

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

GENERAL COUNSEL

BUDGET ACTIVITY 10: GENERAL COUNSEL

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE

STRATEGIC GOAL/OBJECTIVE	ACTUAL 2002	ESTIMATE 2003	ESTIMATE 2004
<b>Strategic Goal A: Promote decent affordable housing.</b>			
FTE			
Headquarters	89	85	85
Field	0	0	0
Subtotal	89	85	85
S&E Cost (Dollars in Thousands)			
Personal Services	\$8,719	\$8,562	\$8,793
Travel	157	180	189
Printing	15	17	17
Other Services	304	258	333
Supplies	16	16	16
Claims & Indemnities	41	24	25
Subtotal	9,252	9,057	9,373
<b>Strategic Objective A.2: Improve the physical quality and management accountability of public and assisted housing.</b>			

EXPLANATION OF PERFORMANCE

The Office of General Counsel proposes \$9.373 million in S&E funding to support Strategic Goal A: Promote decent affordable housing.

Means and Strategies

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) plays a vital role in supporting the Department in the accomplishment of its goals of assuring decent and affordable housing, enabling all Americans to achieve homeownership, providing resources for communities to build strong neighborhoods, preventing homelessness, and enforcing fair housing laws. OGC provides legal opinions, advice and services in the development of policies with respect to all departmental programs and activities with primary responsibility for the development of HUD program regulations.

The principal workload of the General Counsel's Office consists of providing advice to program managers; preparing memoranda on legal problems arising under HUD programs; representing the Department in litigation and administrative hearings; and drafting, reviewing, and clearing regulations and legislation and legislative and regulatory materials. Foremost, however, OGC supports the Department's efforts to focus on its core mission of homeownership, affordable housing and economic development.

Within the OGC, the Office of Enforcement ensures the public trust by [protecting residents, increasing the quality of housing and eliminating fraud, waste, and abuse. Enforcement workload is case referrals from the Offices of Housing, Public and Indian Housing, Community Planning and Development, and Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (for non-civil rights cases), and referrals for action by the Mortgage Review Board.

Salaries and Expenses, Housing and Urban Development  
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The Office of Enforcement contributes to this goal by working with multifamily properties that have been identified as physically or financially substandard. The Enforcement Center's performance goal encourages prompt processing of cases referred thereby minimizing delays in correcting identified deficiencies in referred properties. The requested increase in training dollars will contribute to the achievement of this goal by helping to ensure that staff members are able to accommodate changes in the types of referrals received.

Resource Management Information

The Office of General Counsel is requesting 85 FTE in support of Goal A in both fiscal year 2003 and fiscal year 2004.