



# GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

## Office of the Solicitor General (OSG)

FY 2025 Budget Request At A Glance	
FY 2024 Continuing Resolution:	\$14.5 million (55 positions; 23 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$678,000
Program Changes:	+\$0
FY 2025 Budget Request:	\$15.1 million (55 positions; 23 attorneys)
Change From FY 2024 Continuing Resolution:	+\$678,000 (+4.7%)

### Mission:

The mission of the Office of the Solicitor General (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, to supervise the handling of litigation in the Federal appellate courts, and assisting the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General, and the Associate Attorney General in the development of broad Department policy.

The major functions of the Office of the Solicitor General include handling the Government's legal cases in the United States Supreme Court, overseeing its cases in the appeals courts, and deciding when the United States should step in to defend the Constitutionality of the laws of Congress. This role is a principal advocate for the United States government and has influence on forming the Nation's laws and principles.

### Resources:

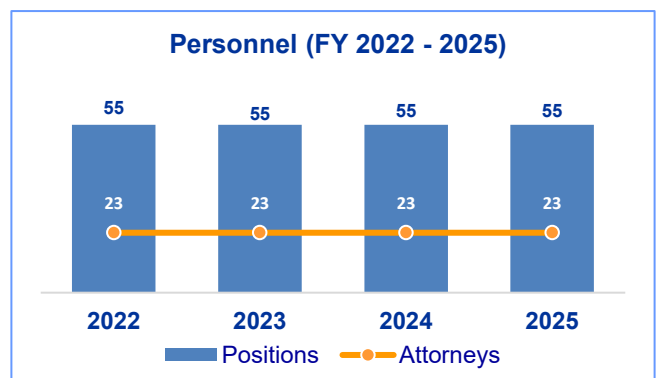
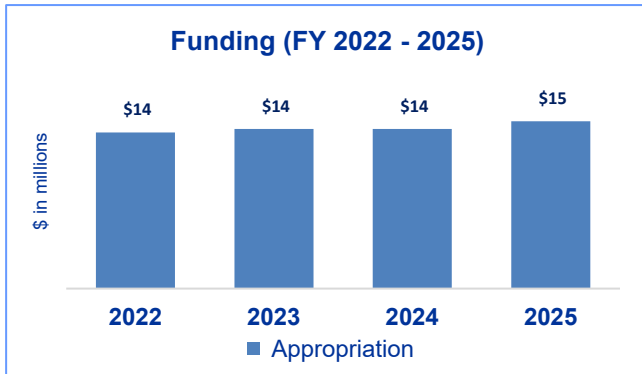
The FY 2025 budget request for OSG totals \$15.1 million, which is a 4.7 percent increase over the FY 2024 Continuing Resolution.

### Organization:

The OSG is headed by the Solicitor General, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Within the attorney staff, 17 career staff attorneys work with four 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 32 support positions are organized into three sections that include the Executive Office, Case Management and Research and Publications. The Executive Office also supports the administrative functions of the Office of Legal Counsel.

### Personnel:

The OSG's direct authorized positions for FY 2025 total 55 positions and are the same as FY 2024 Continuing Resolution.



## **FY 2025 Strategy:**

In recent years, constitutional, criminal, and administrative law cases have been at the heart of the Supreme Court's caseload. For example, with respect to constitutional cases, the Supreme Court will decide in its upcoming term whether the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's statutory funding mechanism is consistent with the Appropriations Clause. With respect to administrative law cases, the Supreme Court has granted certiorari to consider whether to overrule or clarify *Chevron U.S.A. Inc. v. Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.*, which requires courts to defer to agencies' reasonable interpretations of the statutes they administer. Cases like these require substantial time and resources to solicit and coordinate the views of all interested agencies and components of the government; to research the relevant legal questions, which often require substantial historical inquiries; to develop arguments that advance the interests of the United States; and to present those arguments persuasively to the Court.

The Solicitor General likewise defends the implementation of an expanding set of government programs and congressional enactments. Although the precise docket is impossible to predict, experience suggests that the OSG will continue to be involved in cases defining an array of Federal statutes, including the Securities Act and the Securities Exchange Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, the Federal Arbitration Act, the Clean Air Act, the Truth in Lending Act, the Immigration and Nationality Act, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, and the Bankruptcy Code.

The OSG has exclusive authority to decide whether the United States should request the Supreme Court to review a case or participate in a case as a supporting party based on the best interest of the Nation. However, a component of variability complicates their planning. The number of cases in which the Supreme Court grants a review of a lower court's judgement can vary widely from year to year. That variation limits the Office's ability to plan its workload.

Finally, the OSG regularly handles foreign affairs cases, including cases under the Alien Tort Statute and the Torture Victims Protection Act, as well as important constitutional cases. In preparation for these cases, OSG attorneys engage in extensive coordination and consultation with the agencies that Congress has directed to implement these statutes. These cases can affect the structure of government and the relationship between the Branches, and they can have important consequences for the conduct of foreign affairs.

## **FY 2025 Program Changes:**

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

**Office of the Solicitor General**

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Office of the Solicitor General		
	Pos	FTE	Amount
<b>2023 Appropriation</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>14,460</b>
<b>2024 Continuing Resolution</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>14,460</b>
<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>15,138</b>
<b>Change 2025 from 2024 Continuing Resolution</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>678</b>
<b>Technical Adjustments</b>			
Additional Amount for 2024 Pay Raise	0	0	245
<b>Total Technical Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>Base Adjustments</b>			
Pay & Benefits	0	0	291
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	130
Non-Personnel Related Annualizations	0	0	12
<b>Total Base Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>433</b>
<b>2025 Current Services</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>15,138</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>2025 Request</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>15,138</b>

**Office of the Solicitor General**  
(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2024 Continuing Resolution			2025 Current Services		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Federal Appellate Activity	55	55	14,460	55	55	15,138
<b>Total</b>	55	55	14,460	55	55	15,138

Comparison by activity and program	2025 Total Program Changes			2025 Request		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Federal Appellate Activity	0	0	0	55	55	15,138
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	55	55	15,138