (OLC)

### FY 2019 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2018 Continuing Resolution:	\$7.9 million (32 positions; 26 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$654,000
Program Changes:	+\$0
FY 2019 Budget Request:	\$8.6 million (32 positions; 26 attorneys)
Change From FY 2018 Continuing Resolution:	+\$654,000 (+8.2%)

### Mission:

The mission of the Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) is to assist the Attorney General in his/her role as legal adviser to the President and Executive Branch agencies. OLC also serves as arbiter of legal disputes within the Executive Branch, to provide general legal assistance to other components of the Department, including where litigation or proposed legislation raises constitutional issues or general issues of executive authority, and to review for form and legality all Executive Orders and substantive Proclamations and Memoranda to be issued by the President, as well as all proposed Orders of the Attorney General and all regulations requiring Attorney General approval.

### Resources:

The FY 2019 budget request for OLC totals \$8.6 million, which is a 8.2% increase over the FY 2018 Continuing Resolution.

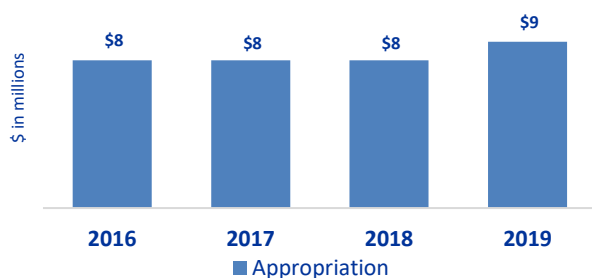
### Organization:

OLC is headed by an Assistant Attorney General (AAG) who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Additionally, the AAG is supported by a Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, four career and political Deputies and 20 attorney advisers located in Washington, DC. OLC's administrative functions have been provided by the executive office of the Office of the Solicitor General since FY 2012.

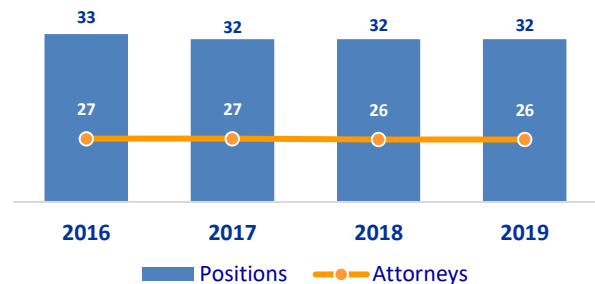
### Personnel:

OLC's direct positions for FY 2019 total 32 positions and are the same as FY 2018 Continuing Resolution.

Funding (FY 2016 - 2019)



Personnel (FY 2016 - 2019)



\* FY 2018 annualized CR

**FY 2019 Strategy:**

OLC's mission remains critical as the Department confronts national security and intelligence challenges and advises various Executive Branch departments and agencies about priorities of the new Administration.

OLC is involved in reviewing hundreds of pieces of pending legislation annually for constitutionality, and reviews all proposed Executive Orders and substantive presidential proclamations and memoranda, as well as proposed regulations and Orders of the Attorney General for form and legality.

OLC's challenges are of an internal and external nature. OLC generally does not initiate any programs, nor does it have control over the volume of its work. The work results from requests for opinions and legal advice from the Counsel to the President; General Counsels of OMB and other Executive Office of the President; general counsels of other Executive Branch departments and agencies; and the Attorney General and other Department of Justice officials.

The lack of control over this externally driven workload has been and is likely to remain a constant challenge to OLC's mission, and is inherent in all aspects of the Office's work, including reviewing legislation, testimony, and Presidential and Attorney General documents.

**FY 2019 Program Changes:**

The budget proposal includes funds for current services for OLC. No program changes are requested.

**Office of Legal Counsel**  
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Office of Legal Counsel		
	Pos	FTE	Amount
<b>2017 Appropriation</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7,989</b>
<b>2018 Continuing Resolution</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>7,935</b>
<b>2019 Request</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8,589</b>
<b>Change 2019 from 2018 Continuing Resolution</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>654</b>
<b>Technical Adjustments</b>			
CR Base Adjustment	0	0	75
<b>Total Technical Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Base Adjustments</b>			
Pay & Benefits	0	0	37
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	539
Other Adjustments including Administrative Savings	0	0	3
<b>Total Base Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>579</b>
<b>2019 Current Services</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8,589</b>
<b>Program Changes</b>			
<b>Increases:</b>			
<b>Subtotal, Program Increases</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Decreases:</b>			
<b>Subtotal, Program Decreases</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Program Changes</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2019 Request</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8,589</b>

**Office of Legal Counsel**

(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2018 Continuing Resolution			2019 Current Services		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Office of Legal Counsel	32	32	7,935	32	32	8,589
<b>Total</b>	32	32	7,935	32	32	8,589

Comparison by activity and program	2019 Total Program Changes			2019 Request		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Office of Legal Counsel	0	0	0	32	32	8,589
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	32	32	8,589