

Office of the
Attorney General





Nick Brown

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

1125 Washington Street SE – PO Box 40100 – Olympia, WA 98504-0100

September 14, 2026

K.D. Chapman-See, Director
Office of Financial Management
PO Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

Dear Ms. Chapman-See:

The 2027-29 budget request from the Attorney General's Office (AGO) has been submitted. The request addresses public safety and increases in agencies' legal and litigation needs. We are mindful of the limited state resources and, working within these constraints and protecting those resources, developed a plan to provide the best possible legal services for agencies and all the people of Washington.

We have also identified General Fund – State reductions to help address the State's limited resources: \$2.4 million per biennium in General Fund – State reductions appropriated for Hate Crimes and Bias Incidents proviso (\$400,000), Quendall Terminal Defense proviso (\$600,000), and Tobacco Master Settlement proviso (\$1.4 million).

In addition to right-sizing legal services for state agencies, I am asking for funds to address ongoing and advancing public safety concerns, including threats created by federal policies, needs of our military veterans, institutional and systemic harms to Indigenous people, increasing digital economic crimes, and challenges of artificial intelligence.

As Washington State continues to file lawsuits challenging federal policies, the AGO will need resources to continue this essential work. The federal policies threaten our ability to protect basic rights, elections, environmental policies, funding previously promised by the federal government, coercive funding policies, and illegal tariffs. As of August 27, Washington State is party to 74 lawsuits, and the pace will likely continue.

The Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance (OMVLA), an existing program that assists military personnel and veterans with civil legal issues, has experienced an increase in requests from veterans, service members, and their families. With maintenance level funding, OMVLA can meet this need and engage with Washington's diverse military and veteran community.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

K.D. Chapman-See
September 14, 2026
Page 2

Because Indigenous people face disproportionately negative outcomes across criminal justice, health, education, and economic systems, the Legislature established the Washington State Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People Task Force, and the Truth and Healing Tribal Advisory Committee. The goal of both is to remedy generations of institutional and systemic harms. Funding is needed to sustain this work.

Increases in the volume of digital economic crime evidence has driven a need for additional system capacity to significantly reduce time needed to prosecute crimes. The time saved by adding capacity will result in more investigations and prosecutions and will promote public safety in our communities. The efficiencies will also result in more timely restitution to crime victims, fewer trials due to increased persuasiveness of evidence and resulting guilty pleas, and less time to trial due to earlier resolutions based on persuasiveness of evidence.

Rapid advances in artificial intelligence, algorithmic decision-making, biometric surveillance, and data aggregation present escalating threats to the civil rights, privacy, and consumer protections that the Attorney General is charged with defending. The continuation of focusing on these impacts will ensure the State and Washingtonians have the legal, technical, and policy expertise necessary to respond effectively through legislation, litigation, and public education intended to serve the Legislature and consumers.

I look forward to working with you to provide additional information as you prepare your budget proposal for the Legislature.

If you have questions about this budget request, please contact Nona Snell, Chief Financial Officer, at nona.snell@atg.wa.gov or 360-742-2591.

Thank you for your continued assistance.

Sincerely,



Nick Brown
Attorney General

NWB/rgp



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

2027-29 Biennial Budget Request Table of Contents

TAB A	OVERVIEW	PAGE
	Agency Organizational Chart	7
	Agency Activity Inventory Report	8
	Performance Measure Incremental Estimates Report	35
	Indirect Cost Allocation to Activities	42
	AGO Strategic Plan	43
TAB B	RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY Recommendation	PAGE
	Summary at Agency Level	45
TAB C	DECISION PACKAGES	PAGE
	Decision Package Summary and Priority	49
	PL-XA Federal Litigation	51
	PL-XB Public Defense Litigation	57
	ML-XC OMVLA Support	62
	PL-XD Tribal Policy Continuation	70
	ML-XE Major Economic Crimes IT Support	76
	PL-XG UW Support Staff Transfer	82
	ML-XH DOL Legal Services	88
	ML-XJ UW Legal Services	93
	ML-XK OSPI Legal Services	100
	ML-XL House Legal Services	107
	ML-XM Senate Legal Services	112
	ML-8L Lease Adjustments	117
	ML-XN MHD Increased Authority	125
TAB D	REVENUE	PAGE
	Summarized Revenue	131
	Proposed Fee Changes	133
	Working Capital Reserve	135
	Revenue Transfer Reconciliation Statement	136
	Federal Fund Estimates-State Match	138
	Additional Federal Receipts Reporting Requirements	140
	Non-budgeted Local Fund Summary	142
	Puget Sound Action Agenda	144
	JLARC Audit Response	146
TAB E	OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION	PAGE
	Central Service Model Fund Split Adjustment	149
	Enterprise Risk Management Update	150
	Decision Package Prioritization Worksheet 2025-27	152

Tab A

OVERVIEW

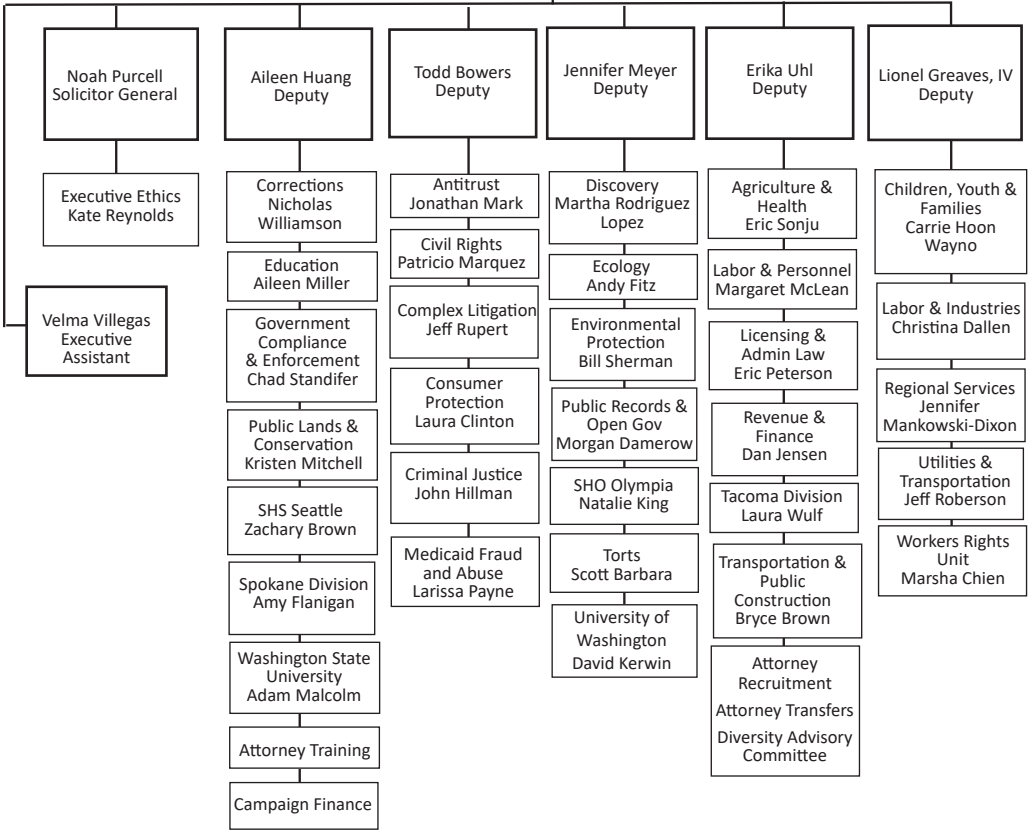
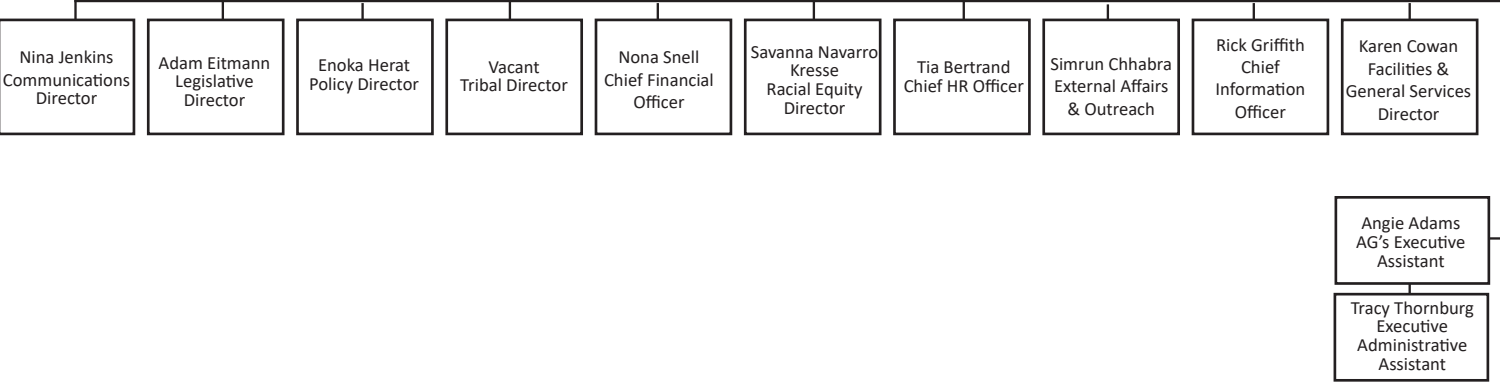


Nick Brown
Attorney General

David Postman
Chief of Staff

Maureen Johnston
First Assistant
Attorney General

Laura Watson
Chief Deputy



Office of the
Attorney General

June 2026



Dollars in Thousands

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A002 Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators

The Sexually Violent Predator Unit (SVPU) protects the public by ensuring that the most dangerous and violent sexual predators in the state are detained, evaluated, and treated until they no longer meet Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) criteria. When a sexual offender is about to be released from confinement and appears to meet SVP criteria, the SVPU acts as the prosecuting agency to classify them as a SVP resulting in Civil commitment. Once committed, the SVPU oversees the extensive post-commitment responsibilities to ensure that SVPs are not being released before being rehabilitated. These responsibilities include appeals, annual reviews, less restrictive alternative placements, and re-commitment hearings and trials.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	32.7	32.7	32.7
001 General Fund			
001-1 State	\$6,219	\$6,354	\$12,573

Statewide Result Area: Healthy and Safe Communities
Statewide Strategy: Confine and rehabilitate offenders

Expected Results

The most dangerous and violent sexual predators in the state are detained, evaluated, and treated until they no longer constitute a threat. Consequently, fewer people are victimized, and the public is protected from those sex offenders who are most likely to reoffend.

002535				
As a result of the efforts to civilly detain, evaluate and treat sex offenders who are most likely to reoffend, fewer people are victimized and the public is protected from those individuals.				
Biennium	Period	Actual	Target Min	Target Max
2023-25	A3	0	85	95
	A2	75	85	95
Performance Measure Status: Approved				

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A001 Administration

Administrative functions of the AGO includes the Attorney General's Core Leadership Team, the Solicitor General, executive support, financial services, human resources, IT services, and facilities staff. An administrative function of the AGO is the Solicitor General's issuance of Attorney General Opinions, which answer questions from members of the state Legislature, state elected officials, appointed heads of state agencies, boards and commissions, and county prosecuting attorneys. AGO opinions clarify the interpretation of statutes and regulations when the meaning is in doubt.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	300.9	297.2	299.1
19P Child Rescue Fund			
19P-1 State	\$40	\$40	\$80
141 Federal Seizure Account			
141-6 Non-Appropriated	\$20	\$0	\$20
001 General Fund			
001-1 State	\$14,502	\$11,176	\$25,678
001-2 Federal	\$1	\$2	\$3
001 Account Total	\$14,503	\$11,178	\$25,681
405 Legal Services Revolving Account			
405-1 State	\$49,627	\$51,181	\$100,808
441 Local Government Archives Account			
441-1 State	\$579	\$578	\$1,157

Statewide Result Area: Efficient, Effective and Accountable Government
Statewide Strategy: Provide data, information, and analysis to support decision-making

Expected Results

Administration provides the issuance of Attorney General opinions which answer questions from members of the state Legislature, state elected officials, appointed heads of state agencies, boards and commissions, and county prosecuting attorneys. These questions seek clarification relating to the interpretation of statutes and regulations when the meaning is in doubt.

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A003 Criminal Investigation and Prosecution

The Criminal Litigation Unit (CLU) investigates and prosecutes all levels of criminal cases when requested by the Governor or county prosecuting attorneys. The types of cases commonly handled by the CLU include homicide, sexual assault, multi-jurisdictional crime, white-collar crime, governmental corruption cases, environmental crimes, tax fraud cases on behalf of the Department of Revenue, licensing fraud on behalf of the Department of Licensing, insurance fraud on behalf of the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, and fraudulent workers' compensation claims and wage and hour violations on behalf of the Department of Labor and Industries. The CLU assists local prosecutors when they have a conflict of interest or need additional resources for major prosecutions. The CLU occasionally assumes responsibility for the appellate review of a criminal case that were originally brought by a county prosecutor if the case involves fundamental issues affecting the public interest and the administration of justice.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	36.0	36.1	36.1
141 Federal Seizure Account			
141-6 Non-Appropriated	\$408	\$409	\$817
001 General Fund			
001-1 State	\$5,441	\$5,529	\$10,970
405 Legal Services Revolving Account			
405-1 State	\$4	\$5	\$9

Statewide Result Area: Healthy and Safe Communities

Statewide Strategy: Enforce the law

Expected Results

When a county prosecutor has a conflict of interest or needs assistance for other reasons, there are competent, highly-skilled AGO prosecutors available to represent the county resulting in greater public protection. The AGO's Criminal Litigation Unit (CLU) reviews important appeals and provides additional legal assistance upon request. The CLU also reviews and approves (or defends against) claims filed by persons claiming to have been wrongfully convicted and imprisoned. Crimes of fraud involving state agencies are properly investigated and prosecuted so that state agencies and other victims can recover their losses, and similar criminal activity against state agencies can be curtailed and deterred.

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

002536			
When a county prosecutor has a conflict of interest or needs assistance for other reasons, there are competent, highly-skilled AGO prosecutors available to represent the county resulting in greater public protection. The AGO's Criminal Litigation Unit (CRI) reviews important appeals and provides additional legal assistance upon request. CRI also reviews and approves (or defends against) claims filed by persons claiming to have been wrongfully convicted and imprisoned. Crimes of fraud involving state agencies are properly investigated and prosecuted so that state agencies and other victims can recover their losses, and similar criminal activity against state agencies can be curtailed and deterred.			
Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	Q8	0	18
	Q7	8	18
	Q6	5	18
	Q5	2	18
	Q4	0	18
	Q3	4	18
	Q2	5	18
	Q1	3	18
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

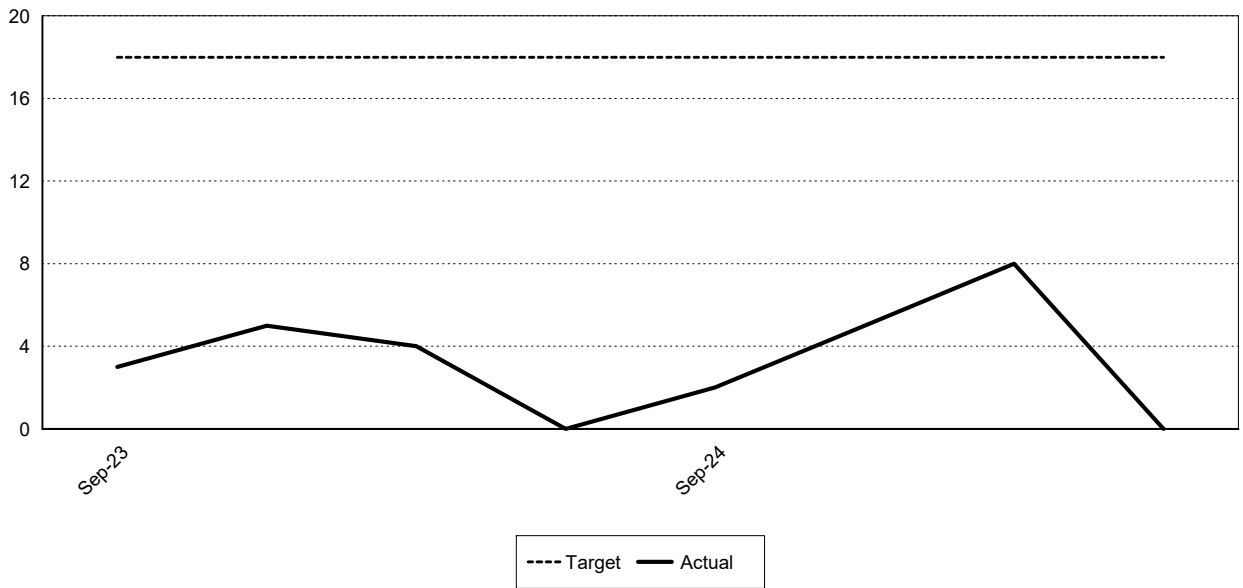
ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

Number

002536 - Criminal Cases Closed



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A004 Enforcement of Anti-Trust Laws

The AGO's Antitrust Division (ANT) division protects the residents of Washington State from price-fixing, illegal mergers, monopolization, and other illegal, anticompetitive activities. ANT holds entities accountable when they break the law and engage in unfair competition, and ensures that consumers benefit from a competitive marketplace. By enforcing antitrust laws, ANT ensures that businesses compete fairly with each other. ANT files enforcement actions, responds to consumer complaints, provides advice to state agencies, and provides consumer education and outreach. Through these efforts, ANT ensures that consumers' problems are addressed, money overpaid due to illegal activity is recovered, illegal activity is prevented, and businesses are educated about their responsibilities under the antitrust laws.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	26.0	26.0	26.0
424 Anti-Trust Revolving Account			
424-1 State	\$6	\$6	\$12
424-6 Non-Appropriated	\$6,714	\$6,664	\$13,378
424 Account Total	\$6,720	\$6,670	\$13,390

Statewide Result Area: Prosperous Economy

Statewide Strategy: Regulate the economy to ensure fairness, security and efficiency

Expected Results

The AGO's Antitrust Division (ANT) enforces antitrust laws, protects consumers from illegal and harmful practices, and ensures a fair, efficient, and competitive marketplace for businesses. ANT enforcement actions prevent monopolies, price-fixing, and illegal mergers, and recover money for injured consumers and state agencies. Through outreach efforts, ANT educates businesses in order to prevent antitrust violations and protects Washington consumers

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

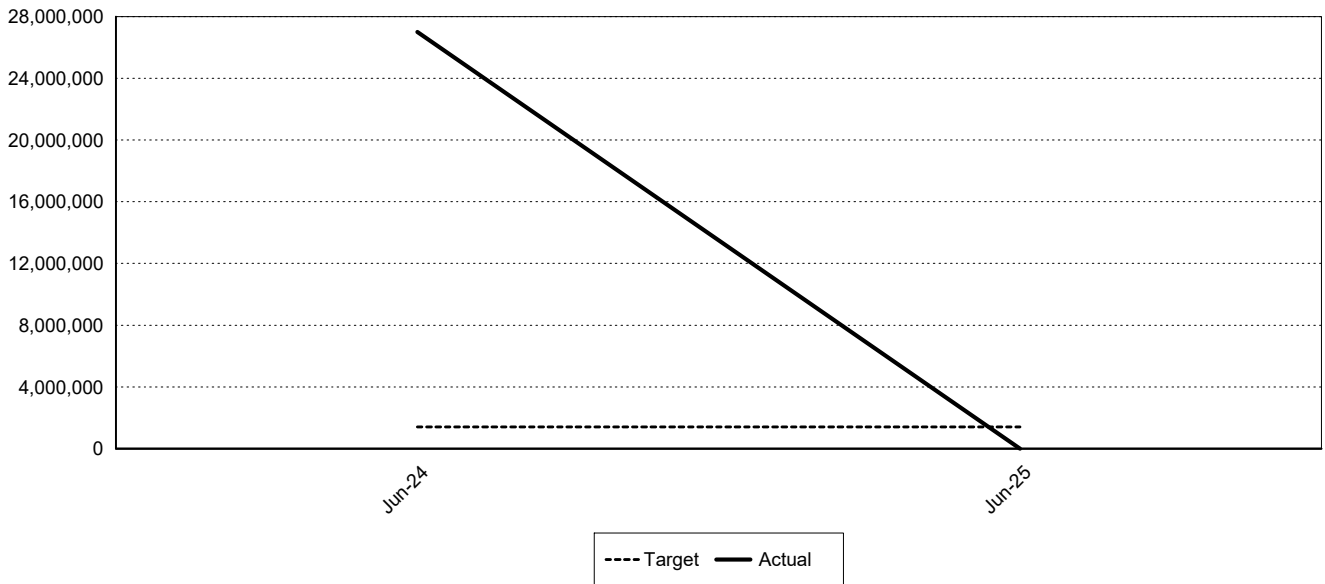
000011 The AGO's Antitrust Division (ANT) enforces antitrust laws, protects consumers from illegal and harmful practices, and ensures a fair, efficient, and competitive marketplace for businesses. Active investigations can result in enforcement actions/litigation that prevent monopolies, price-fixing, and illegal mergers, and recover money for injured consumers and state agencies. Through outreach efforts, ANT educates businesses in order to prevent antitrust violations and protects Washington consumers.

Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	A3	\$0	\$1,400,000
	A2	\$27,000,000	\$1,400,000

Performance Measure Status: Approved

Dollars

000011 - Antitrust Restitution to the Citizens of the State



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands
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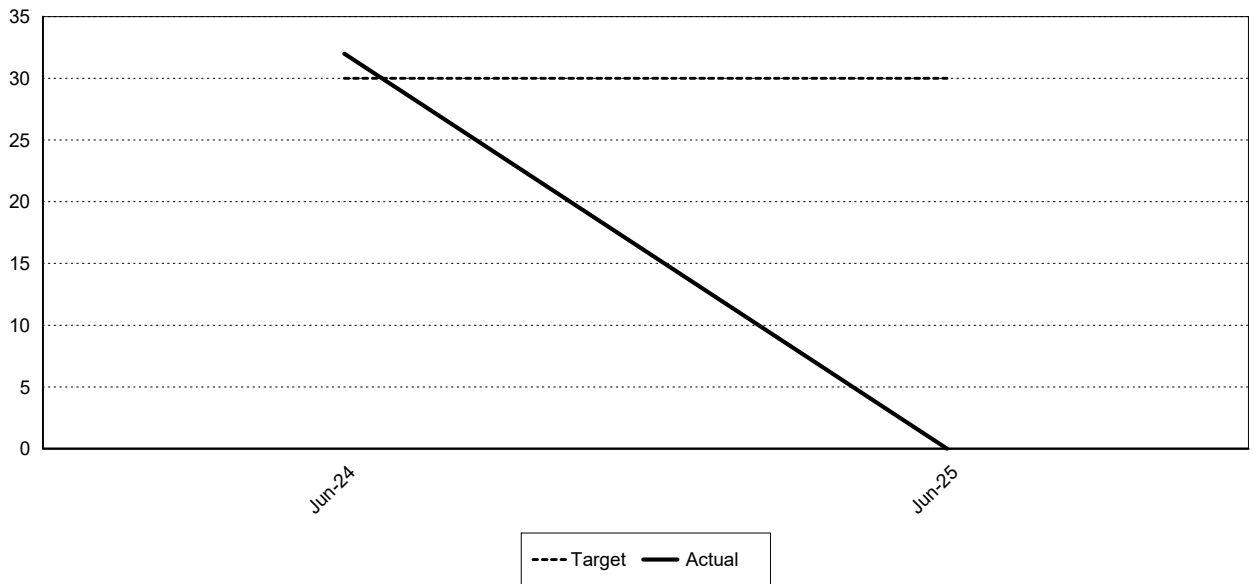
Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

002877 The AGO's Antitrust Division (ANT) enforces antitrust laws, protects consumers from illegal and harmful practices, and ensures a fair, efficient, and competitive marketplace for businesses. Active investigations can result in enforcement actions/litigation that prevent monopolies, price-fixing, and illegal mergers, and recover money for injured consumers and state agencies. Through outreach efforts, ANT educates businesses in order to prevent antitrust violations and protects Washington consumers.

Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	A3	0	30
	A2	32	30
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

Number

002877 - Antitrust Restitution to the Citizens of the State



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A005 Enforcement of Consumer Protection Laws

The AGO's Consumer Protection Division (CPR) protects Washington consumers from deception, scams, and abusive practices. CPR provides a fair marketplace through vigorous civil law enforcement of the Consumer Protection Act (CPA) including education and outreach to consumers. CPR's Consumer Resource Center fields calls and complaints from consumers around the state, informally resolving complaints and recovering millions of dollars for consumers. CPR attorneys promote compliance with the CPA by obtaining injunctions and monetary judgments against violators including direct consumer restitution. CPR's Foreclosure Compliance Program enforces the Foreclosure Fairness Act to help homeowners. CPR also houses the Lemon Law program which promotes timely and effective new motor vehicle warranty service through mandatory arbitration. CPR's Manufactured House Dispute Resolution Unit fosters compliance with the Manufactured Housing Landlord Tenant Act.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	20.9	18.9	19.9
17L Foreclosure Fairness Account			
17L-1 State	\$1	\$1	\$2
17L-6 Non-Appropriated	\$335	\$338	\$673
17L Account Total	\$336	\$339	\$675
001 General Fund			
001-1 State	\$3,595	\$4,050	\$7,645
12F Man/Mobile Home Dispute Resolution			
12F-1 State	\$135	\$135	\$270
12F-6 Non-Appropriated	\$1,123	\$1,089	\$2,212
12F Account Total	\$1,258	\$1,224	\$2,482
154 New Motor Vehicle Arbitration Acct			
154-1 State	\$1,002	\$1,007	\$2,009
25V WA St ATG Charitable Asset Prtn Acc			
25V-6 Non-Appropriated	\$814	\$806	\$1,620

Statewide Result Area: Prosperous Economy

Statewide Strategy: Provide consumer protection

Expected Results

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

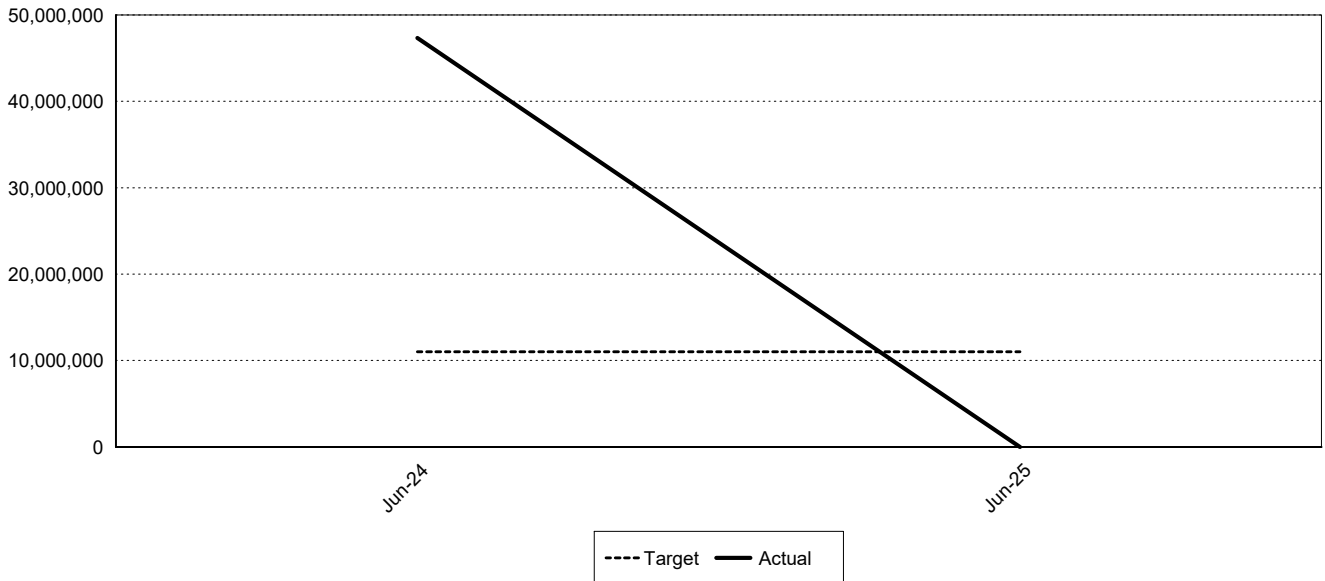
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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

The AGO's Consumer Protection Division's (CPR) activities are expected to foster a fair, competitive and non-deceptive marketplace, prevent consumer harm, promote voluntary compliance with economic regulation by businesses, and resolve disputes between buyers and sellers in the marketplace. CPR is expected to recover a portion of operational costs through its litigation activity. CPR is expected to promote timely and effective new motor vehicle warranty service through mandatory arbitration, and foster compliance with the Manufactured Housing Landlord Tenant Act.

002534			
The AGO's Consumer Protection Division's (CPR) activities are expected to foster a fair, competitive and non-deceptive marketplace, prevent consumer harm, promote voluntary compliance with economic regulation by businesses, and resolve disputes between buyers and sellers in the marketplace. CPR is expected to recover a portion of operational costs through its litigation activity. CPR is expected to promote timely and effective new motor vehicle warranty service through mandatory arbitration, and foster compliance with the Manufactured Housing Landlord Tenant Act.			
Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	A3	\$0	\$11,000,000
	A2	\$47,315,168	\$11,000,000
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

Dollars 002534 - Direct Restitution Provided to Consumers through Litigation and Complaint Resolution



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A007 Homicide Investigation Tracking System

The Homicide Investigation Tracking System (HITS) system provides assistance to law enforcement by providing them with greater access to information, advice, and assistance resulting in enhanced and speedier investigation of violent crimes. As a result, suspects are pursued more quickly leading to better public protections.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	9.2	9.2	9.2
001 General Fund			
001-1 State	\$1,428	\$1,454	\$2,882

Statewide Result Area: Healthy and Safe Communities

Statewide Strategy: Enforce the law

Expected Results

Homicide Investigation Tracking System (HITS) investigators and its data warehouse provide resources to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies by giving them access to violent crime data and analyses across jurisdictions. The HITS unit provides law enforcement analysis of crime data related to murder, rape, and other serious offenses. The usefulness of the HITS system is directly affected by the quality and quantity of crime data entered into the system, and HITS investigators work closely with law enforcement to ensure all information is correctly captured. HITS provides direct investigative assistance, including case reviews and search results, to law enforcement agencies upon their request. As a result, violent offenders are identified and apprehended improving public safety and preventing crime.

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

000021 Homicide Investigation Tracking System (HITS) investigators and its data warehouse provide resources to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies by giving them access to violent crime data and analyses across jurisdictions. The HITS unit provides law enforcement analysis of crime data related to murder, rape, and other serious offenses. The usefulness of the HITS system is directly affected by the quality and quantity of crime data entered into the system. HITS investigators work closely with law enforcement to ensure all information is correctly captured. HITS provides direct investigative assistance that includes case reviews and search results to law enforcement agencies upon their request. As a result, violent offenders are identified and apprehended improving public safety and preventing crime.

Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	Q8	0	254
	Q7	122	254
	Q6	188	254
	Q5	206	254
	Q4	164	254
	Q3	196	254
	Q2	181	254
	Q1	171	254
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

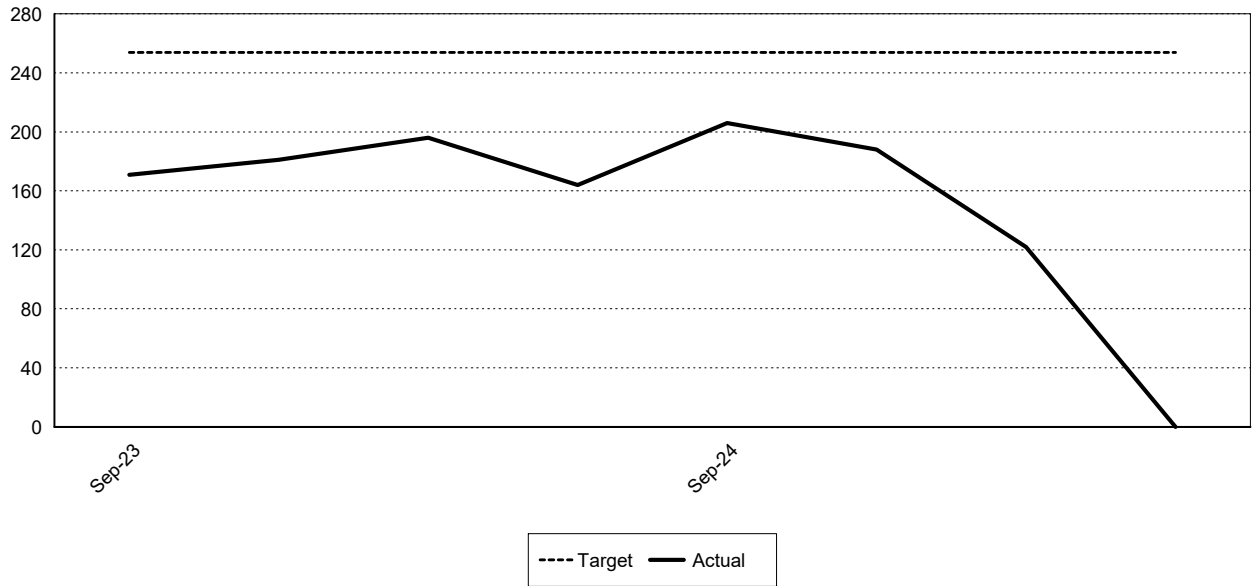
ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

Number

000021 - HITS Requests from Law Enforcement



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A006 Executive Ethics Board

The Executive Ethics Board (EEB) is an independent board with five members appointed by the Governor. The EEB promotes integrity, confidence, and public trust in state government through education, interpretation, and enforcement of the Ethics in compliance with the Public Service Act (Act). The AGO provides staff and administrative support for the EEB. EEB members meet on a regular basis to interpret the Act for all state agencies, provide advice to agencies regarding ethical issues, promulgate rules to implement the Act, and take enforcement action against state employees who violate the Act. EEB staff investigate complaints filed by public employees and citizens, provide ethics training to state agencies, and provide advice regarding ethics in the workplace. Ethics training enables state officers and employees to perform their public responsibilities and conduct the business of the state appropriately.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	4.1	4.1	4.1
405 Legal Services Revolving Account			
405-1 State	\$673	\$685	\$1,358

Statewide Result Area: Efficient, Effective and Accountable Government

Statewide Strategy: Support democratic processes and government accountability

Expected Results

The Executive Ethics Board investigates complaints filed by public employees and citizens regarding ethical violations established in the Public Service Act, and prosecutes cases to completion. By completing investigations and resolving cases in a timely manner, state agencies, state employees, and the public are better served, and public trust and confidence in state government increases.

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

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Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

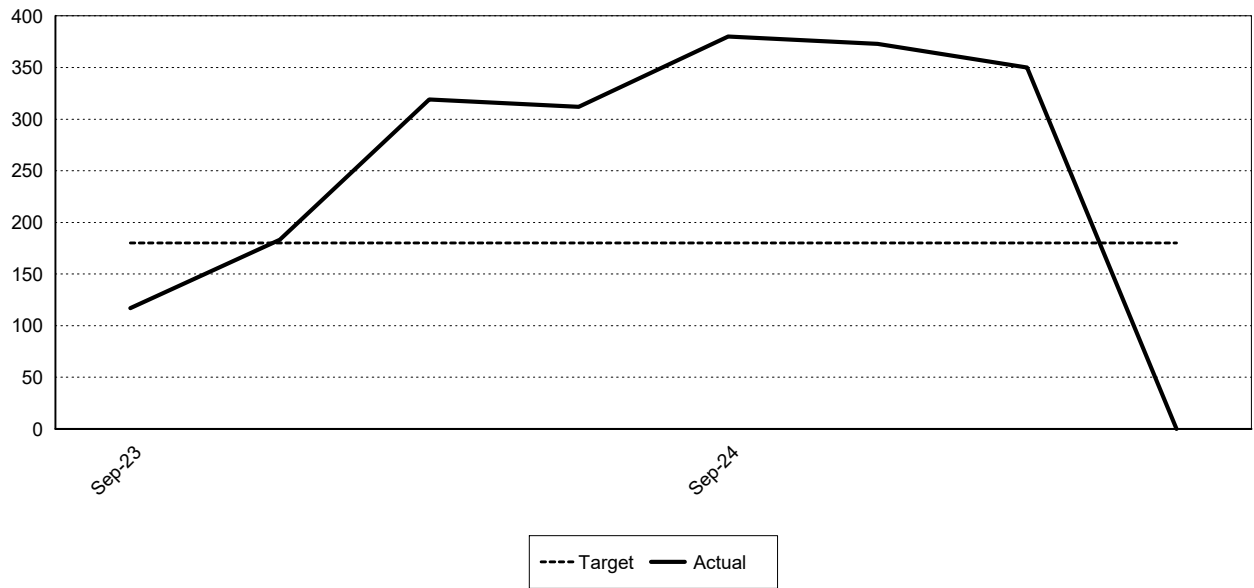
000018			
The Executive Ethics Board investigates complaints filed by public employees and citizens regarding ethical violations established in the Public Service Act, and prosecutes cases to completion. By completing investigations and resolving cases in a timely manner, state agencies, state employees, and the public are better served, and public trust and confidence in state government increases.			
Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	Q8	0	180
	Q7	350	180
	Q6	373	180
	Q5	380	180
	Q4	312	180
	Q3	319	180
	Q2	183	180
	Q1	117	180
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

Number **000018 - Average Number of Days to Complete an Ethics Investigation**



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A009 Investigation and Prosecution of Medicaid Fraud and Resident Abuse

The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) is federally mandated and 75% federally funded for this investigative and prosecutorial unit staffed by Attorneys, Auditors, Investigators, Paralegals and support personnel. MFCU's mission is to protect patients and taxpayers through civil (including qui tam action) and criminal law enforcement. MFCU investigates and prosecutes fraud by health care providers that illegally divert Medicaid funds. These enforcement efforts curtail and deter similar criminal activity and lead to recoveries for the state and federal government. MFCU also prosecutes the abuse and neglect of residents in Medicaid-funded facilities. MFCU provides valuable assistance to local law enforcement in investigating and prosecuting crimes committed against vulnerable adults. MFCU helps coordinate the efforts of local vulnerable adult task forces, enforces the law, holds criminals accountable, increases public safety, deters fraud, and recovers money for the state. The addition of the Medicaid False Claims Act (FCA) in 2012 allows whistleblower qui tam actions. This increases MFCU's capacity to aggressively combat fraud through civil and criminal means, benefits our state by expanding the AGO's capacity to address fraud, neglect and abuse. This is essential as more Washingtonians become eligible for Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and as more people are entering the long-term care system.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	72.0	72.0	72.0
141 Federal Seizure Account			
141-6 Non-Appropriated	\$1,544	\$1,541	\$3,085
001 General Fund			
001-2 Federal	\$11,758	\$10,593	\$22,351
19A Medicaid Fraud Penalty Account			
19A-1 State	\$4,566	\$4,582	\$9,148

Statewide Result Area: Healthy and Safe Communities

Statewide Strategy: Provide access to health care

Expected Results

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

Medicaid funds are returned to the State through appropriation to combat fraud, provide Medicaid services, and monitor prescription drug abuse. The 2012 legislature created the False Claims Act (FCA) and the Medicaid Penalty Account (MPA) which is the state funding source for the AGO's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU), and for the Medicaid program integrity responsibilities managed by the Washington State Health Care Authority. Through MFCU's civil efforts, recovered money that was illegally obtained in violation of either the federal or state FCA is returned to the State and placed into the MPA. This includes restitution, interest and penalties. The 2013 legislature authorized the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, also funded from the MPA. Through MFCU's criminal and non-false claims act civil efforts, additional money is returned to the State. These cases generally contain a restitution portion, and have generated interest. In these cases, the restitution recoveries are returned directly to the Medicaid program and not to the MPA. Any interest earned and recovered goes to the State General Fund.

