

GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES Civil Division (CIV)

FY 2018 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2017 Continuing Resolution:	\$291.7 million (1,325 positions; 953 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	-\$1.8 million
Program Changes:	+\$1.9 million
FY 2018 Budget Request:	\$291.8 million (1,140 positions; 833 attorneys)
Change From FY 2017 Continuing Resolution:	+\$92,000 (+0.0%) (-185 positions; -120 attorneys)

Mission:

Civil Division (CIV) represents the legal interests of the United States, safeguards taxpayer dollars, and protects the safety, health, and economic security of the American people. Each year, CIV typically represents some 200 client agencies in tens of thousands of unique matters. Most of these cases are suits against the United States in which CIV not only defends the Government's statutes, policies, and vital national interests, but also saves billions of dollars for taxpayers. In addition, CIV recovers billions of dollars for taxpayers through its affirmative litigation, such as its enforcement of federal consumer protection laws and its record-setting efforts under the False Claims Act, including cases targeting health care fraud, financial fraud, and procurement fraud against the military.

Organization:

The CIV Assistant Attorney General is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. CIV is comprised of six litigating branches and an administrative office. The six litigating branches include the Commercial Litigation Branch, the Federal Programs Branch, the Office of Immigration Litigation, the Torts Branch, the Appellate Staff, and the Consumer Protection Branch. CIV's core functions include ensuring the Federal Government speaks with one voice in its view of the law; preserving the intent of Congress; advancing the credibility of the Federal Government before the courts; and protecting the public fisc.

Resources:

The FY 2018 budget request for CIV totals 291.8 million, which is a 0.0% increase over the FY 2017 Continuing Resolution.

\$300 \$200 \$200 \$200 \$100 \$0 2015 2016 2017 2018 PAppropriation \$291 \$292 \$292 \$292

Funding (FY 2015 - 2018)

Personnel:

The CIV's direct positions for FY 2018 total 1,140 positions. CIV's FY 2018 request includes a decrease of -185 positions from the FY 2017 Continuing Resolution of 1,325 direct positions.

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Personnel (FY 2015 - 2018)

FY 2018 Strategy:

CIV will continue to represent the legal interests of the United States; safeguard taxpayer dollars; and defend and protect the safety, health, and economic security of the American people.

The vast majority of CIV's work (approximately 87%) is defensive litigation and entails legal challenges to federal activities, as well as tort, contract, and other suits against the United States seeking monetary damages or injunctive relief. These suits reflect the wide diversity of government activities and involve enforcement of the country's immigration laws, challenges to Acts of Congress, military actions and counterterrorism efforts, commercial disputes, litigation filed in foreign courts, and accident and other liability claims. CIV's litigation protects the Federal Government's fiscal resources by defending civil lawsuits that seek to collect billions of dollars. As other parties are filing suit against the Federal Government, these parties decide the time, nature and location of a claim. Once a complaint is filed, the Federal Government has no choice (regardless of its budget or ability to absorb the additional work) but to respond to the suit, lest the Federal Government face default judgments or sanctions.

In its affirmative litigation, CIV brings cases involving health care fraud, financial fraud, debt collection, and other civil and criminal violations of consumer protection laws. These cases generate billions of dollars each year for the United States. In FY 2016, CIV, working with U.S. Attorneys, obtained more than \$4.7 billion in settlements and judgments under the False Claims Act.

CIV's litigation protects the safety, health, and economic security of Americans. CIV safeguards the American people by preventing known or suspected terrorists from becoming naturalized citizens and seeking to revoke the naturalization of terrorists. The Division's health care fraud work ends practices that harm America's infirmed and elderly citizens by stopping health care providers from billing federal health programs for unnecessary and invasive medical tests. Civil and criminal enforcement of consumer protection laws prevent the distribution of tainted food, the sale of unsafe goods, and mass marketing frauds such as lottery scams. Enforcing international trade law protects American businesses and their employees by ensuring that importers do not evade antidumping or countervailing duties.

Finally, outside of traditional litigation, CIV aids in administering three compensation programs: the Radiation Exposure Compensation Program, the September 11th Victim Compensation Program, and the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

FY 2018 Program Changes:

Office of Immigration Litigation (Attorneys and Support Staff): \$1.9 million and 20 positions (15 attorneys)

This program increase is needed to handle a growing caseload, including a greater number of and more complex challenges to immigration-related laws, regulations and policies. In addition, there is an increase in litigation due to more robust enforcement activities by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security against serious criminal offenders and other immigration law violators.

Civil Division

(Dollars	in	Thousands)
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		Civil Division		
	Pos	FTE	Amount	
2016 Appropriation	1,325	1,194	292,214	
2017 Continuing Resolution	1,325	1,189	292,214	
2017 Rescission - 0.1901%	0	0	-556	
2017 Continuing Resolution	1,325	1,189	291,658	
2018 Request	1,140	1,130	291,750	
Change 2018 from 2017 Continuing Resolution	-185	-59	92	
Technical Adjustments				
Total Technical Adjustments	0	0	0	
Base Adjustments				
Pay & Benefits	-205	-69	-2,960	
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	1,182	
Foreign Expenses	0	0	-6	
Total Base Adjustments	-205	-69	-1,784	
2018 Current Services	1,120	1,120	289,874	
Program Changes				
Increases:				
Office of Immigration Litigation (Attorneys and Support Staff)	20	10	1,876	
Subtotal, Program Increases	20	10	1,876	
Decreases:				
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	0	
Total Program Changes	20	10	1,876	
2018 Request	1,140	1,130	291,750	

Civil Division (Dollars in Thousands)

	2017 Con	2017 Continuing Resolution			2018 Current Services		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	
Legal Representation	1,325	1,189	291,658	1,120	1,120	289,874	
Total	1,325	1,189	291,658	1,120	1,120	289,874	
Reimbursable FTE	0	237	0	0	237	(
Grand Total	1,325	1,426	291,658	1,120	1,357	289,874	

	2018 Tota	al Program (Changes	2018 Request		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Legal Representation	20	10	1,876	1,140	1,130	291,750
Total	20	10	1,876	1,140	1,130	291,750
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	237	0
Grand Total	20	10	1,876	1,140	1,367	291,750