

United States Department of Justice



Community Relations Service FY 2019 Performance Budget President's Budget Submission

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COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

I. Overview for Community Relations Service

The Community Relations Service (CRS), an agency within the U.S. Department of Justice, was established by Title X of the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §2000g et seq.) and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 2, 1964. In addition, pursuant to the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act enacted in 2009, CRS is authorized to work with communities to help them develop the capacity to prevent and respond more effectively to violent hate crimes allegedly committed on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability.

CRS engages in two key activities: (1) providing assistance to State and local communities in the prevention and resolution of tension, violence, and civil disorders relating to actual or perceived discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin; and (2) working with communities to voluntarily develop and employ locally defined strategies to prevent and respond to violent hate crimes committed on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability. In FY 2019, the Department proposes to consolidate its community mediation functions under the Civil Rights Division in order to improve efficiency and reduce redundancy.

II. Summary of Program Changes

Item Name	Description				Page
		Pos.	FTE	Dollars (\$000)	
Streamline Civil Rights Functions	Consolidation of Community Mediation Functions under the Civil Rights Division	-54	-54	-\$14,419	7

III. Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriation Language

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

Analysis of Appropriations Language

Since the Department proposes to transfer the Community Relations Service's (CRS) functions to the Civil Rights Division, no appropriations language has been included for CRS.

2. Performance, Resources, and Strategies

a. Performance Plan and Report for Outcomes

CRS provides conflict resolution services to resolve disputes and disagreements based on race, color and national origin in order to reduce community tension. A significant portion of CRS' workload is direct crisis response services. Outreach efforts, where CRS works to develop relationships with stakeholders and help them to strengthen their local capacity to prevent and respond to tensions and conflicts, account for another significant portion of the work conducted by staff. CRS also prevents and responds to alleged hate crimes committed on the basis of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability in addition to race, color, and national origin. In FY17, CRS developed new performance measures to more accurately capture CRS services to communities. As a result, FY17 targets are baseline targets based on the first quarter actuals.

b. Strategies to Accomplish Outcomes

CRS strategies include providing conflict resolution services to accomplish the outcomes. These conciliation services include mediation, facilitation, training, and consulting. Training programs include Engaging and Building Relations with Muslim and Sikh Communities; Strengthening Police and Community Partnerships; Hate Crime Forums; and the City/School Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (City/School SPIRIT) program.

VI. Program Consolidation

Item Name: **Streamline Civil Rights Programs**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Conflict Resolution & Violence Prevention Activities

Organizational Program: Community Relations Service

Component Ranking of Item: 1 of 1

Program Reduction: Positions: -54 Agt/Atty: -2 FTE: -54 Dollars: -\$14,419,000

Description of Item

This program consolidation supports the Department of Justice's (DOJ) efforts under its Agency Reform Plan to streamline DOJ organizations and programs.

Summary Justification

This proposal will consolidate the Department's community mediation functions under the Civil Rights Division in order to improve efficiency and reduce redundancy.

VII. Exhibits