002538

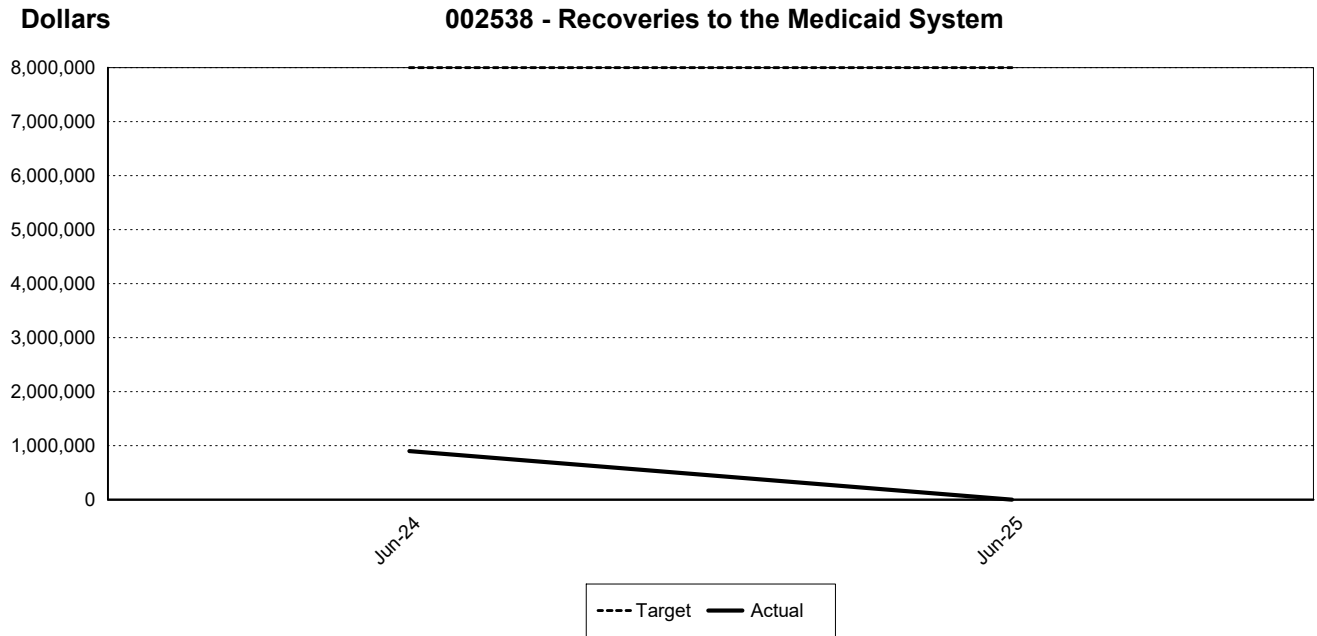
State share of Medicaid recoveries is utilized to combat fraud, provide Medicaid services, and monitor prescription drug abuse. The 2012 legislature created the FCA and the MPA. These acts create the state funding source for the AGO's MFCU, and for the Medicaid program integrity responsibilities managed by the HCA. MFCU's civil efforts recovered money that was illegally obtained in violation of either the federal or state FCA is returned to the State and placed into the MPA. Recovered money includes restitution, interest and penalties. The 2013 legislature authorized the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program that is also funded from the MPA. Through MFCU's criminal and non-false claims act civil efforts, additional money is returned to the State. These cases generally contain a restitution portion and an interest portion. Recoveries are returned directly to the Medicaid program and not to the MPA. The associated interest goes to GF-S.

Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	A3	\$0	\$8,000,000
	A2	\$897,849	\$8,000,000
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A010 Legal Services to State Agencies

By providing high quality legal assistance and representation to Washington's state agencies, boards, and commissions, the AGO improves government services, increases government efficiency, and prevents costly lawsuits. The legal services provided by the AGO saves taxpayer dollars, promotes the public interest, and ensures agencies are able to fulfill their essential missions. The AGO offers excellent, option-based legal advice to help the state promote the public good. In the litigation context, the AGO initiates, defends, and resolves cases effectively and efficiently for the benefit of the state, its agencies, and its citizens.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	1,107.9	1,092.6	1,100.3
001 General Fund			
001-1 State	\$11,659	\$11,454	\$23,113
001-2 Federal	\$2,987	\$3,674	\$6,661
001-7 Local	\$2	\$2	\$4
001 Account Total	\$14,648	\$15,130	\$29,778
405 Legal Services Revolving Account			
405-1 State	\$169,745	\$169,694	\$339,439
828 Tobacco Prevention/Control Account			
828-1 State	\$136	\$138	\$274

Statewide Result Area: Efficient, Effective and Accountable Government
Statewide Strategy: Provide data, information, and analysis to support decision-making

Expected Results

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

The AGO provides legal advice and representation to nearly 200 state agencies, boards, and commissions and sustains about 25,000 open cases at all times. As legal counsel for the state, the AGO represents the state in litigation, and provides legal advice on personnel, contracts, public records, specialized program advice, and risk management. Program responsibilities supported by the AGO include state and federal benefit programs administered by state agencies, licensing and regulatory programs, agency custodial programs, higher education institutions, natural resources programs, capital construction and equipment acquisitions, state agency revenue and collection programs, and economic development and enterprise activities. The AGO protects taxpayer dollars by providing sound legal advice and risk management services to clients thus avoiding costly lawsuits. The AGO assists agencies with civil enforcement efforts – for example, working with the Department of Ecology to hold polluters accountable, the Department of Labor and Industries to promote fair labor practices, and Department of Social Health and Services to protect children and other vulnerable populations from abuse and neglect.

002539

The AGO provides legal representation to state agencies, boards, and commissions and sustains about 25,000 open cases at all times. The AGO represents the state in litigation and provides advice on personnel, contracts, public records, specialized program advice, and risk management. Program responsibilities include state and federal benefit programs administered by state agencies, licensing and regulatory programs, agency custodial programs, higher education, natural resources programs, capital construction and equipment acquisitions, state agency revenue and collection programs, and economic development and enterprise activities. The AGO protects taxpayer dollars by providing sound legal advice and risk management services to clients avoiding costly lawsuits. AGO assists agencies with civil enforcement efforts – working with ECY to hold polluters accountable, L&I to promote fair labor practices, DSHS to protect children and other vulnerable populations from abuse and neglect.

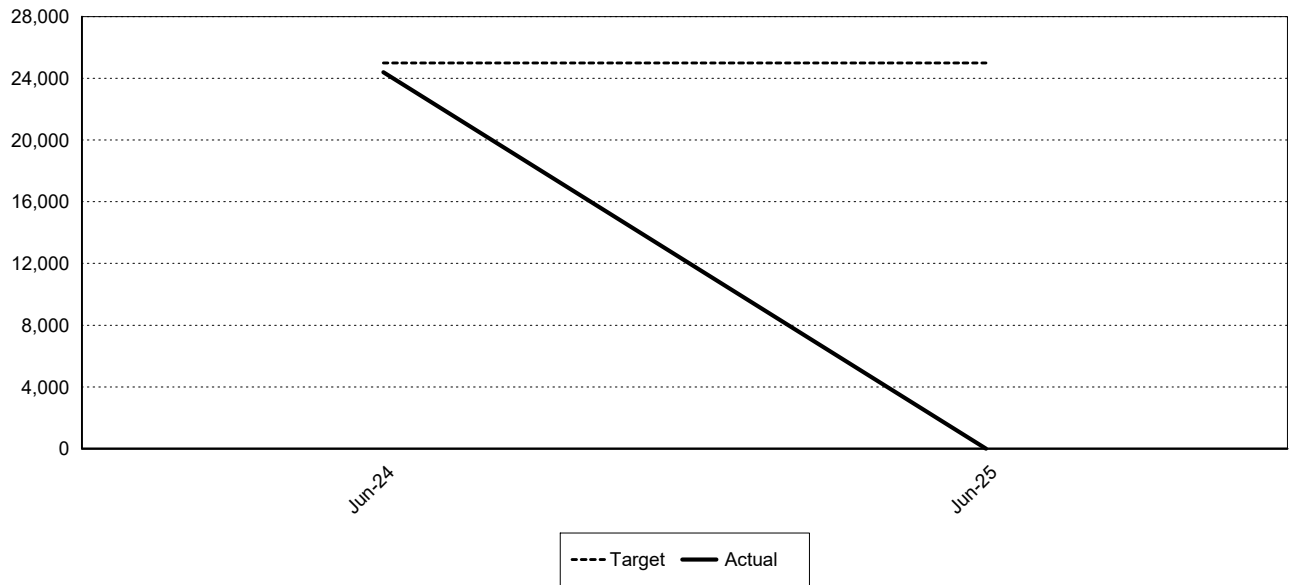
Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	A3	0	25,000
	A2	24,386	25,000
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

Number **002539 - Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year**



ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

A011 Representing Ratepayers

The AGO's Public Counsel Unit (PCU) represents residential and small business customers (ratepayers) of electric, natural gas, and telecommunications utilities regulated by the Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission (UTC). PCU advocates on behalf of customers in UTC cases involving utility rates, mergers, energy efficiency programs, service quality, and other policy matters. PCU investigates company requests and retains experts to analyze areas such as accounting, economics, finance, engineering, rate spread/rate design, and service quality. In a rate case or merger evidentiary hearings, PCU will cross-examine other parties' expert witnesses, present its own witnesses, and file legal briefs. In addition to participating as a statutory party in major rate and merger cases, PCU may also present policy recommendations in UTC rulemakings or at bi-weekly UTC business meetings. PCU participates in technical policy and advisory groups, and may provide information to the Legislature and other policymakers.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
FTE	11.2	11.2	11.2
111 Public Service Revolving Account			
111-1 State	\$3,157	\$3,177	\$6,334

Statewide Result Area: Prosperous Economy

Statewide Strategy: Provide consumer protection

Expected Results

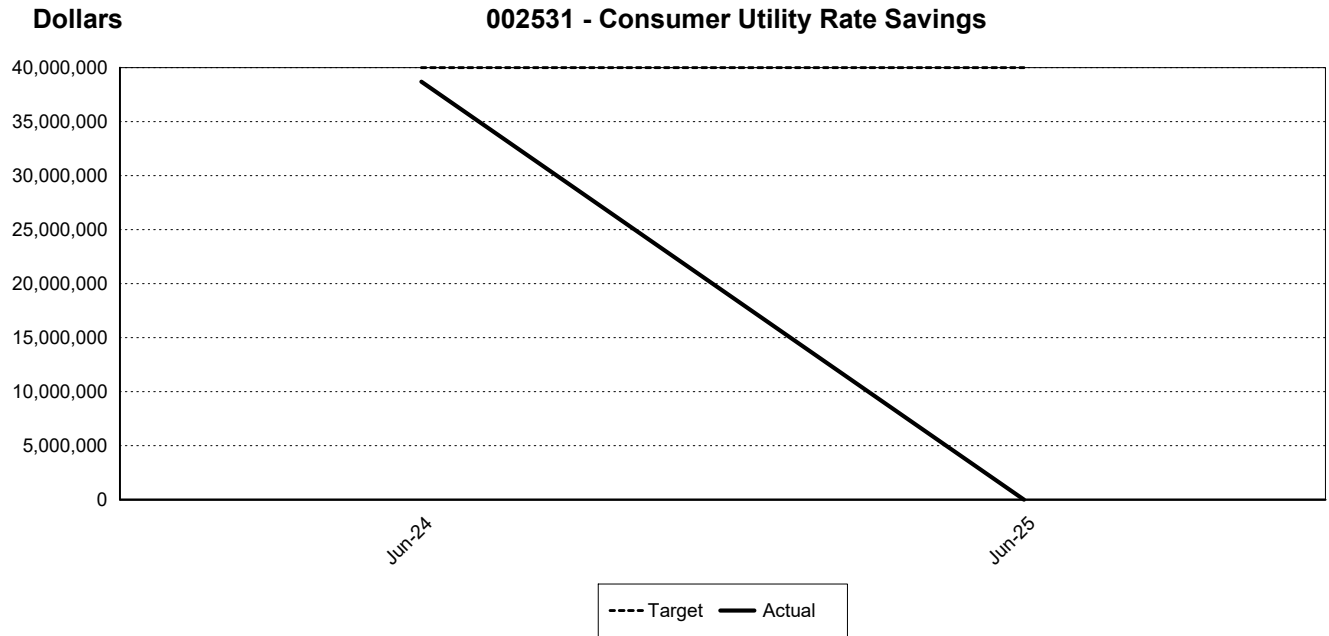
The AGO's Public Counsel Unit (PCU) protects consumers and businesses by advocating fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient utility rates, and by ensuring that customers pay only for reasonable and cost-effective programs. PCU's efforts have helped save consumers nearly \$100 million over the past four years and will continue to save Washingtonians money on utility rates.

002531			
The AGO's Public Counsel Unit (PCU) protects consumers and businesses by advocating fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient utility rates, and by ensuring that customers pay only for reasonable and cost-effective programs. PCU's efforts have helped save consumers nearly \$150 million over the past four years and will continue to save Washingtonians money on utility rates.			
Biennium	Period	Actual	Target
2023-25	A3	\$0	\$40,000,000
	A2	\$38,700,000	\$40,000,000
Performance Measure Status: Approved			

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity



A012 Victims Advocacy

The AGO is committed to making our communities safer, and to support those who provide direct services to victims of crime, increase quality services for victims of crime in Washington State, protect victims' rights, and enhance public awareness. All Washingtonians have the right to fairness, dignity and respect.

Account	FY 202	FY 202	Biennial Total
405 Legal Services Revolving Account			
405-1 State	\$17	\$73	\$90

Statewide Result Area: Healthy and Safe Communities

Statewide Strategy: Protect and support victims of crime

Expected Results

The AGO is committed to support those who provide direct services to victims of crime, increase quality services for victims of crime in Washington State, protect victims' rights, and enhance public awareness. Consequently, Washingtonians will utilize the services necessary for recovery and lessen their chances for repeated victimization. Victim advocates will receive the support and services they need.

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

Grand Total

	FY 2028	FY 2029	Biennial Total
FTE's	1,620.9	1,600.0	1,610.5
GFS	\$42,844	\$40,017	\$82,861
Other	\$255,394	\$256,420	\$511,814
Total	\$298,238	\$296,437	\$594,675

ACT001 - Agency Activity Inventory
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

*

Appropriation Period: 2027-29 Sort By: Activity

Report Number: ACT001

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Entered As</u>
Version Source	Agency
Session	2027-29 Regular
Agency	100
Version	2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Result Area	All Result Areas
Activity	All Activities
Program	All Programs
Sub Program	All Sub Programs
Account	All Accounts
Expenditure Authority Type	All Expenditure Authority Types
Theme	All
Sort By	Activity
Display All Account Types	Yes
Include Policy Level	Yes
Include Activity Description	Yes
Include Statewide Result Area	Yes
Include Statewide Strategy	Yes
Include Expected Results Text	Yes
Include Charts	Yes
Chart Type	Line
Approved Only	Y
Display Parameter Page	Y



ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
100 Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request

CB	T0PL
CB	T0PL
CL	1163
CL	1163
CL	1213
CL	1213
CL	1514
CL	1514
CL	1522
CL	1522
CL	1524
CL	1524
CL	1644
CL	1644
CL	2355
CL	2355
CL	2479
CL	2479
CL	5149
CL	5149
CL	5217
CL	5217
CL	5291
CL	5291
CL	5463
CL	5463
CL	5501
CL	5501
CL	6002
CL	6002
CL	6302
CL	6302
CL	CITF

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
100 Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

CL	CITF	No measures linked to decision package
CL	CPA1	No measures linked to activity
CL	CPA1	No measures linked to decision package
CL	MERG	No measures linked to activity
CL	MERG	No measures linked to decision package
CL	PHFE	No measures linked to activity
CL	PHFE	No measures linked to decision package
CL	RNTT	No measures linked to activity
CL	RNTT	No measures linked to decision package
CL	TH	No measures linked to activity
CL	TH	No measures linked to decision package
CL	TPLN	No measures linked to activity
CL	TPLN	No measures linked to decision package
CL	UB	No measures linked to activity
CL	UB	No measures linked to decision package
CL	UD	No measures linked to activity
CL	UD	No measures linked to decision package
CL	ULG	No measures linked to activity
CL	ULG	No measures linked to decision package
CL	VRAC	No measures linked to activity
CL	VRAC	No measures linked to decision package
CL	WG	No measures linked to activity
CL	WG	No measures linked to decision package
CL	WRKR	No measures linked to activity
CL	WRKR	No measures linked to decision package
ML	XC	No measures linked to activity
ML	XE	No measures linked to activity
ML	XH	No measures linked to activity
ML	XJ	No measures linked to activity
ML	XK	No measures linked to activity
ML	XL	No measures linked to activity
ML	XM	No measures linked to activity
ML	XN	No measures linked to activity
PL	XA	No measures linked to activity
PL	XB	No measures linked to activity
PL	XD	No measures linked to activity
PL	XG	No measures linked to activity

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
100 Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

Outcome Measures 002533 Total AG Formal and Informal Opinions Issued

			<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
ML	XC	OMVLA Support	188	188	188	188
ML	XE	Major Economic Crimes IT Support	798	798	798	798
PL	XA	Federal Litigation	5,212	5,212	0	0
PL	XB	Public Defense Litigation	1,471	364	0	0
PL	XD	Tribal Policy Continuation	596	596	596	596

AGO Strategic Plan: Serve the State – Goal 1: Deliver high quality, timely and efficient legal services.

Outcome Measures 002539 Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year

			<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
ML	XH	DOL Legal Services	756	756	0	0
ML	XJ	UW Legal Services	3,340	3,340	3,340	3,340
ML	XK	OSPI Legal Services	615	615	615	615
ML	XL	House Legal Services	59	59	59	59
ML	XM	Senate Legal Services	57	57	57	57
PL	XG	UW Support Staff Transfer	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

AGO Strategic Plan: Serve the State – Goal 1: Deliver high quality, timely and efficient legal services.

