



## General Legal Activities Office of the Solicitor General (OSG)

### FY 2011 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2010 Enacted:	\$10.8 million (48 positions; 22 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$0.2 million (1.9% above FY 2010 Enacted)
Program Changes:	\$0.0 million
FY 2011 Budget Request:	\$11.0 million (48 positions; 22 attorneys)
Change from FY 2010 Enacted:	+\$0.2 million (+1.9%) (+0 positions; +0 attorneys)

#### Mission:

The mission of the OSG is to conduct all litigation on behalf of the United States and its agencies in the Supreme Court of the United States, to approve decisions to appeal and seek further review in cases involving the United States in the lower federal courts, and to supervise the handling of litigation in the federal appellate courts.

#### Resources:

The budget request for FY 2011 totals \$11.0 million, which is a 1.9 percent increase from the FY 2010 Enacted level.

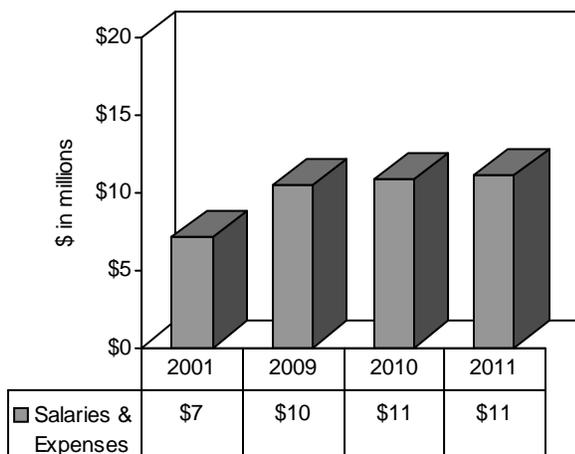
#### Organization:

OSG is headed by the Solicitor General, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Within the attorney staff, 17 career Assistants to the Solicitor General work with three career Deputy Solicitors General, the Principal Deputy Solicitor General, and the Solicitor General to prepare oral arguments, Supreme Court briefs, and other related legal materials. The 26 support staff are organized into three sections which include Administration, Case Management, and Research and Publication.

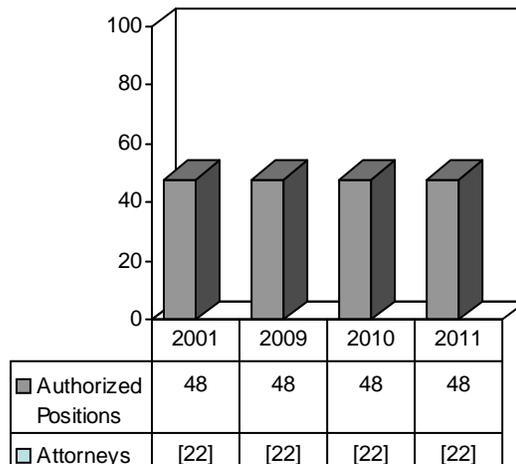
#### Personnel:

The OSG's direct authorized positions for FY 2011 total 48 positions, including 22 attorneys. OSG's FY 2011 request is for the same number of positions as authorized in FY 2010.

**Funding (FY 2001 - 2011)**



**Personnel (FY 2001 - 2011)**



\* Includes reimbursable attorneys

**FY 2011 Strategy:**

The Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) does not initiate any programs, but it is required to handle all appropriate Supreme Court cases and requests for appeal, amicus, or intervention authorization. In the vast majority of cases filed in the Supreme Court in which the United States is a party, a petition is filed by an adverse party and the United States responds in some way, either by filing a brief or, after reviewing the cases, waiving its right to do so. Additionally, the Supreme Court formally requests the Solicitor General to express the views of the United States on whether the Court should grant certiorari in a case in which the United States is not a party. The number of cases in which the Solicitor General petitions the Supreme Court for review, acquiesces in a petition for a writ of certiorari filed by an adverse party, or participates as an intervener or as amicus curiae is governed exclusively by the Solicitor General's determination that it is in the best interest of the United States to take such action. Further, such activity may vary widely from year to year, which limits the Office's ability to plan its workload.

**FY 2011 Program Changes:**

**Travel and Management Efficiencies:** The Department is continually evaluating its programs and operations with the goal of achieving across-the-board economies of scale that result in increased efficiencies and cost savings. In FY 2011, DOJ is focusing on travel as an area in which savings can be achieved. For the Office of the Solicitor General, travel or other management efficiencies will result in offsets of \$13,000. This offset will be applied in a manner that will allow the continuation of effective law enforcement program efforts in support of Presidential and Departmental goals, while minimizing the risk to health, welfare and safety of agency personnel.

**Financial Snapshot 2009**

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