



U.S. Department of Justice FY 2015 Budget Request

CIVIL RIGHTS

\$272.6 Million in Total Funding

FY 2015 Overview

The Department's mission is to uphold the civil and constitutional rights of all Americans, particularly the most vulnerable members of our society. Accomplishing this requires necessary resources both to investigate and to litigate. The Department's civil rights efforts include the Civil Rights Division, Community Relations Service (CRS), Criminal Division, FBI, INTERPOL-Washington, OJP, Office of the Inspector General, and the USAOs.

The Department maintains substantial responsibilities with respect to enforcing the Nation's civil rights laws and protecting vulnerable populations. The FY 2015 Budget will support the Department's vigorous enforcement of federal civil rights laws – including the areas of human trafficking, hate crimes, police misconduct, fair housing, fair lending, disability rights, and voting. As such, the DOJ FY 2015 Budget requests a total of \$272.6 million to help meet the Nation's civil rights challenges. The request includes an additional \$7.6 million in program increases for the Civil Rights Division and CRS.

For the Civil Rights Division, the FY 2015 Budget request includes \$7.3 million for programs that require further investment, such as human trafficking, hate crimes, voting rights enforcement, and enforcement of the Civil Rights for Institutionalized Persons Act. In addition, funds are requested to expand civil and criminal enforcement efforts in combating police misconduct.

For the CRS, the Budget includes an increase of \$257,000 to support an expansion in workload and responsibilities related to the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA). The HCPA has greatly expanded the CRS's mandate, requiring the CRS to help communities prevent and respond to violent hate crimes committed on the basis of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability in addition to race, color, and national origin. The additional resources will maximize the CRS's crisis response across the entire United States and enable it to fulfill both its original mandate and expanded mandate under the HCPA.

FY 2015 Program Increases

The Department requests a total of \$7.6 million in program increases for FY 2015, including:

Civil Rights Division (CRT)

- **Civil Rights Enforcement: \$5.1 million and 50 positions (25 attorneys)**
The Department is requesting additional resources of 50 positions (25 attorneys) and \$5.1 million to strengthen civil rights enforcement efforts that the Attorney General has identified as part of his Vulnerable People Priority Goal and for other programs that require renewed emphasis. The requested increase would benefit all programmatic areas and specifically enable CRT to increase its efforts against civil rights violations associated with human trafficking, hate crimes, voting rights enforcement, and enforcement of the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA). In addition, CRT would be able to expand opportunities for people with disabilities, and broaden overall protections for equal education, equal housing, and equal employment. These are areas that the Attorney General has determined warrant specific attention and has identified as part of his Vulnerable People Priority Goal. The current services for this initiative are 714 positions (383 attorneys) and \$154.6 million.
- **E-Verify: \$305,000 and 3 positions (2 attorneys)**
CRT's Office of Special Counsel will expand its capacity to assist with resolving complaints associated with immigration and employment authorization status queries run through the E-Verify process. This funding will support the implementation of an E-Verify post-Final Nonconfirmation (FNC) administrative review process to be deployed by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in concert with interagency stakeholders. The current services for this initiative are 11 positions (7 attorneys) and \$1.3 million.
- **Police Misconduct Enforcement: \$1.9 million and 20 positions (9 attorneys)**
The Department is requesting additional resources of 20 positions (9 attorneys) and \$1.9 million to expand CRT's efforts in combating police misconduct. Criminal prosecutions will focus on the conduct of individuals and they address the most egregious incidents of police misconduct. Civil pattern or practice investigations will focus on systemic problems within police departments and unlawful conduct. Additionally, CRT will initiate Title VII litigation against police departments where there is reason to believe that a "pattern or practice" of discrimination exists. CRT will use its enhanced resources to take a multi-faceted approach in combating police misconduct. CRT will use its law enforcement arsenal to ensure police officers, and police departments as a whole, are carrying out their missions lawfully. The current services for this initiative are 71 positions (52 attorneys) and \$12.2 million.

Community Relations Service (CRS)

- **Hate Crime Prevention and Response: \$257,000 and 4 positions**
This request supports additional staff for CRS to ensure that the capacity of law enforcement and community leaders to respond to and prevent violent hate crimes is not impaired. CRS' caseload associated with responding to alleged hate crimes on the basis of race, color, or national origin as well as on the basis of the newly added categories of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability has dramatically increased. With the

additional resources, CRS will be able to address increasing hate-related activity and bring law enforcement officials, advocacy groups, and individual community members to the table in a way that creates lasting stability and harmony and enables those communities to address future conflicts without outside assistance. Current services for this initiative are 4 positions and \$1.9 million.

FY 2015 Program Increases Summary
(Amount in \$000s)

Component/Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	Amount
Civil Rights Division			
Civil Rights Enforcement	50	25	5,072
E-Verify	3	2	305
Police Misconduct Enforcement	20	9	1,928
Community Relations Service			
Hate Crime Prevention and Response	4	0	257
Grand Total, Program Increases	77	36	\$7,562