Output Measures 002534 Direct Restitution Provided to Consumers through Litigation and Complaint Resolution

			<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
ML	XN	MHD Increased Authority	130	130	130	130

AGO Strategic Plan: AGO Strategic Plan: Protect the People – Goal 4: PROTECT ALL WASHINGTON CONSUMERS. 2-4-1: Enforce the laws that protect consumers and improve consumer awareness.

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
100 Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

Activity: A002 Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A001 Administration

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Outcome Measures 002533 Total AG Formal and Informal Opinions Issued

			<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
ML	XC	OMVLA Support	188	188	188	188
ML	XE	Major Economic Crimes IT Support	798	798	798	798
PL	XA	Federal Litigation	5,212	5,212	0	0
PL	XB	Public Defense Litigation	1,471	364	0	0
PL	XD	Tribal Policy Continuation	596	596	596	596

AGO Strategic Plan: Serve the State – Goal 1: Deliver high quality, timely and efficient legal services.

Activity: A003 Criminal Investigation and Prosecution

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A004 Enforcement of Anti-Trust Laws

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
100 Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

Activity: A005 Enforcement of Consumer Protection Laws

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Output Measures 002534 Direct Restitution Provided to Consumers through Litigation and Complaint Resolution

			<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
ML	XN	MHD Increased Authority	130	130	130	130

AGO Strategic Plan: AGO Strategic Plan: Protect the People – Goal 4: PROTECT ALL WASHINGTON CONSUMERS. 2-4-1: Enforce the laws that protect consumers and improve consumer awareness.

Activity: A007 Homicide Investigation Tracking System

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A006 Executive Ethics Board

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A009 Investigation and Prosecution of Medicaid Fraud and Resident Abuse

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
100 Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

Activity: A010 Legal Services to State Agencies

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Outcome Measures 002539 Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year

			<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
ML	XH	DOL Legal Services	756	756	0	0
ML	XJ	UW Legal Services	3,340	3,340	3,340	3,340
ML	XK	OSPI Legal Services	615	615	615	615
ML	XL	House Legal Services	59	59	59	59
ML	XM	Senate Legal Services	57	57	57	57
PL	XG	UW Support Staff Transfer	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

AGO Strategic Plan: Serve the State – Goal 1: Deliver high quality, timely and efficient legal services.

Activity: A011 Representing Ratepayers

ML 9Z

No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A012 Victims Advocacy

ML 9Z

ML 9Z

No measures linked to activity

No measures linked to decision package

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
100 Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

Report Number: ABS033

Input Parameters

Session	2027-29 Regular
Agency	100
Version	2729
Program	Agency Level
Activity	(All)
For Word	N
Display Parameter Page	Y

2027-29 Biennium
Activity Inventory Indirect Cost Allocation Approach

Agency: 100 - Office of Attorney General

Date: Sept 10, 2026

Allocation Method Description: Total indirect costs were allocated to activities based of the number of FTE in each activity

	% Allocation Received	Dollars Allocated FY 1	Dollars Allocated FY 2	Total Allocated
A001 - Administration	19.8%	56,352	55,709	112,061
A002 - Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators	2.2%	6,199	6,334	12,533
A003 - Criminal Investigation and Prosecution	2.1%	5,837	5,926	11,763
A004 - Enforcement of Anti-Trust Laws	2.4%	6,714	6,664	13,378
A005 - Enforcement of Consumer Protection Laws	2.5%	6,829	7,248	14,077
A006 - Executive Ethics Board	0.2%	673	685	1,358
A007 - Homicide Investigation Tracking System	0.5%	1,427	1,452	2,879
A008 - Investigation and Defense of Tort Lawsuits	0.0%	0	0	0
A009 - Investigation and Prosecution of Medicaid Fraud and Resident Abuse	6.1%	17,872	16,695	34,567
A010 - Legal Services to State Agencies	63.0%	178,068	178,499	356,567
A011 - Representing Ratepayers	1.1%	3,146	3,165	6,311
A012 - Victims Advocacy	0.0%	17	73	90
TOTALS	100.0%	283,134	282,450	565,584

STRATEGIC PLAN '26 - '28

MISSION

Deliver excellent and independent legal services to state government, defend the rule of law, and fight for justice, fairness, and the public good.

ANTI-RACIST COMMITMENT

Recognize, address, and eradicate all forms of racism within the scope of our work and operations.

GOALS

Protect democracy and the rights of the people.

Provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services.

Advance work on key issues including public safety, worker rights, and housing.

Use the power of the office to create a safe, fair, and affordable Washington for all.

FOUNDATION

Be the best law firm in the country by delivering top-notch advice and advocacy with integrity, courage, and teamwork.

Be an employer of choice, where all teams are connected, staff voices are valued, and everyone can grow professionally.

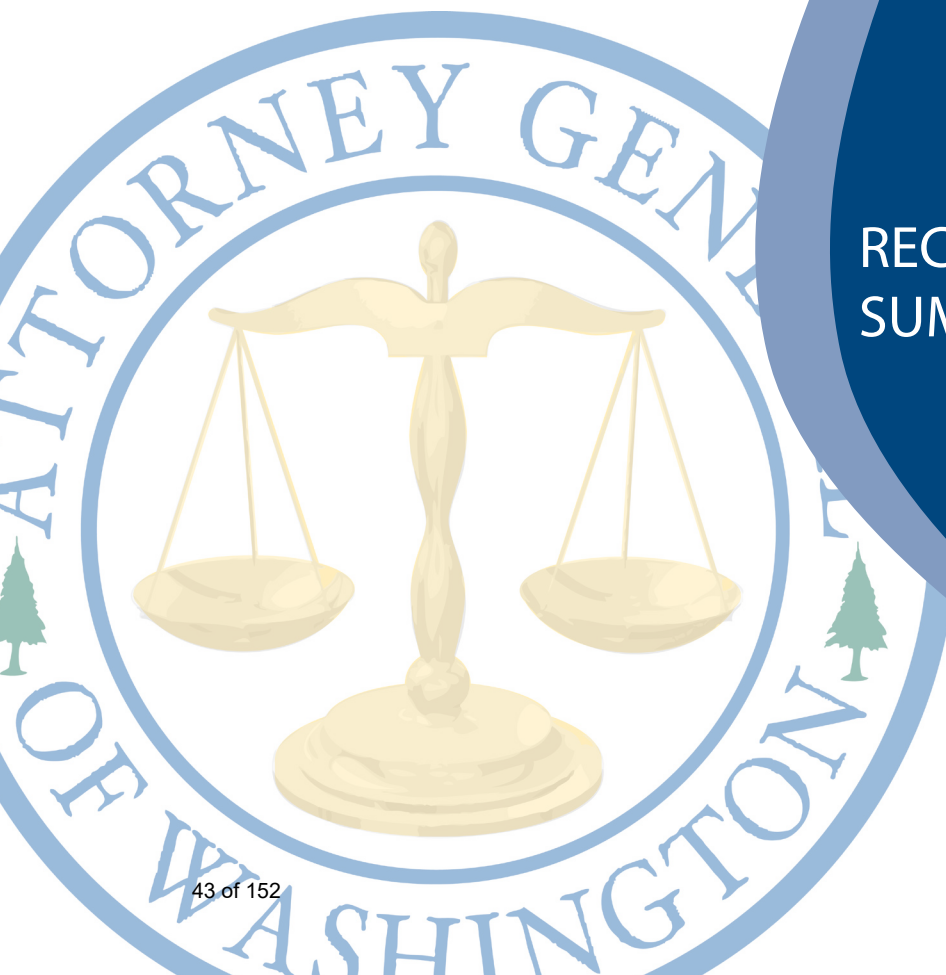
Demand equity in our work and within our workplace to foster inclusion, belonging, and trust.

Be transparent, accountable, dependable, and proactive in problem-solving.



Tab B

RECOMMENDATION
SUMMARY





Dollars in Thousands

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request

		Average Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
CB T0PL	Current Biennium Base	1,547.9	78,824	506,765	585,589
2025-27 Current Biennium Total		1,547.9	78,824	506,765	585,589
CL 1163	Firearm Purchasing	1.6	0	525	525
CL 1213	PFML Job Protections	0.0	0	7	7
CL 1514	Low Carbon Thermal Energy	0.0	0	(54)	(54)
CL 1522	Utility Wildfire Mitigation	(0.4)	0	(222)	(222)
CL 1524	Isolated Employees	0.1	0	3	3
CL 1644	Working Minors	(0.3)	0	(40)	(40)
CL 2355	Domestic Workers Labor Protections	0.2	0	31	31
CL 2479	Unpaid Wage Recovery	0.2	0	31	31
CL 5149	Early Childhood Court Program	0.0	0	2	2
CL 5217	Pregnancy Accommodations	1.5	0	523	523
CL 5259	Law Enforcement Data	0.0	(721)	0	(721)
CL 5291	Long-Term Services Trust	(0.1)	0	(21)	(21)
CL 5463	Industrial Insurance/Duties	0.5	0	132	132
CL 5501	Employee Driving Requirement	0.0	0	2	2
CL 6002	Driver Privacy	0.7	(99)	(4)	(103)
CL 6302	Public Works/Finishing Trade	0.3	0	89	89
CL 8L	Lease Adjustments	0.0	47	428	475
CL 92C	Archives/Records Management	0.0	(13)	(80)	(93)
CL 92D	Audit Services	0.0	1	4	5
CL 92J	WTS Central Services	0.0	(25)	(149)	(174)
CL 92K	DES Central Services	0.0	5	35	40
CL 92R	OFM Central Services	0.0	(579)	(3,563)	(4,142)
CL 92RC	OFM CS FY Correction	0.0	0	0	0
CL 92W	GOV Central Services	0.0	8	47	55
CL 92X	Self-Insurance Liability Premium	0.0	19	114	133
CL 9D	Pension and DRS Rate Change	0.0	(340)	(1,672)	(2,012)
CL 9DPL	Pension Rate Adjustment	0.0	340	1,669	2,009
CL AAG	WFSE Assistant AGs	0.0	112	(338)	(226)
CL ALDF	Animal Legal Defense Fund Grant EA	0.0	0	(250)	(250)
CL CITF	Criminal Insanity & Competency	(0.7)	(98)	(58)	(156)
CL CPA1	Consumer Protection Act Enforcement	1.0	400	0	400
CL E0FS	Salaries for Elected Officials	0.0	0	16	16
CL G09	WFSE General Government	0.0	300	1,160	1,460
CL GAR	Administrative Reduction	0.0	(119)	0	(119)
CL GL9	Non-Rep General Wage Increase	0.0	103	669	772
CL GLS	Updated PEBB Rate	0.0	6	20	26
CL HLTH	Health Care Information	0.0	(50)	0	(50)
CL JHG	OVC Jabara-Heyer Grant	0.0	0	(750)	(750)
CL MERG	Health Care Market Standards	0.4	0	145	145
CL MMTF	MMIWP Task Force	0.0	(250)	0	(250)
CL PHFE	Public Health Framework/Extremism	(0.5)	(418)	0	(418)
CL RNTT	Residential Tenants	0.0	0	0	0
CL RP	Child Rescue Account Authority	0.0	0	(120)	(120)

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

		Average Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
CL RR1B	Agency Legal Services	0.0	0	(2,175)	(2,175)
CL RS	Foreclosure Compliance Program	0.0	0	0	0
CL SBG	DOJ Shepard & Byrd Grant	0.0	0	(394)	(394)
CL TE	L&I Legal Services	0.0	0	241	241
CL TH	Medicaid Fraud Authority	0.0	0	1,527	1,527
CL TJ	Hate Crimes and Bias Incidents	0.0	1	0	1
CL TPLN	Youth Tip Line	(3.0)	(958)	0	(958)
CL UA	SAKI Authority	0.0	0	(600)	(600)
CL UB	College System Benefits	(2.6)	0	(3,296)	(3,296)
CL UC	Pakootas v Teck Metals	0.0	0	(700)	(700)
CL UD	OSPI Litigation	(2.2)	0	(691)	(691)
CL UETF	Underground Economy Task Force	0.0	(45)	0	(45)
CL ULG	Legal Costs	(13.7)	(9,239)	0	(9,239)
CL VRAC	Voting Rights Act Compliance	0.1	138	(13)	125
CL VRCL	Voting Rights Act Claims	0.0	(2)	0	(2)
CL WG	OSPI Litigation and Legal Services	(1.9)	0	(634)	(634)
CL WRKR	Immigrant Workers	0.1	(125)	0	(125)
Total Carry Forward Level		1,529.0	67,223	498,361	565,584
Percent Change from Current Biennium		(1.2)%	(14.7)%	(1.7)%	(3.4)%
Maintenance – Other Changes					
ML 8L	Lease Adjustments	0.0	215	1,539	1,754
ML XC	OMVLA Support	1.2	376	0	376
ML XE	Major Economic Crimes IT Support	2.3	1,596	0	1,596
ML XH	DOL Legal Services	4.8	0	1,512	1,512
ML XJ	UW Legal Services	18.9	0	6,680	6,680
ML XK	OSPI Legal Services	3.7	0	1,230	1,230
ML XL	House Legal Services	0.3	0	118	118
ML XM	Senate Legal Services	0.3	0	114	114
ML XN	MHD Increased Authority	1.0	0	260	260
Maintenance – Other Total		32.5	2,187	11,453	13,640
Total Maintenance Level					
		1,561.5	69,410	509,814	579,224
Percent Change from Current Biennium		.9%	(11.9)%	.6%	(1.1)%
Policy – Other Changes					
PL XA	Federal Litigation	32.1	10,424	0	10,424
PL XB	Public Defense Litigation	5.3	1,835	0	1,835
PL XD	Tribal Policy Continuation	3.6	1,192	0	1,192
PL XG	UW Support Staff Transfer	8.0	0	2,000	2,000
Policy – Other Total		49.0	13,451	2,000	15,451

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

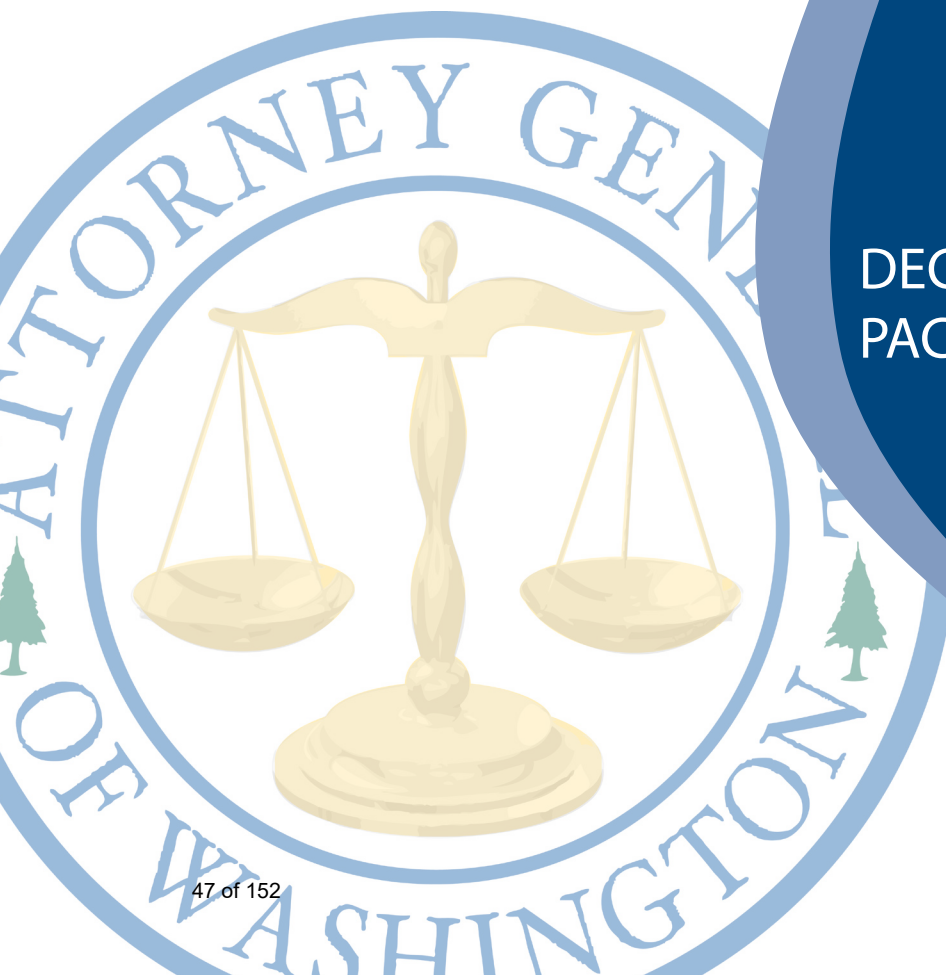
Subtotal - Policy Level Changes	49.0	13,451	2,000	15,451
2027-29 Total Policy Level	1,610.5	82,861	511,814	594,675
Percent Change from Current Biennium	4.0%	5.1%	1.0%	1.6%

Report Number: ABS024

Input Parameters	Entered as
Session	2027-29 Regular
Agency	100
Version Source	A
Version	2729
Version Option	(None)
Program	Agency Level
SubProgram	*
Roll Up	N
Include Budget Level Detail	CL,ML,PL
Include Text	Y
For Word	N
Display Parameter Page	Y

Tab C

DECISION
PACKAGES





Dollars in Thousands

ABS031 Agency DP Priority (PL)
(List only the program Policy Level budget decision packages, in priority order)
100 - Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request

Decision Package	
Code	Decision Package Title
PL-XA	Federal Litigation
PL-XB	Public Defense Litigation
PL-XD	Tribal Policy Continuation
PL-XG	UW Support Staff Transfer

ABS031 Agency DP Priority (PL)
(List only the program Policy Level budget decision packages, in priority order)
100 - Office of Attorney General
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

Report Number: ABS031

Input Parameters

Entered as

Session	2027-29 Regular
Agency	100
Version	2729
Program	Agency Level
For Word	N
Display Parameter Page	Y



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Policy Level - XA - Federal Litigation

Agency Recommendation Summary

Washington State continues to file lawsuits challenging federal policies threatening Washington’s ability to protect basic rights, elections, environmental policies, funding previously promised by the federal government, coercive funding policies, and illegal tariffs. As of August 27, 2026, Washington State is party to 74 lawsuits, and the pace likely will continue. This package seeks funding to ensure the Attorney General’s Office (AGO) has the necessary resources to continue this essential work. The Legislature funded similar budget requests during FY 2026 and FY 2027. The success of previous cases has allowed the state to protect more than \$15 billion for Washington.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	32.1	32.1	32.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$5,212	\$5,212	\$10,424	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$5,212	\$5,212	\$10,424	\$0	\$0	\$0

Decision Package Description

Washington State continues to file lawsuits challenging federal policies to protect basic rights, our elections, environmental policies, funding previously promised by the federal government, coercive funding policies, and illegal tariffs. Washington State is also the subject of several federal government lawsuits or threatened lawsuits. As of August 27, 2026, Washington State is party to 74 lawsuits, and the pace will likely continue. The AGO’s website details each of the State’s current and past federal litigation cases. [Washington Attorney General's Federal Litigation Tracker | Washington State](#). This budget request seeks funding to ensure the AGO has the necessary resources to continue this essential work.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

The Legislature appropriated \$4.5 million to the AGO in FY 2026 and \$4.7 million in FY 2027 for federal litigation. This budget request continues the work and seeks \$5.2 million in FY 2028 and FY 2029 to staff the litigation and advice work. An additional Deputy Solicitor General (DSG) FTE is needed to account for the increased appellate workload as compared to the experience with previous federal administration’s actions. All these cases from the current federal administration’s actions, generate costs substantially from attorney and paralegal time to prepare comment letters in response to proposed federal rulemaking, prepare pleadings and oral arguments, retain and work with experts when necessary, and to prepare declarations from those agencies, entities, and affected individuals. There are frequent appeals and stay motions, often on an expedited basis. The AGO also reviews, analyzes, and advises on terms and conditions of grants, notice of funding opportunities, System of Record Notices, data requests, and other inquiries from the federal government.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The AGO projects the workload for the upcoming biennium to be similar during the past two fiscal years. This budget request seeks funding for 1.0 Deputy Solicitor General (DSG) FTE, 15.0 Assistant Attorney General (AAG) FTE, 1.0 Paralegal 4 (PL4) FTE, 4.0 Paralegal 2 (PL2) FTE, 5.5 Paralegal 1 (PL1) FTE, and 5.6 Management Analyst 5 (MA5) FTE.

The federal litigation protects basic rights for many Washingtonians. It protects our elections. It defends hundreds of millions in federal funding from cuts for many agencies and universities. It safeguards environmental policies for all Washingtonians. It fights coercive funding policies that are sought to be imposed on state agencies, universities, and Washingtonians. It challenges unlawful tariffs that drive up the cost of goods for all Washingtonians. The AGO is the only Washington State entity with legal authority to sue on behalf of the people of Washington.

As the work is reactive, there is some uncertainty about what basic rights will be challenged and which citizens, agencies, and universities will be affected in the next biennium. For the completed and pending cases, all or nearly all Washingtonians have been directly or indirectly affected. The previous cases have allowed the state to protect more than \$15 billion for Washington.

This request seeks funding of \$5.2 million for FY 2028 and \$5.2 million for FY 2029 for federal litigation to continue this necessary and important work for the State. The Legislature directed \$4.5 million to the AGO in FY 2026 and \$4.7 million for FY 2027 for federal litigation.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
AAG FTE	15.0	15.0			N
Object A & B	2,594	2,594			
PL 2 FTE	4.0	4.0			N
Object A & B	432	432			
PL 1 FTE	5.5	5.5			N
Object A & B	546	546			
MA5 FTE	5.6	5.6			N
Object A & B	716	716			
Deputy Solicitor General AAG	1.0	1.0			N
Object A & B	204	204			
Paralegal 4	1.0	1.0			N
Object A & B	126	126			
TOTAL FTE	32.1	32.1	0.0	0.0	
TOTAL A & B	4,618	4,618	0	0	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE = 0

Total Funds = \$0

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$0

FY 2026

FTE = NA

Total Funds = \$4,500

Near General Fund = \$4,500

Other Funds = \$0

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE = NA

Total Funds = \$4,722

Near General Fund = \$4,722

Other Funds = \$0

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This budget request supports the Governor’s Priority to protect Washingtonians’ core freedoms as well as the Governor’s Affordability, Education, Housing, and Public Safety Priorities. Numerous cases against the federal government directly involve each of these areas.

Link to Governor’s Goals/Priorities that this Decision Package supports:

[Priorities](#) | [Governor Bob Ferguson](#)

This request supports the following portions of the AGO Strategic Plan:

Mission: Deliver excellent and independent legal services to state government, defend the rule of law, and fight for justice, fairness, and the public good.

Goals:

- Protect democracy and the rights of the people.
- Provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services.
- Advance work on key issues including public safety, worker rights, and housing.
- Use the power of the office to create a safe, fair, and affordable Washington for all.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002533 - Total AG Formal and Informal Opinions Issued	5,212	5,212	0	0

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

The AGO consults with community partners on cases where appropriate and time permits. The AGO also publicizes its lawsuits and their outcomes.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

This budget request protects and defends equity in the state and the populations that the federal administration is seeking to marginalize. For instance, the AGO filed two lawsuits and obtained injunctive relief in both to protect funding for housing and other services for people experiencing housing instability or homelessness. Thousands of Washingtonians would have lost their homes if injunctive relief were denied.

Target Communities and Populations:

This budget request protects and defends equity in the state and the populations the Federal Administration is seeking to marginalize. The Washington State's lawsuits have protected under-represented communities such as United States citizens born to undocumented parents and those targeted by the federal administration's actions against gender-affirming care. The state also has filed lawsuits to defend against attacks on diversity, equity, and inclusion programs that comply with federal law. Immigrants, refugees, and other under-represented people benefit from many of the state's lawsuits. The illegal tariffs affect all Washingtonians.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

The AGO consults with community partners on cases where appropriate and time permits.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

As described above, Washington State's lawsuits seek to protect large sums that the state, counties, cities, and tribes receive via grants and other funding opportunities from the federal government.

Stakeholder Impacts:

Support and opposition will likely follow along party lines with some exceptions.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

This proposal is not in response to a legal or administrative State mandate, but there are several State Executive Orders (EO) that overlap with the work that will be performed with this funding, such as Immigrant Rights and Protections, EO 25-04 and 25-09, and Reproductive Health Care, EO 25-01. At the federal level, there are many federal EOs that have been challenged in lawsuits and are the subject of work product with the funding that was received for the past two fiscal years.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$3,654	\$3,654	\$7,308	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. B	\$964	\$964	\$1,928	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. E	\$560	\$560	\$1,120	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. G	\$34	\$34	\$68	\$0	\$0	\$0

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak

(360) 664-4350

joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Policy Level - XB - Public Defense Litigation

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and three other counties filed suit challenging the constitutionality of funding for statewide public defense costs. The counties currently fund most statewide public defense costs and are trying to shift all these costs to the State, including for the 36 non-party counties. The annual costs of statewide public defense are substantial and are likely to grow. The case initially was dismissed for lack of standing, but that dismissal was overturned on appeal. This budget request seeks funding to defend the case.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	8.1	2.4	5.25	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$1,471	\$364	\$1,835	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$1,471	\$364	\$1,835	\$0	\$0	\$0

Decision Package Description

The Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC), along with Lincoln, Pacific, and Yakima counties, are challenging the constitutionality of funding for statewide public defense costs. *WSAC v. State of Washington*, King County Superior Court No. 23-2-02911-34. The counties want Washington State to pay for all statewide public defense rather than the counties, including for the 36 non-party counties. The annual costs of statewide public defense is substantial.

Plaintiffs filed suit against the State of Washington. No state agency is named as a defendant. The Office of Public Defense, the agency that distributes some public defense funding, is not the target of the case and has a small budget.

The United States Supreme Court in *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335, 83 S. Ct. 792, 9 L. Ed. 2d 799 (1963), held there is a constitutional right to court-appointed counsel, provided for by the state, for indigent defendants in criminal prosecutions. The counties' amended complaint asserts Washington State currently delegates most trial court indigent defense obligations to the counties. According to the counties, Washington State's funding system fails to provide counties with revenue sources necessary to furnish constitutionally adequate indigent defense services. The counties also claim Washington State denies indigent defendants' equal access to justice because the defense spending per case varies significantly by county. The counties further claim the Washington Supreme Court's new caseload standards, effective in 2026 and phased in over ten years, will exacerbate the systemic funding problem. According to the counties, the costs will grow exponentially as the new caseload standards are implemented. The counties assert violations of the State and Federal constitutional right to counsel as well as Equal Protection claims. The counties seek declaratory and injunctive relief.

The suit was filed in September 2023. The trial court dismissed the lawsuit for lack of standing in 2024. Division II reversed in 2025, and the Supreme Court denied Washington State's petition for review in 2026. After a pause to determine if there was a possible legislative solution, the case resumed with the filing of an amended complaint on June 30, 2026. The discovery cutoff is July 2, 2027, and the trial is scheduled for November 29, 2027. Discovery is in its infancy.

A team from the Attorney General's Office (AGO) Complex Litigation Division and Solicitor General's Office will be representing Washington State at the trial court level. The proposal seeks funding for 3.0 Assistant Attorney General FTE (AAG), 2.5 Paralegal 2 FTE (PL2), and 1.5 Paralegal 1 FTE (PL1) for FY 2028. For FY 2029, the proposal seeks 1.0 AAG, 0.5 PL2, and 0.5 PL1, when the case likely will be on appeal. As cases are frequently continued, this proposal seeks funding for the full case team for FY 2028. The AGO also requests \$250,000 for expert costs for FY 2028.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

N/A.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

This proposal seeks funding for 3.0 AAG, 2.5 PL2, and 1.5 PL1 for FY 2028, and 1.0 AAG, 0.5 PL2, and 0.5 PL1 for FY 2029 when the case likely will be on appeal. As cases are frequently continued, this budget request for FTE assumes the current trial date will be continued to 2028 from its current November 2027 trial date. The AGO requests \$250,000 for expert costs for FY 2028.

A companion budget request during the 2027 supplemental has been requested, which, if funded, would mean funding would run from FY 2027 through 2029. The 2027 supplemental budget request seeks 3.0 AAG, 2.5 PL2, 1.5 PL1, and \$250,000 for expert costs.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
AAG FTE	3.0	1.0			N
Object A & B	519	173			
PL 1 FTE	1.5	0.5			N
Object A & B	149	50			
PL 2 FTE	2.5	0.5			N
Object A & B	270	54			
MA5 FTE	1.1	0.4			N
Object A & B	134	45			
TOTAL FTE	8.1	2.4	0.0	0.0	
TOTAL A & B	1,072	322	0	0	

Historical Funding:

None. A supplemental funding request for FY 2027 is being made in tandem with this request.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This budget request supports the Governor's Public Safety Priority. Public defense is a necessary and important part of the criminal justice system. Governor Ferguson has worked on bipartisan efforts to strengthen public defense. This litigation will potentially impact funding and staffing levels for public defense.

This request supports the following portions of the AGO Strategic Plan:

Mission. Deliver excellent and independent legal services to state government, defend the rule of law, and fight for justice, fairness, and the public good.

Goals.

- Protect democracy and the rights of the people.
- Provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services.
- Advance work on key issues including public safety, worker rights, and housing.
- Use the power of the office to create a safe, fair, and affordable Washington for all.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002533 - Total AG Formal and Informal Opinions Issued	1,471	364	0	0

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A.

Target Communities and Populations:

This proposal, which seeks funding to defend a lawsuit, does not have equity impacts. However, the subject matter of the lawsuit involves claims of inequitable impacts. The counties claim Washington State denies indigent defendants' equal access to justice because the defense spending per case varies significantly by county.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

This proposal, which seeks funding to defend a lawsuit, does not have intergovernmental impacts. However, the subject matter of the lawsuit seeks to shift a significant expense from the counties to Washington State.

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this request at this time. However, the counties and their supporters may use this proposal to attempt to seek more funding from Washington State for public defense without the need for litigation.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

WSAC v. State of Washington, King County Superior Court No. 23-2-02911-34.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$842	\$253	\$1,095	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. B	\$230	\$68	\$298	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. C	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. E	\$140	\$41	\$181	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. G	\$9	\$2	\$11	\$0	\$0	\$0

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - XC - OMVLA Support

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) requests funding for the Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance (OMVLA), an existing program assisting military personnel and veterans with civil legal issues. Between 2020 and 2025, OMVLA connected 2,506 veterans, service members, and their families with free civil legal aid. Over 50 percent of those requests were submitted since 2024. Requests in 2026 are on track to exceed those received any other year. Additional staff is needed to serve every requestor and continue conducting community outreach. With additional funding, OMVLA can meet this need and engage with Washington's diverse military and veteran community.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$188	\$188	\$376	\$188	\$188	\$376
Total Expenditures	\$188	\$188	\$376	\$188	\$188	\$376

Decision Package Description

The Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance (OMVLA) is a legal aid program that connects low and median-income veterans, service members, and their families with civil legal assistance; OMVLA also conducts policy analysis and provides training to the legal community and social service providers. With unanimous support, the Legislature established OMVLA in 2017. From 2017 through 2022, the Legislature funded 1 FTE for OMVLA; a second FTE was funded in 2023.

The number of requests for civil legal assistance received by OMVLA increases annually due to statutory requirements for proactive outreach to service providers and community members. In 2025, OMVLA received 54 percent more requests for help than in 2022 (593 in 2025 compared to 383 in 2022). Between January 2026 and July 2026, OMVLA received 464 requests, a 38 percent increase over the same period in 2025. The AGO has made significant efforts to meet the rising demand with existing resources, but more support is needed.

Individuals who meet OMVLA's eligibility criteria receive comprehensive legal assistance, including information about their legal rights, referrals to one or more legal aid organizations, and in nearly 50 percent of qualified 2026 requests so far, a referral to one of OMVLA's 300 recruited volunteer attorneys for up to an hour of free legal advice. Prior to referral to an attorney or other organization, OMVLA staff generally spend 60 to 90 minutes on the request, including obtaining detailed information about the legal issue and circumstances.

This caseload is increasingly difficult to sustain. To date in 2026, OMVLA receives about 66 requests for assistance per month. OMVLA can, reasonably, only assist approximately 50 community members per month without reducing complementary activities (e.g., community engagement, outreach, and training). OMVLA turned down over a half-dozen of these opportunities already in 2026. These additional efforts connect underserved communities with the OMVLA program, and limiting engagement reduces OMVLA's ability to serve community members who may not otherwise seek out or access legal assistance, including in rural counties. At a typical outreach event, OMVLA may interact with anywhere from 30 to more than 100 veterans; OMVLA estimates that, due to current caseload, OMVLA lost the opportunity to connect with 180 to 400 veterans in 2026 so far. Reducing the training provided means lost opportunities to connect with potential OMVLA volunteer attorneys.

Legal aid covers housing, public safety, affordability, and other issues. For [every dollar invested in legal aid, seven dollars is returned](#) and invested into the community to boost local economy, support community income stability, generate taxpayer's savings, and prevent personal financial loss. Community members who receive legal aid are less likely to experience homelessness and more likely to receive public benefits, including veterans' disability benefits. Domestic violence survivors are less likely to need emergency medical services, shelter, and law enforcement intervention. Even limited legal assistance (e.g., brief advice from a pro bono attorney, like OMVLA provides) also improves legal outcomes, including in [landlord-tenant matters](#) (*before* evictions) and [family law](#) (including protection order cases).

OMVLA expects that, should an additional FTE be funded, OMVLA can continue to provide the full breadth of complementary outreach and community engagement services, and may be able to serve 700 to 750 community members per year without any reduction in additional services. Additional capacity may enable OMVLA to expand certain aspects of the program, such as rural outreach or prevention and community education.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This increase is necessary to maintain services for a larger caseload of a current program created by legislation in 2017 and codified at RCW 43.10.290. Until the 2023 legislative session, OMVLA received funding for 1.0 FTE; from 2023 to the present, OMVLA received funding for 2.0 FTE.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The AGO requests \$376,000 during the 2027-29 biennium and each biennium thereafter to cover costs related to 1.0 FTE for OMVLA.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
MA5 FTE	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Y
Object A & B	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	
Policy Analyst FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	142,000	142,000	142,000	142,000	
TOTAL FTE	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	
TOTAL A & B	165,000	165,000	165,000	165,000	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE = 2.0

Total Funds = \$201

Near General Fund = \$201

Other Funds = \$0

FY 2026

FTE = 2.0

Total Funds = \$201

Near General Fund = \$201

Other Funds = \$0

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE = 2.0

Total Funds = \$201

Near General Fund = \$201

Other Funds = \$0

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This budget request will support Governor Ferguson’s strategic priorities of public safety, housing, and affordability.

- *Public Safety:* Legal aid is an effective upstream intervention to improve public safety. Veterans with legal problems [more likely to experience suicidal ideation and attempt suicide](#) than those without legal problems. A [2017 study](#) showed, however, that veterans who receive legal assistance (primarily full representation, but also consultations and advice) experienced substantial, lasting improvements in mental health symptoms, including post-traumatic stress disorder and hostility. They also spent less on abused substances. Severity of substance abuse and post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms are [closely tied to risk of aggressive or violent behaviors in veterans](#), therefore directly correlating provision of legal aid to improvements in public safety.
- *Housing:* OMVLA connects community members with education, legal assistance, and referrals about their rights as a tenant and how to get help; a [2011 study in England](#) found that renters lack of knowledge about their legal rights and may try to address landlord-tenant legal issues without consulting an expert. With additional capacity, we can connect more people with the expertise and assistance they need, thereby improving housing stability.
- *Affordability:* Legal aid “generates more economic value than the funding it receives.” The [average cost of an attorney](#) in Washington is \$346 per hour. OMVLA is one of the only legal aid programs in Washington that assists “moderate means” individuals (those that make over 200 percent of the federal poverty line but are still unable to afford an attorney). Free legal assistance allows families to keep more money in their pocket to pay for childcare and other daily necessities.

AGO Strategic Plan: This budget request also directly supports the AGO Strategic Plan’s Goals and Foundation, including:

- *Fight for Justice, Fairness, and the Public Good:* Legal aid improves access to justice. Landlords, businesses, and even the government are represented, while tenants, customers, and beneficiaries usually are not. They must pay for a lawyer or go alone. OMVLA helps close those gaps and make the system fairer.
- *Advance Work on Key Issues Including Public Safety, Worker Rights, and Housing:* As discussed above, OMVLA’s work directly impacts public safety and housing stability. It also strengthens worker rights; currently, 53 OMVLA volunteer attorneys practice employment law, and six percent of OMVLA’s 2025 requests were for employment law matters, including wrongful termination, retaliation, or wage claims. In 2025, OMVLA volunteer attorneys accepted 71 percent of referred employment law cases.
- *Be Transparent, Accountable, Dependable, and Proactive in Problem-Solving:* Community members know that they can rely on OMVLA to provide them with assistance. OMVLA provides clear information about *what* assistance is provided, *when* they will hear back, and *how* OMVLA will reach out. Additional capacity for OMVLA will enable the team to maintain reliability, while also getting into the community more.

OMVLA carefully tracks metrics about the work, such as:

- Number of requests received per month and per year
- Percent of requests received sent to legal aid, self-help resources, or an attorney
- How many days it takes to close a request, on average
- Number of counties in Washington with requests per year
- Percent of requestors who are veterans, veteran family members, military service members, military family, or ineligible for assistance
- Average income (percent of federal poverty level) of requestors
- Percent of requests from rural versus urban or suburban counties
- Percent of individuals who request help a second time for the same legal issue within three months
- Percent of requests in each legal issue area that are accepted by a volunteer attorney

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002533 - Total AG Formal and Informal Opinions Issued	188	188	188	188

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

OMVLA conducts outreach statewide. From September 2025 to present, OMVLA focused on rural and Tribal outreach. OMVLA held virtual meetings with organizations representing 23 of 30 rural counties. Additionally, OMVLA conducted in-person outreach to an additional five rural counties, including meetings with groups in Lincoln, Pend Oreille and Garfield counties. Due to current case load, OMVLA unfortunately had to decline opportunities to attend rural resource fairs in Okanogan, Whitman, and Yakima counties. OMVLA plans to attend an upcoming resource fair for Clallam and Jefferson County veterans, as OMVLA rarely receives requests for assistance from the area.

OMVLA also conducted significant Tribal outreach over the past year. Native people serve in the US military at rates that are [five times the national average](#). OMVLA attended several events to provide resources and increase awareness of our program among Native veterans, including the Joint American Indian Veteran Advisory Council conference at Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians mid-year conference at Silver Reef Casino, and the Nooksack Resource Fair.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

Studies conducted by the military, nonprofits, and the Department of Veterans Affairs show that Black veterans, in particular, experience systemic disparities related to their military and veteran experience. Black veterans are [more likely to receive less than Honorable discharges from the military](#), more likely [to experience denials of VA benefits and VA healthcare](#), and [more likely to experience homelessness](#). OMVLA tailors every aspect of our program to reduce the harmful effects of these disparities. For example, OMVLA's intake form does not assume that people have a home or mailing address; OMVLA asks "Do you have a mailing address," and, if not, we ask individuals where they spend the night most often. OMVLA also asks individuals to provide objective information about their military service. This is in contrast to many other organizations that ask, "Are you a veteran?" Veterans with a less than Honorable discharge are *often* told that they are "not a veteran" by the federal VA or other agencies, and therefore will preemptively disqualify themselves from programs, like OMVLA, that they may be eligible for. Objective information allows us to make the determination based on the state definition of veteran under [RCW 73.04.005](#).

OMVLA also learns from and works with organizations like Minority Veterans of America, a nationwide advocacy, training, and community engagement group for historically underrepresented veteran groups that is based in King County.

Increasing funding for OMVLA will allow the team to continue to expand outreach so that OMVLA can serve more communities, as well as tailor our program operations to the needs of populations who were, and continue to be, harmed by discriminatory decisions of the military and federal Department of Veterans Affairs.

Target Communities and Populations:

OMVLA serves veterans, service members and their families (spouses, surviving spouses, and children under the age of 21) who live in Washington State and have a legal issue in Washington State. OMVLA serves individuals who make under 500 percent of the federal poverty level, ensuring that OMVLA can assist individuals who would otherwise be ineligible for legal aid but unable to afford an attorney on their own. In 2026 so far, OMVLA has received requests from 31 of 39 counties in Washington State, and the average income of all requestors is 250 percent of the federal poverty level.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

In 2023 and 2024, OMVLA conducted an extensive [Military and Veteran Legal Needs Survey](#), released in July 2025. The survey continues to inform our priorities and direction. It found that only 27 percent of people who experienced a legal issue in the year prior to the survey received the help that they needed, and just over half of people with a legal problem tried to get help. As a result of the survey, OMVLA increased outreach and community engagement in under-served communities, prioritized engagement with groups and organizations that veterans rely on for information (e.g., the Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans groups) and developed two plain-language guides, [Your Rights as a Veteran in Washington](#) and [Your Rights as a Service Member in Washington](#), to help people understand their rights and where to go for help.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

OMVLA expects this request will be supported by intergovernmental partners, particularly the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs, as they work closely with OMVLA and often attend the same events, especially in rural areas. The Washington Department of Veterans Affairs often sends OMVLA individuals who need assistance, so increased capacity will improve their ability to serve their veteran clients, as well.

OMVLA expects county veteran service offices (VSOs) to also support; OMVLA has close relationships with VSOs in multiple counties, including King and Pierce County. In rural counties, the need for legal assistance for veterans is quite high. For example, OMVLA would expect that Asotin County would support the request, as they have very limited ability to support veterans in their county with legal assistance and rely on our assistance to serve their veteran community when they need legal assistance.

Stakeholder Impacts:

It's expected that the OMVLA Advisory Board will be in favor of this proposal. Members include representatives from:

- WA Army National Guard
- US Navy
- Office of Civil Legal Aid
- Washington State Bar Association Legal Assistance to Military Personnel Section
- Washington State Veterans Bar Association
- Washington Department of Veterans Affairs
- US Department of Veterans Affairs
- Washington State Bar Association
- LAW Advocates
- Northwest Justice Project
- Pro Bono Council
- TacomaProBono
- University of Washington School of Law Veterans Clinic
- Amazon Legal Department

OMVLA also expects that the pro-bono volunteers will support this request.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$128	\$128	\$256	\$128	\$128	\$256
Obj. B	\$37	\$37	\$74	\$37	\$37	\$74
Obj. E	\$22	\$22	\$44	\$22	\$22	\$44
Obj. G	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$1	\$1	\$2

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
Joseph.Zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Agency Recommendation Summary

Indigenous people face disproportionately negative outcomes across criminal legal, health, education, and economic systems. In 2021, the Legislature established the Washington State Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People Task Force to understand the origin of these disproportionalities and recommend policy changes. In 2023, the Legislature created the Truth and Healing Tribal Advisory Committee to bring to light the truth and legacy of Indian Boarding Schools. The goal of both projects is to remedy generations of institutional and systemic harms. This request is to continue these efforts and align them to effectively sustain this work.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$596	\$596	\$1,192	\$596	\$596	\$1,192
Total Expenditures	\$596	\$596	\$1,192	\$596	\$596	\$1,192

Decision Package Description

The Tribal Policy team administers programs focused on justice for Tribes and Indigenous people: 1) Emmett Till Cold Case Investigations and Prosecutions program (U.S. Department of Justice grant); 2) the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People (MMIWP) Task Force, established in 2021, and 3) the Truth and Healing Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC), established in 2023. Funding ended for TAC in FY 2025 and funding will end for MMIWP in FY 2027.

The harms addressed by MMIWP Task Force and TAC—preventing further tragedy and improving response to the MMIWP epidemic by dedicating resources to solving and preventing cases, and the historical trauma and harmful legacy of Indian Boarding Schools—are deeply woven into our systems and institutions, and require reliable, ongoing, and dedicated resources to address. Both advisory bodies (MMIWP and TAC) interact with community members with lived experience to understand how the State can begin to address the harms of generations of anti-Tribal and anti-Indigenous public policies, and develop recommendations for public policy changes, mostly to the Legislature.

These groups have done important work, including a unanimous recommendation, enacted by the Legislature, to focus on investigating and solving cold cases across the state involving Indigenous victims. However, more work and time is needed to comprehensively address the Legislature’s directives. For example, prior budget provisos have supported six listening sessions with Tribes on Boarding Schools, but boarding schools impacted all 29 Tribes in Washington, and the work would benefit from listening sessions with all the Tribes that want to engage in one.

This proposal continues the existing work of seeking justice and accountability for Tribes and Indigenous communities. Early in the Task Force work, the Attorney General’s Office (AGO) frequently heard concerns from family and community members that this project was more about capturing attention and would not achieve the systemic change it set out to make. Continuing the MMIWP Task Force and the TAC would provide certainty for community members and Tribal leaders that this work has institutional support and will continue.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This proposal continues ongoing work and is not an expansion.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The AGO requests \$596,000 per fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter to cover costs related to a Tribal Policy Continuation.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
Policy MGR FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	155,000	155,000	155,000	155,000	
MA5 FTE	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	Y
Object A & B	73,000	73,000	73,000	73,000	
Sr Policy Analyst FTE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	Y
Object A & B	297,000	297,000	297,000	297,000	
TOTAL FTE	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	
TOTAL A & B	525,000	525,000	525,000	525,000	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE = 2.5

Total Funds = \$466

Near General Fund = \$466

Other Funds = \$0

FY 2026

FTE = 1.5

Total Funds = \$250

Near General Fund = \$250

Other Funds = \$0

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE = 1.5

Total Funds = \$ 250

Near General Fund = \$250

Other Funds = \$0

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This proposal supports Governor Ferguson’s Public Safety priority, to invest in upstream solutions, including youth engagement and outreach, behavioral health interventions, and non-armed response personnel that de-escalate situations, provide needed support to vulnerable people, and allow law enforcement to focus on crime prevention and response.

The Tribal Policy Continuation seeks to understand the ongoing impact of generational trauma for Native people. Generational trauma and ongoing colonial oppression contribute to high rates of substance use disorder and mental health challenges that can compromise safety, and are connected to human trafficking of Indigenous people, which is part of the MMIWP crisis.

The Criminal Justice and Public Safety Subcommittee of the MMIWP Task Force is one of the most active subcommittees. Dozens of people representing law enforcement, prosecutors, Tribal governments, service providers, family members, and others participate in conversations about issues in the criminal legal system that contribute to MMIWP cases, and identify opportunities to improve collaboration, solve structural problems, and develop recommendations.

One of the Task Force’s initial recommendations was to establish a unit within the AGO focused on MMIWP cold cases. The Legislature enacted a bill to create this unit (CCU) in 2023. Now five investigators in the unit work with law enforcement agencies across the state to bring additional resources to bear to investigate, solve, and where possible, prosecute cold cases.

In December 2025, in collaboration with local law enforcement, the CCU secured the first conviction for the murder of George David in 2016. George David was a master woodcarver, resident of Neah Bay, and member of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation of Vancouver Island, B.C. Although they had a primary suspect, the Port Angeles Police Department did not have sufficient evidence to convict. In 2024, the Port Angeles Police Department requested assistance from the CCU, which provided additional investigation. The AGO worked with the Clallam County Prosecutor to charge and ultimately secure a conviction. The Unit is actively working with local law enforcement agencies across the state to investigate cold cases involving Indigenous victims, and to support family and community members impacted by these cases.

AGO Strategic Plan: This proposal is aligned with the AGO’s Anti-Racist Commitment to recognize, address, and eradicate all forms of racism within the scope of our work and operations. It also is aligned with the goals of protecting democracy and the rights of the people, advancing work on key issues including public safety, worker rights, and housing, and using the power of the office to create a safe, fair, and affordable Washington for all.

Native American and Alaska Native people have faced specific oppression due to colonization since the beginning of this country. Anti-Indigenous policies, which intended to force Native people to assimilate into the dominant culture, continue to harm Indigenous people in Washington, from disproportionately high rates of violence, overrepresentation in the foster care system, significant health disparities, and disproportionately high poverty rates. The Tribal Policy Continuation work seeks to identify the underlying causes of these disproportionalities and develop recommendations for policy changes to increase safety and equity to Indigenous people in Washington.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002533 - Total AG Formal and Informal Opinions Issued	596	596	596	596

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

The work covered by this proposal requires ongoing engagement and relationship building with Tribal leaders and community members, as well as organizations that serve Indigenous people across Washington State.

Since 2021, the Task Force has worked with Tribal leaders in Puyallup, Lummi, and Kalispel to host summit events bringing together advocates, service providers, family members, policy makers, and others to discuss responding to, investigating, and preventing MMIWP cases. In addition, members of the public are invited to participate fully in Task Force subcommittee meetings held regularly via Zoom.

The TAC held community listening sessions in Toppenish with Yakama Nation and in Taholah with the Quinault Indian Nation and plans to hold at least four more listening sessions in collaboration with Tribes and urban Indigenous organizations over the next year. These sessions involve planning and participation by community members and community leaders.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

This proposal is designed to address ongoing disproportionate impacts women, children, and Indigenous people that are a result of generations of anti-Tribal and anti-Indigenous state and federal public policy.

Target Communities and Populations:

This program seeks to advance justice for Tribal communities in Washington State. Indigenous people are disproportionately impacted by violence. Funding will allow the AGO to build upon previous state efforts to prevent violence against American Indian and Alaskan Native women and people. Indigenous women go missing and are murdered at rates higher than any other ethnic group in the United States, and experience far higher rates of sexual violence than other ethnic groups.

Disproportionate physical violence is statewide and affects all Indigenous communities. This proposal will help ensure tribal and urban Indigenous communities receive equitable services. Most of those cases involve the murder and sexual assault of vulnerable Indigenous women, children, and people.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

Community members are represented by the Task Force and the Tribal Advisory Committee and are involved at every step of the process for both groups.

All the members of the Tribal Advisory Committee are community members with lived experience related to Indian boarding schools. Their guidance has helped hold listening sessions with two Tribes, Yakama and Quinault, and get into the planning stage for listening sessions with several other Tribes. The AGO adjusted to community feedback throughout the Committee's work, including in planning listening sessions in a culturally informed and appropriate way.

From the beginning of the MMIWP Task Force, members expressed the importance of centering those with lived experiences: family members whose loved ones are missing or have been murdered, and survivors of violence. As a result, the Families Subcommittee of the Task Force, which is open to participation from community members, has consistently been the focal point of the Task Force, and their feedback is sought at every proposal and recommendation the Task Force considers.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

No impacts anticipated. The Task Force includes members of five federally recognized tribes, as well as representatives from the Association of Washington Cities, the Washington Association of Counties, the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs, and the Washington State Patrol. The Task Force works collaboratively to build consensus among Task Force members and community on legislative and other recommendations to address the missing and murdered Indigenous women and people crisis.

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known or expected opposition to this request. This work has consistently received support from Tribes, service providers, and Indigenous-led organizations, and that support is expected to continue.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

This proposal would extend the MMIWP Task Force and the Truth and Healing Tribal Advisory Committee, both of which were legislatively mandated. The first recommendation adopted by the MMIWP Task Force asked for an extension of time for the Task Force to convene in recognition of the scale of the work before the group. Extending the work by making the Tribal Policy Continuation permanent is consistent with ongoing work by both groups.

In the current authorizing budget proviso, which expires on June 30, 2027, the Legislature directed the AGO to “...conduct a feasibility study to determine the potential impact and effectiveness of a commission focused on missing and murdered Indigenous women and people.” That feasibility study is part of a supplemental report submitted to the Legislature in June 2026, available [here](#).

The study concludes that the Tribal Policy Continuation would ensure the work of the MMIWP Task Force and TAC is done thoughtfully and comprehensively. A permanent Tribal Policy Continuation with funding for at least three staff to ensure stability and effectiveness would ensure the State’s long-term commitment to addressing these deep-rooted traumas.

Additionally, the Tribal Policy Continuation is consistent with Governor Ferguson’s [Executive Order 25-10](#), A New Foundation for Washington State’s Governmental Relationships with Sovereign Tribal Nations. Section 1 provides direction to agencies to strengthen Government-to-Government relationships, including conducting proactive and ongoing engagement, as well as recognizing and honoring Indigenous knowledge. In partnership with the AGO Director of Tribal Relations, the Tribal Policy Continuation will support the AGO in this critical work.

Section 6 of EO 25-10 directs agencies to identify best practices and areas of opportunity for improving state-tribal contracting processes; improving state-tribal contracting and contracting and providing payment for events in tribal communities in a way that meets the needs of the community and does not pass on financial or administrative burdens is a frequent challenge in administering the MMIWP Task Force and TAC work. The Unit can work collaboratively with the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs to support this directive.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$409	\$409	\$818	\$409	\$409	\$818
Obj. B	\$116	\$116	\$232	\$116	\$116	\$232
Obj. E	\$67	\$67	\$134	\$67	\$67	\$134
Obj. G	\$4	\$4	\$8	\$4	\$4	\$8

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - XE - Major Economic Crimes IT Support

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) Major Economic Crime Unit (MECU) is requesting changes to information technology due to increases in the volume of digital information that must be reviewed, transferred and stored as economic crime evidence. Upgrading technical system capacity will reduce the amount of time from a month to only five hours that is required to transfer only 1 TB of digital evidence. Because of the time savings, funding this request will create significant efficiencies leading to increased productivity and cost savings.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$798	\$798	\$1,596	\$798	\$798	\$1,596
Total Expenditures	\$798	\$798	\$1,596	\$798	\$798	\$1,596

Decision Package Description

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) Major Economic Crimes Unit (MECU) is requesting \$798,000 per fiscal year for technology and 2.3 IT FTE support staff that will allow AGO investigators, paralegals, and prosecutors to more efficiently and effectively investigate and prosecute criminal fraud in Washington State. The IT changes will allow for receiving, storing, reviewing, analyzing, and transferring digital evidence.

The public, including crime victims and those accused of crimes, would be impacted by more efficient investigation and production of evidence collected during investigations. Access to technology with greater capacity is expected to result in more investigations and prosecutions that will better promote public safety in our communities. It will also increase efficiencies the AGO expects to result in more timely restitution to crime victims, fewer trials due to increased persuasiveness of evidence and resulting guilty pleas, and less time to trial due to earlier resolutions based on persuasiveness of evidence.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

The AGO Criminal Justice Division (CRJ) Major Economic Crimes Unit (MECU) investigators and prosecutors need increased IT capacity to store, transfer, and review digital evidence in commission of crimes. The AGO has seen a significant increase in digital use, the size of digital footprints, and technological advancements as the general population uses cell phones, applications, computers, the internet, and large capacity cloud storage, commonly measured in Terabytes (TB). Transferring this digital evidence to a storage device, and running the software applications to do so, is necessary for exhibiting evidence in court proceedings, as well as for filing motions and transferring evidence to defense. AGO staff must have sufficient technical capacity to transfer TBs of evidence and at this time the technical capacity is inadequate. Currently, paralegals must transfer data between 3AM – 5AM as that is when there is the least amount of network traffic, meaning one (1) TB of data moves at a speed of between two (2) – four (4) *weeks*. The proposed system would enable speeds of one (1) TB of data to move between 30 minutes and five (5) *hours*. Additionally, MECU anticipates spending at least \$100,000 on storage devices to provide discovery to defense alone, costs average \$8,000 per device; MECU notes that the system upgrades would also reduce these costs.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The following hardware and software subscriptions will allow the AGO investigators, paralegals and prosecutors to more efficiently and effectively investigate and prosecute fraud in Washington State. The requested technology would significantly enhance the completeness, reliability, and persuasiveness of evidence, and increase the AGO's ability to prosecute sophisticated and complex financial crime and organized retail crime cases. The package includes:

- Isilon Backup Storage 480TB ongoing annual cost: \$120,000
- Network related equipment ongoing annual cost: \$17,500
- Valid 8 software ongoing annual: \$30,000
- Magnet AXIOM Cloud (or similar) software ongoing annual: \$160,000
- Magnet GrayKey Cellphone forensics (or similar) software ongoing annual: \$120,000
- Dedicated highspeed circuit ongoing annual: \$22,000

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
ITST2 FTE	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	Y
Object A & B	45	45	45	45	
MA5 FTE	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	Y
Object A & B	91	91	91	91	
ITSA Journey FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	152	152	152	152	
TOTAL FTE	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	
TOTAL A & B	288	288	288	288	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE =

Total Funds = \$10.5

Near General Fund = \$

Other Funds = \$

FY 2026

FTE =

Total Funds = \$10.5

Near General Fund = \$

Other Funds = \$

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE =

Total Funds = \$10.5

Near General Fund = \$

Other Funds = \$

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Washington State is accountable and transparent and serve as good stewards of state resources – our own and those of our partners. We are committed to managing our resources in a way that is consistent with expectations for any state agency (Your Washington).

Provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services (AGO Strategic Plan).

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002533 - Total AG Formal and Informal Opinions Issued	798	798	798	798

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

The MECU, Financial Crime, and Organized Retail Crime Teams conduct community outreach and engagement to obtain input from communities, retailers, and criminal justice agency partners. For example, the AGO has a task force that focuses on organized retail crimes and incorporates retailers, retail workers, local police, prosecutors and others impacted by organized retail crime. The AGO is also part of other task forces addressing hate crimes, financial crimes, and others. Some of these meetings are open to the public so that citizens can have input. The AGO partners with state agencies and local nonprofits to address wage theft, construction fraud and fraud against state agencies. Additionally, the AGO conducts training and host forums or other educational meetings for citizens, business, and criminal justice agency partners to talk about the issues, best practices, and what is being done to address economic crime in our state.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

Wage theft, construction fraud, public corruption, organized retail crime and fraud offenses often target the most vulnerable populations, who consequently suffer disparate impact from economic crimes. For example, wage theft suspects often prey on those that desperately need work to pay for shelter, medicine and food. Often these victims are targeted because they are in the service or construction industries and do not have the resources to fight back against their employer. Organized retail crime also impacts our most vulnerable communities since organized retail crime can cause businesses like local pharmacies or grocery stores to relocate or shut down. This leaves those without the means to travel to have to go further to get medicine and necessary household supplies. Additionally, those with less means are looking for alternative places to buy discounted items and at times are purchasing stolen items that have been improperly stored or tampered with such as baby formula, health and beauty supplies, and vitamins.

Target Communities and Populations:

Communities most impacted by this proposal are Washington State citizens victimized by fraud, Washingtonians who shop at retail establishments, retailers, and government agencies. Victims of these crimes are often Washington State's most vulnerable—low income or marginalized communities who are taken advantage of by criminals seeking to enrich themselves by defrauding others. Retailers and shoppers are impacted by organized retail crime that causes higher costs. Construction fraud and wage theft often targets vulnerable victims, from elderly citizens scammed out of their life savings by unscrupulous contractors or persons posing as contractors or wage theft targeting people who desperately need money and don't have advanced skills or degrees. Government agencies are impacted by fraud against programs intended to assist Washington State's most vulnerable citizens. This budget request would support the investigations and prosecutions MECU handles to attack fraud and organized retail crime in Washington State.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

MECU seeks community input and incorporates that input into its work. As mentioned above, MECU partners with state agencies, local government and nonprofits to address financial crimes across the community. MECU participates in numerous task forces that hold meetings with impacted stakeholders. Community input is received, considered, and incorporated where appropriate in investigative and prosecution work. With the criminal justice agency partners and community partners, the AGO networks about current criminal trends and community concerns to most adeptly address those concerns. Through those partnerships the AGO has learned that a significant number of people committing fraud against those most vulnerable are doing so using technology. Often, state agencies, local government, and smaller entities do not have the bandwidth or resources to address these issues. This funding would allow the AGO to acquire expertise to more adeptly and swiftly assist in those in the most need and address some of these emerging issues.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

The requested technology would significantly enhance the completeness, efficiency, reliability, and persuasiveness of evidence, as well as increase AGO's ability to prosecute sophisticated and complex cases in financial crime and organized retail crime. This impact has a multiplying effect across the state as the AGO has been accepting criminal and financial fraud referrals from Washington State counties (and the governor) for the better part of three decades.

Stakeholder Impacts:

Funding technological upgrades will create significant cost efficiencies and savings, for example employees will be able to significantly increase their productivity. The public, including victims and defendants, are positively impacted by having higher quality work done in-house and MECU expects this to result in increased prosecutions with restitution to victims, fewer trials due to increased persuasiveness of evidence and resulting guilty pleas, and less time to trial due to earlier resolutions based on persuasiveness of evidence (thus positively impacting the scarce resources of our judicial system).

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

The major economic crime aggravating circumstance in Washington State is governed by RCW 9.94A.535(3)(d), which is part of the Sentencing Reform Act (Title 9, Chapter 9.94A RCW).

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$222	\$222	\$444	\$222	\$222	\$444
Obj. B	\$65	\$65	\$130	\$65	\$65	\$130
Obj. E	\$509	\$509	\$1,018	\$509	\$509	\$1,018
Obj. G	\$2	\$2	\$4	\$2	\$2	\$4

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Policy Level - XG - UW Support Staff Transfer

Agency Recommendation Summary

This request is for the transition of legal support staff to the Attorney General's Office (AGO) from the University of Washington (UW). The transition of legal support staff positions will provide for more efficient and effective operations of the division because the transferred positions would report directly to the AGO University of Washington (UOW) division. This request also aligns compensation for all legal service positions.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 405 - 1	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Total Expenditures	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Revenue						
405 - 0420	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Total Revenue	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000

Decision Package Description

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) collectively employs and manages the largest public legal staff in the State of Washington. The transfer of legal support staff positions from the University of Washington (UW) to the AGO allows for a high degree of coordination and efficiency when managing that staff and planning for future contingencies, setting salary levels as optimally as possible, and reacting to trends in the industry which affect recruitment and retention. UW is unique among AGO client agencies in that it has historically employed the legal support staff that works within the AGO's University of Washington (UOW) division. Currently UW funds and employs eight full-time staff members within the AGO's UOW: one Legal Secretary, three Legal Assistant and five Paralegals. The AGO funds and employs one Office Administrator that works in the division.

Because there are only a small number of legal support staff employed by Washington State outside of the AGO, and because UW employs no legal staff other than those made available to the AGO UOW, this fractured approach of the UOW having some employees working for the AGO and others working for UW results in inefficiencies in operations and disparities between the legal support staff employed by UW and other AGO legal staff.

While the AGO legal support staff recently had job classifications updated, their colleagues employed by UW have outdated job titles and descriptions. Over time, salaries for AGO employed legal support staff have risen, leaving behind their UW employed colleagues. This situation creates significant challenges to the AGO when filling vacancies in UOW, especially attracting talent from other AGO divisions internally, and in retaining talented and experienced legal support staff. Including the current UW staff in the AGO environment will allow for UOW to more easily have experienced AGO employees seamlessly transfer or promote into the UOW. This will provide for greater continuity of staffing and, where necessary, share work across divisions during workload increases to ensure UW receives prompt and exemplary legal services.

After funding by the Legislature, AGO job classifications Legal Assistant 3 (LA3) and Legal Assistant 4 (LA4) were placed into the Paralegal (PL) series. In response to a classification request submitted by the AGO, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) adopted the following Paralegal classification modifications:

1. Modification of the PL series to include the work performed by current LA3 and LA4 staff.
2. Updates to the three PL classifications include:
 - a. PL 1: Entry Level - Perform first level technical PL functions.

- b. PL 2: Journey Level and may supervise - Perform second level of technical PL functions.
- c. PL 3: Expert Level and must supervise - Perform top level of technical PL functions; must supervise and have direct administrative supervision over work of other PL and legal support staff and are significantly involved in their training.

3. Includes additional updates to the PL series scope and duties that are unique and specific to the AGO:

- a. Exclusive to a law firm setting
- b. Provides direct paraprofessional support to Assistant Attorneys General (AAG)
- c. Support litigation in two or more court venues
- d. Prepare for trial, research, and apply knowledge of court rules related to legal practice, subject matter, and court filing procedures

The AGO and OFM identified many benefits to the changes, including:

- a. Consistent pay across the organization for work with similar risk and complexity.
- b. Added growth opportunities for LA staff.
- c. Increased success in recruitment and retention of LA and PL staff.
- d. Recognition of the unique skillset demonstrated and required for our legal support staff.

It is critical to implement these changes at the AGO UOW as well to keep the legal support staff there from falling behind and being treated disparately. This request will benefit the legal support staff, the AGO, and UW. As noted in further detail below, this change will call for engagement with labor organizations at both UW and the AGO.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This is an alteration of the currently funded UW support staff by moving those staff to the AGO UOW division. Legal support staffing for UOW will increase from its current level of 1.0 FTE to 8.0 FTE. The transfer of legal support staff from UW to AGO is essentially cost neutral. This budget request has been coordinated with UW and would include moving funding from UW base budget to the Central Service Model for legal services.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The AGO requires additional authority of \$1,000,000 in FY 2028 and in each year thereafter.

This additional funding will support 1.0 Paralegal 3 (PL3), 3.0 Paralegal 2 (PL2), 1.0 Paralegal 1 (PL1), 1.0 Legal Assistant 4 (LA4), and 2.0 Legal Assistant 2 (LA2).

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
PL3 FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	123	123	123	123	
PL 2 FTE	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	Y
Object A & B	338	338	338	338	
PL1 FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	103	103	103	103	
Legal Assistant 4 FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	101	101	101	101	
Legal Assistant 2 FTE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	Y
Object A & B	177	177	177	177	
TOTAL FTE	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	
TOTAL A & B	842	842	842	842	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE = 21

Total Funds = \$5,379

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$5,379

FY 2026

FTE = 21

Total Funds = \$5,682

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$5,682

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE = 21

Total Funds = \$5,682

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$5,682

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This budget request supports the Governor’s priorities:

- Education and Workforce: Improve educational outcomes and increase education and workforce opportunities.
- Public Safety and Civil Rights: Strengthen public safety and protect civil rights for all.
- Governance: Make state government more efficient and effective, centering people in every decision.

This budget request supports the following goals in the AGO Strategic Plan:

Serve the State, Goal 1: Deliver high quality, timely, and efficient legal services.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002539 - Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A.

Target Communities and Populations:

The current federal administration has targeted institutions of higher ed, including UW, because of their perceived support for “equity”, “diversity” and “DEI efforts”. This has taken the form of investigations by DOJ, Office of Civil Rights (OCR), and others. Responding to these investigations, providing legal advice, and preparing for potential action on the part of the federal government requires significant resources. These efforts by the administration, if successful to any meaningful degree, will impact any number of underrepresented communities.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

Client Billing costs are provided, Dollars in thousands:

Client	Fund	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
UW	405	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
TOTAL		1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this request at this time.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$636	\$636	\$1,272	\$636	\$636	\$1,272
Obj. B	\$206	\$206	\$412	\$206	\$206	\$412
Obj. E	\$148	\$148	\$296	\$148	\$148	\$296
Obj. G	\$10	\$10	\$20	\$10	\$10	\$20

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - XH - DOL Legal Services

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Department of Licensing (DOL) has an ongoing and increasing need for the Attorney General's Office (AGO) legal services. Workloads related to litigation, client advice, and help with public records and data sharing, especially related to federal government issues and inquiries, tax enforcement and collection, among other needs. The AGO requests adequate billing authority based on DOL's assessed needs to address this continued need.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	4.8	4.8	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 405 - 1	\$756	\$756	\$1,512	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$756	\$756	\$1,512	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue						
405 - 0420	\$756	\$756	\$1,512	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$756	\$756	\$1,512	\$0	\$0	\$0

Decision Package Description

The Department of Licensing (DOL) anticipates higher than historical legal service needs during the 2027-29 biennium, based on its current experience in the 2025-27 biennium. DOL and the Attorney General's Office (AGO) are seeking funds to ensure the 2027-29 biennium legal services allocation is sufficient.

Halfway through the 2025-27 biennium, DOL was billed \$4,358,352 of its total \$6,193,300 legal services revolving account allocation (i.e., more than 70%-at the halfway point). AGO has collaborated with DOL for this request. If sufficient legal services funding is not provided in 2027-29, DOL states it will overspend the legal service appropriation and be forced to make reductions to other areas.

DOL is engaged in significant litigation, mostly involving the federal government, administering motor vehicle excise taxes, and motor vehicle fuel taxes. This, and related advice, has caused a marked increase in legal services for DOL relative to prior biennia. DOL litigation is active and ongoing, and this litigation, and need for advice, is expected to continue into the 2027-29 biennium.

The case-related legal services are necessary, and the potential fiscal, policy, and operational impacts of the various cases are significant. The cases and potential actions where legal services have been provided address large-scale tax revenues, threats to transportation funds, access to sensitive information, and more.

If funding is not provided, DOL's legal services allocation will likely be insufficient to meet its needs for services in the 2027-29 biennium. This would increase the likelihood of the AGO needing an interagency agreement to protect its fiscal interests, and force DOL to choose between program cuts or continuing to seek and pay for AGO legal services for defending litigation and advice needs.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

Department of Licensing has experienced an increase in the need for legal services in multiple areas. This request provides additional DOL legal service allocation within the Central Service Model (CSM) and increases the AGO's billing authority.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Below includes the AGO's LAL Division total FTE assumptions (Non-King County rate).

FY 2028: \$756,000 for 2.5 AAG FTE, 1.3 PL1 FTE, and 0.9 MA5.

FY 2029: \$756,000 for 2.5 AAG FTE, 1.3 PL1 FTE, and 0.9 MA5.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
AAG FTE	2.5	2.5			N
Object A & B	436	436			
PL 1 FTE	1.3	1.3			N
Object A & B	125	125			
MA5 FTE	0.9	0.9			N
Object A & B	113	113			
TOTAL FTE	4.7	4.7	0.0	0.0	
TOTAL A & B	674	674	0	0	

Historical Funding:

N/A.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

The request supports the Governor's Public Safety Priority. Addressing affordability, and the governance priorities of making "state government more efficient and effective, centering people in every decision" and "solving problems" are integral to supporting the Governor's Public Safety Priority. Legal services include defending against federal threats to decertify Washington States's commercial driver license program and to strip tens of millions in federal transportation funds, vital for Washington's roadways and economy. Legal services are needed in ongoing cases relating to fuel taxes and charges for administering motor vehicle excise taxes, with significant fiscal implications, impacting affordability. Legal services include protecting against disclosure of many Washingtonians' personal information and preventing use of state resources, in connection with federal civil immigration enforcement.

The request is also consistent with the AGO Strategic Plan's mission to deliver excellent and independent legal services to state government, defend the rule of law, and fight for justice, fairness, and the public good; its strategic goals to protect democracy and the rights of the people, to provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services, and to advance work on key issues including public safety; and, its strategic foundation to be the best law firm in the country by delivering top-notch advice and advocacy with integrity, courage, and teamwork, and to be transparent, accountable, dependable, and proactive in problem-solving.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002539 - Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year	756	756	0	0

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

DOL conducts outreach and engagement statewide, and its legal services needs are throughout the state on a full range of issues impacting individuals and businesses in Washington and on tribal lands. The AGO also engages with people and communities, including tribes, impacted by actions in which DOL is involved and the AGO is providing representation, providing information as appropriate.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

Some actions DOL has taken, giving rise to AGO legal service needs, are based in part on concerns about disproportional impacts to certain communities, for example, protecting against use of confidential vehicle license plates or accessing commercial driver licensees' personal information for use in federal civil immigration enforcement.

Target Communities and Populations:

The AGO provides a full range of legal services to DOL, which serves all Washingtonians. The AGO meets DOL's regular needs for legal services, litigating and advising on licensing actions involving drivers and professionals, public records issues, data sharing, contracts, legislation, rulemaking, and more. Among the major litigation driving increased costs in recent times, motor vehicle excise tax issues impact the charges paid to DOL by the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority to collect and administer the Sound Transit Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET). Fuel tax issues involve significant revenues, creating secondary impacts. Immigrant advocates and law enforcement agencies regularly engage with DOL on legal issues relating to access to information. And DOL has increasingly needed to defend against actions by the federal government and to act to protect Washingtonians' privacy and fiscal interests.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

Advocates for individuals, groups, and businesses meet with the AGO, along with DOL, encouraging action or promoting awareness of concerns or perspectives. This at times informs DOL's and the AGO's approaches in litigation and other decision-making.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

Client Billing costs are provided, Dollars in thousands:

Client	Fund	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
DOL (240)	405	756	756		
TOTAL		756	756	-	-

Motor vehicle excise tax litigation impacts charges paid to collect and administer the MVET that Sound Transit levies to fund construction and operation of its regional transit system in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. The regional transit authority contests the charges. Tribes that do business with Cougar Den, Inc., may be impacted by litigation involving its liability for fuel taxes on motor vehicle and special fuel removed from Washington State terminal racks, and the scope of the Yakama Treaty right to travel provision. Local, state, and federal agencies, including law enforcement agencies, are interested in issues relating to civil immigration enforcement and commercial driver licenses and data, and driver and vehicle information, and confidential vehicle plates.

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this request at this time.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

In addition to regular litigation and advice needs for DOL in any biennium, several of the biggest cases currently driving increased costs, among others, are: Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority v. State of Washington, King County Superior Court No. 22-2-10022-2 SEA and pending case in WSSC No. 1052715 (challenge to charges for administering Sound Transit motor vehicle excise taxes); Cougar Den. v. DOL, et al., pending case in WSSC No. 105377-1 (fuel taxes); U.S. v. State of Washington, et al., E.D. Wash. No. 2:26-cv-00232-SAB (re: confidential plates used for civil immigration enforcement); Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Audit of DOL Commercial Driver License Program; Black, et al. v. DOL, Thurston County Superior Court No. 26-2-02804-34 (putative class action re: alleged data breach); Washington State Auto Dealers Association v. DOL, Thurston County Superior Court No. 25-2-00164-34 and COA No. 61841-9-II (vehicle dealer rulemaking challenge); Alliance for Automotive Innovation v. Glasper, et al., W.D. Wash. No. 2:25-cv-00750-LK (vehicle dealer rulemaking challenge); State of Illinois, et al. v. U.S. Department of Transportation, et al., E.D. Virginia No. 1:26-cv-2547 and State of Illinois, et al. v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, E.D. Virginia No. 1:26-mc-19 (re: federal access to commercial driver license data). Many of these cases are likely to continue into the 2027-29 budget biennium.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$534	\$534	\$1,068	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. B	\$139	\$139	\$278	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. E	\$79	\$79	\$158	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. G	\$4	\$4	\$8	\$0	\$0	\$0

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - XJ - UW Legal Services

Agency Recommendation Summary

The University of Washington (UW) requires additional legal resources to defend against the current federal administration's attacks on higher education and to reduce reliance on private law firms. Adding resources to the Attorney General's Office (AGO) will save state money, result in a stronger, more cohesive defense, and provide additional efficiencies where the AGO can do more legal work for UW that is currently sent to Special Assistant Attorney's General (SAAGs). UW is currently significantly under-resourced compared to similarly sized institutions and has become a significant target for the federal government's attacks on higher education.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 405 - 1	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680
Total Expenditures	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680
Revenue						
405 - 0420	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680
Total Revenue	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680	\$3,340	\$3,340	\$6,680

Decision Package Description

The University of Washington (UW) requires additional legal resources to address its current and growing legal services demands. The existing Assistant Attorneys General (AAGs) for the Attorney General's Office (AGO) University of Washington (UOW) division are already being utilized at maximum capacity and UW's legal service needs continue to increase. Additionally, UW has become dependent on the use of Special Assistant Attorneys General (SAAGs) for many legal advice and litigation matters, paying SAAGs significantly more than the average outside counsel spend for a university with a large operating budget. Moving much of this SAAG work into the AGO will save UW and Washington State money.

Adding additional AAG and commensurate legal support staff positions will help the UOW division support UW's growing needs and allow UW to save funds, create efficiencies, and reduce risk by moving much of the SAAG work back to the AGO. UW has been targeted by the current federal administration via numerous actions framed as civil rights investigations. UW is currently spending millions of dollars a year on SAAGs to defend itself, and this could increase in the near future. Better coordinating federal defense and federal investigation response work within the AGO will best serve UW's needs, reduce exposure to UW, and allow better coordination of legal efforts across state agencies and institutes of higher education.

This will provide multiple benefits, including: 1) being more cost effective for UW and the state; 2) giving the UOW division clearer real-time access to client issues and processes, such information being important to providing cohesive, integrated legal advice across the university and, for the larger AGO, and across state agency clients which are facing increased attack from the federal government; and 3) it would better, and more directly, serve the AGO's mandate to represent UW and its legal needs.

There has been an increase in UW's legal service needs over the last decade, including related to federal investigations, real estate and construction transactions, labor matters, civil rights compliance, and athletics. The UOW division's current AAGs are being utilized at maximum capacity, and UW has become dependent on the use of SAAGs for many legal advice and litigation matters. UOW needs to add critical new AAG positions, as well as the necessary legal support staff, to handle UW's increasing legal needs and to bring critical work that is currently outsourced to SAAGs back into the division.

While there are certain niche areas of law that could prove very difficult to bring inside the AGO (e.g. patent prosecution, bond counsel, investment fund review, benefits advice, highly specialized compliance and regulatory work), there are other areas where it is simply a matter of

hiring the right AAGs and taking over the work from SAAGs (e.g. federal investigations and enforcement actions; faculty matters; real estate, construction, and land use transactions and occasional litigation matters; guardianships and conservatorships for UW Medicine; civil rights advice; and Public Records Act advice and litigation). As to defending against federal investigations and efforts to attack UW, there is an important opportunity to represent the client on critical matters, allowing the AGO to better coordinate similar defense efforts across state agency clients and institutes of higher learning while ensuring that UW receives the best representation possible.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request will support the increased legal needs UW has experienced based on actions of the current federal administration and reduce growing overreliance of SAAGs and the associated costs. UW and AGO have entered into an Interagency Agreement to cover additional costs for the 2025-27 biennium. UW legal costs were \$8,078,583 for the 2021-23 biennium and \$10,316,626 for 2023-25.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Agency administration support FTE are included in the tables. The Management Analyst 5 FTE (MA5) is used as a representative classification. An example ratio is for every 1.0 AAG, the AGO includes 0.5 PL1 and 0.4 MA5.

Due to a marked increase in legal service needs for the client, and a growing overreliance on SAAGs, the AGO requires additional authority in FY 2028 and in each FY thereafter of \$3,340,000 for 18.9 FTE: 3 FTE MAAG, 8.0 FTE AAG, 4.0 FTE PL2.

1.0 AAG position on the General Practice Team (GPT) for athletics and other miscellaneous work.

This FTE would handle significant increased UW athletics needs, specifically work related to Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) matters, student athlete compensation, athletic association compliance, and the effects of antitrust litigation. This could also potentially pull some work related to trademarks back from SAAGs, totaling around \$20,000 per year. Attorney positions have not been added to the GPT in over a decade.

2.0 AAG positions on the GPT for real estate, construction, housing, environmental health & safety, and facilities work.

These FTE would handle increased real estate, land use, and construction transactional and advice matters (e.g. numerous complex P3 projects, ventures with third parties, the expansive "Metropolitan Tract" parcel in Downtown Seattle, project development advice, insurance claims, and energy issues) and to bring work back to the AGO from SAAGs. These positions will also support increasing legal work related to environmental health and safety (both on campus and at UW Medicine locations), and housing matters (at all three UW campuses). While the amount spent on SAAGs for this work can vary a fair amount based on current and prospective projects, there would be significant savings to UW if this work is handled by newly created AAG positions. In looking at work the AGO can take over, last year UW spent over \$560,000 on SAAGs, including \$400,000 on the Metropolitan Tract alone. During the first nine months of this fiscal year, UW spent almost \$750,000 on SAAGs, including over \$400,000 on Metropolitan Tract.

2.0 AAG positions on the Employment Team for work on faculty matters and to handle increased needs for labor advice and litigation, including interest arbitrations which have picked up significantly, and increased needs in the area of civil rights compliance.

These FTE would address increased faculty code advice matters at UW, as well as faculty code adjudications that are currently handled by SAAGs. In looking at work the AGO can take over, UW spent approximately \$375,000 on SAAGs last fiscal year and has spent \$280,000 during the first nine months of this fiscal year in some of these areas.

2.0 AAG positions on the Healthcare Team for work on transactional work related to UW Medicine's relationship with strategic partners, clinical contracting, guardianship and conservatorship petitions, and related advice for UW Medicine. In looking at work the AGO can take over, UW spent over \$840,000 on SAAGs last fiscal year and has spent over \$520,000 during the first nine months of this fiscal year.

0.5 AAG position on the General Practice Team for work on Public Records Act (PRA) advice and litigation.

This half FTE would handle increased advice needs from UW as well as litigation work handled by SAAGs. While the work varies based on the lawsuits filed in any given year, UW spends around \$200,000 to \$300,000 a year on SAAGs for PRA advice and litigation. As with other state agencies, PRA volume and risk only continues to increase for UW.

2.5 AAG positions for work on federal investigations and enforcement actions

These FTE would handle increased investigations and enforcement actions that are currently being handled by SAAGs. Could also help with other miscellaneous litigation matters. During this and last fiscal year, UW has spent a large amount on SAAGs for this work. AGO estimates around \$2 million or more per year. While it is difficult to predict the trajectory of this work, it is unlikely to subside before the end of 2028 and may simply shift in nature and focus after that point. These and the other new positions can be utilized with some flexibility to scale to the needs in this area. UW must also be well-positioned to transition quickly from defending investigations to actively litigating the issues.

1.0 AAG position to advise and support UW's efforts to centralize and standardize contracting across the UW. This represents a major initiative to streamline process and reduce legal risk across the institution.

4.0 PL2 positions.

These positions, combined with the existing legal support staff positions, will support the work being handled by the 11 new AAG positions. Main work will be to support AAGs working on labor litigation, faculty matters, guardianship and conservatorship petitions, PRA litigation, and federal investigations and enforcement actions.

Introducing a new intermediary level of management, especially with the requested addition of new AAGs, would help enhance supervision, free up resources for client-facing activity, and improve the workflow between existing leadership and line attorneys

Summary: Detailed assumptions and calculations

Area of Law	FY SAAG Cost	FY AGO Billing Estimates
UW athletics	\$20,000	\$310,000
Real estate, etc.	\$1,000,000	\$570,000
Employment law	\$375,000	\$570,000
Healthcare	\$840,000	\$570,000
Public Records	\$300,000	\$120,000
Federal Enforcement and Investigation	\$2,000,000	\$890,000
Centralize and Standardize Contracts	\$0	\$310,000
	\$4,535,000	\$3,340,000

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
AAG FTE	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	Y
Object A & B	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	
PL FTE	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	Y
Object A & B	450	450	450	450	
MA5 FTE	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	Y
Object A & B	493	493	493	493	
Managing Asst Attorney FTE	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	Y
Object A & B	584	584	584	584	
TOTAL FTE	18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9	
TOTAL A & B	2,974	2,974	2,974	2,974	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE =

Total Funds = \$5,379

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$5,379

FY 2026

FTE =

Total Funds = \$5,682

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$5,682

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE =

Total Funds = \$5,682

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$5,682

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This budget request supports the Governor’s priorities:

- Education and Workforce: Improve educational outcomes and increase education and workforce opportunities.
- Public Safety and Civil Rights: Strengthen public safety and protect civil rights for all.
- Healthcare: Support affordable healthcare for all and protect reproductive rights.
- Governance: Make state government more efficient and effective, centering people in every decision.

This budget request supports the following goals in the AGO Strategic Plan:

Serve the State, Goal 1: Deliver high quality, timely, and efficient legal services.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002539 - Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year	3,340	3,340	3,340	3,340

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A.

Target Communities and Populations:

The current federal administration has targeted institutions of higher ed, including UW, because of their perceived support for “equity”, “diversity” and “DEI efforts”. This has taken the form of investigations by DOJ, OCR, and others. Responding to these investigations, providing legal advice, and preparing for potential action on the part of the federal government requires significant resources. These efforts by the administration, if successful to any meaningful degree, will impact any number of underrepresented communities.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

Client Billing costs are provided, Dollars in thousands:

Client	Fund	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
UW	405	3,340	3,340	3,340	3,340
TOTAL		3,340	3,340	3,340	3,340

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this request at this time.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$2,368	\$2,368	\$4,736	\$2,368	\$2,368	\$4,736
Obj. B	\$606	\$606	\$1,212	\$606	\$606	\$1,212
Obj. E	\$343	\$343	\$686	\$343	\$343	\$686
Obj. G	\$23	\$23	\$46	\$23	\$23	\$46

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
Joseph.Zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - XK - OSPI Legal Services

Agency Recommendation Summary

This request is to align funding to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with their legal service needs that have increased because of federal government actions and challenges to OSPI's regulatory and enforcement actions in areas including, but not limited to, bus driver certifications and special education due process hearings.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 405 - 1	\$615	\$615	\$1,230	\$615	\$615	\$1,230
Total Expenditures	\$615	\$615	\$1,230	\$615	\$615	\$1,230
Revenue						
405 - 0420	\$615	\$615	\$1,230	\$615	\$615	\$1,230
Total Revenue	\$615	\$615	\$1,230	\$615	\$615	\$1,230

Decision Package Description

This request seeks to address areas in which the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has experienced an increased need for legal services: federal policy response and associated enforcement, regulatory, enforcement, and defensive litigation. Each is discussed in turn, below.

Federal Policies

OSPI is responsible for “supervision over all matters pertaining to public schools” and performance of “such specific duties as may be prescribed by law.” Wash. Const. art III, § 22. Generally, public education is the province of the states. See *Milliken v. Bradley* 418 US 717, 741-42 (1974) (“No single tradition in public education is more deeply rooted than local control over the operation of schools; local autonomy has long been thought essential both to the maintenance of community concern and support for public schools and to quality of the educational process”) and see 20 U.S.C. §§ 1232a, 6575, 7906a (provisions prohibiting federal mandates, direction, or control of aspects of public education such as curriculum).

With the change of federal administrative priorities, the actions and policies of the federal government have focused heavily on education, seeking to obtain additional certifications from education agencies, to alter the terms and conditions of grant funding, and stopping the flow of federally appropriated funds, among other things. The Department of Education (DOE) and Department of Justice (DOJ) have also opened an investigation that is centered around OSPI's implementation of its statutory obligations linked to fostering gender inclusive schools that are free from discrimination. See RCW 49.60.030, .040, .500 (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender identity in places of public accommodation including schools and community athletic programs); RCW 28A.642.010 (prohibiting discrimination in Washington public schools); RCW 28A.600.477 (requiring all Washington public schools to implement a policy that prohibits harassment, intimidation and bullying, including a specific policy related to transgender students); and RCW 28A.300.286 (requiring OSPI to adopt policies and complaint procedures relating to discrimination, including sexual and gender harassment, intimidation, and bullying).

The federal government is also closely scrutinizing oversight activities of state educational agencies and threatening to terminate or withhold funding, or impose sanctions, for noncompliance with grant terms. Washington State receives millions of dollars of funding linked to the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). In exchange for that funding, OSPI has certain regulatory and enforcement responsibilities. The increase in activity and associated legal needs is discussed in the section below.

The actions by the federal government, and the influence they have on constituencies, have resulted in a significant increase in the need for legal

services. OSPI previously received supplemental funds to cover these costs. This budget request is to maintain those one-time legal services.

Regulatory, Enforcement, and Defensive Litigation

Bus Driver Enforcement Actions

OSPI is responsible for setting “the minimum standards and qualifications for local education agency(s) or contracted employees operating school buses for the transportation of public-school children.” WAC 392-144-005; RCW 28A.160.210. OSPI’s responsibility includes acting when it determines that a school bus driver fails to “meet any of the minimum requirements” or has engaged in an act that disqualifies the driver from driving a school bus. See WAC 392-144-130. This role is important to safeguarding the health and safety of students entrusted to the care of bus drivers throughout the state.

Over the last several years, OSPI has experienced an increase in the number of bus driver enforcement actions being appealed. In school years 2022-23 and 2023-24 the Attorney General’s Office (AGO) received one school bus driver case each school year. In 2024-25, the AGO received five bus driver cases, one that went to hearing, and in the 2025-26 school year the AGO received four additional cases, one that went to hearing. As such, there is a continued increased need for legal services.

Special Education

OSPI has also received an increased number of requests for due process hearings relating to special education and an increase in the number of contested nutrition enforcement cases under the CACFP.

Washington State receives more than \$285 million in federal funding under IDEA. In exchange for these funds, OSPI is required to provide a variety of dispute resolution options to parents who believe that their child’s rights under IDEA have not been satisfied. One of those options is a due-process hearing, which is a formal legal proceeding provided to parents and administered through OSPI. In school years 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 the AGO did not receive any special education due process hearing cases. In school year 2025-26 OSPI received four, one of which was appealed to superior court.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

The CACFP is a voluntary federal program that provides funding for nutritious meals for eligible children and adults enrolled for care with participating non-residential centers and programs. 7 C.F.R. § 226.1 (2016). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides funds to state agencies to administer the program and reimburse care-providing institutions for their costs in connection with food service operations. 7 C.F.R. § 226.3 (2022); 7 C.F.R. § 226.4 (2023). OSPI is responsible for administering the CACFP program in Washington State. In addition to distributing the funds, OSPI must ensure that they are spent appropriately and engage in enforcement when it identifies overpayments. OSPI has seen an increase in contested challenges to overpayment findings. In school year 2022-23 the AGO received one CACFP case that resulted in a stipulated dismissal, in 2023-24 the AGO did not receive any CACFP overpayment cases. In the 2024-25 school year the AGO received one contested case that went to hearing and in the 2025-26 school year, the AGO received two contested cases that went to hearing. Currently, the USDA is engaging in a claims validation review related to OSPI’s CACFP program.

This increase in cases and associated workload, along with the impact caused by the current federal administration reflects a significant increase in OSPI’s legal needs and the services being provided to OSPI by the AGO that cannot be paid with existing funds. Temporarily, the overflow has been covered by bringing in Assistant Attorney’s General (AAG) and has required shifting resources away from other education clients who are also facing an unprecedented need for legal services.

This budget request seeks sufficient resources to provide OSPI with necessary legal representation in the currently contentious legal environment. It is necessary for OSPI to fulfill its obligations relating to funding, compliance, enforcement and is key to protecting Washington’s students’ health, safety, and the right to be free from discrimination. Lack of sufficient legal resources would hinder OSPI’s ability to pursue its regulatory and enforcement obligations and could be detrimental to students in Washington State and the ability of the AGO to properly represent and advise in this context.

The receipt of funding for OSPI's legal services should also increase the level of services that can be provided to other education clients who also face an increased need due to actions of the federal administration, because it would enable us to secure additional resources more aligned with OSPI's legal needs. In the last year, the Education Division (EDU) has added AAGs to address increasing OSPI's legal needs. This has resulted in resources being shifted away from other education clients who are also facing an unprecedented need for legal services. Additional funding is key to our ability to support OSPI and all education clients.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request will support the increased legal needs OSPI has experienced because of actions by the federal administration, and an increasing contentious and litigious environment. OSPI and the AGO submitted and received supplemental funding in recent years. Without this additional funding, OSPI's budget for legal services is inadequate to support the costs of the identified regulatory, enforcement, and defensive litigation and increased need for advice and support relating to federal initiatives. In 2021-23 OSPI's legal costs were \$1,531,662, 24 percent over allocation and in 2023-25 \$2,161,750, six percent over allocation. Fiscal year 2026 OSPI's legal costs were \$1,435,761

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

OSPI and the AGO request funding to support the ongoing needs related to current federal actions and priorities including, among other things, responding to the above referenced and ongoing DOE investigation, and DOE's efforts to imposed funding conditions and certifications that exceed DOE's legal authority and would undermine important protections for Washington State's students. Based on the increasingly contentious legal landscape, it is anticipated that OSPI will also continue to experience an increase in the number of individuals or entities seeking to challenge the OSPI's regulatory actions and school district's special education determinations, which results in complaints and due process hearings over which OSPI presides.

The AGO requires additional authority in FY 2028 and in each FY thereafter of \$615,000 for 2.0 AAG and 1.0 PL.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
AAG FTE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	Y
Object A & B	346	346	346	346	
PL FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	108	108	108	108	
MA5 FTE	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	Y
Object A & B	90	90	90	90	
TOTAL FTE	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	
TOTAL A & B	544	544	544	544	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE =

Total Funds = \$1,016

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$1,016

FY 2026

FTE =

Total Funds = \$1,487

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$1,487

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE =

Total Funds = \$2,123

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$2,123

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This budget request supports the Governor's Education Priority:

This budget request supports the high priority placed on education by enabling OSPI to obtain legal advice and representation in light of various federal initiatives that endanger Washington State's satisfaction of its paramount duty by threatening federal funding and targeting Washington State protections for students, such as gender inclusive schools and an education system in which all students experience an inclusive educational environment. The budget request will also enable OSPI to obtain necessary legal advice and representation to fulfill its obligations relating to funding, compliance, enforcement in areas that are key to protecting Washington's students' health, safety, and the right to be free from discrimination.

AGO Strategic Plan: This request supports the following portions of the AGO Strategic Plan:

Mission. Deliver excellent and independent legal services to state government, defend the rule of law, and fight for justice, fairness, and the public good.

Goals.

- Protect democracy and the rights of the people.
- Provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services.
- Advance work on key issues including public safety, worker rights, and housing.
- Use the power of the office to create a safe, fair, and affordable Washington for all.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002539 - Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year	615	615	615	615

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

Without adequate funding there will be a disproportional impact on gender expansive students, students with disabilities, students who ride school buses, and children who are served under the CACFP nutritious meals program.

Target Communities and Populations:

Students are the primary population impacted by this request. Additional funding is a necessary component to defend against discrimination in Washington State's education system, particularly as it relates to gender expansive students, and pushing back against the overreach of federal anti-DEI initiatives and associated efforts to insert those obligations in various funding contexts. It is also necessary to ensure that students with disabilities receive the education services to which they are entitled and receive the requisite due process when they believe that those rights have been violated.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

This request has the potential to impact school districts and charter public schools because the inability to properly staff and respond to the legal issues being presented by the federal administration could impact federal funding, and the ability to defend against discrimination in Washington State's education system, particularly as it relates to gender expansive students, and pushing back against the overreach of federal anti-DEI initiatives and associated efforts to insert those obligations in various funding contexts. It also has the potential to impact providers participating in the CACFP food services program.

Client Billing costs are provided, Dollars in thousands:

Client	Fund	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
OSPI	405	615	615	615	615
TOTAL		615	615	615	615

Stakeholder Impacts:

Students, parents, bus drivers, and school districts are the primary stakeholders impacted by this proposal. It is anticipated that some of these stakeholders will not support additional funding. For example, bus drivers may not support the proper staffing of bus driver certification hearings that hold them accountable. However, parents, students and school districts would likely support such a result. Similarly, there are stakeholders who may not support the offering of DEI programming or enforcement of a gender inclusive policy, but there are others who would support the defense of such initiatives. It is the polarization that exists right now that, in part, generates the increased need for legal representation.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

The following constitutional and statutory provisions are implicated by the proposal and the ability to satisfy and safeguard these legal requirements and the students that they are designed to protect necessitates additional funding.

Wash. Const. art III, § 22.

RCW 49.60.030, .040, .500 (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender identity in places of public accommodation including schools and community athletic programs)

RCW 28A.642.010 (prohibiting discrimination in Washington public schools)

RCW 28A.600.477 (requiring all Washington public schools to implement a policy that prohibits harassment, intimidation and bullying, including a specific policy related to transgender students)

RCW 28A.300.286 (requiring OSPI to adopt policies and complaint procedures relating to discrimination, including sexual and gender harassment, intimidation, and bullying)

RCW 28A.160.210 (school bus driver and transportation standards)

Title IX, 20 USC §§ 1681-1688 (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex)

Title VI, 42 USC § 2000d (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin)

Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA), 20 USC §1400

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), C.F.R. § 226.1

20 U.S.C. §§ 1232a, 6575, 7906a (provisions prohibiting federal mandates, direction, or control of aspects of public education such as curriculum).

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (FERPA).

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$432	\$432	\$864	\$432	\$432	\$864
Obj. B	\$112	\$112	\$224	\$112	\$112	\$224
Obj. E	\$67	\$67	\$134	\$67	\$67	\$134
Obj. G	\$4	\$4	\$8	\$4	\$4	\$8

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
Joseph.Zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - XL - House Legal Services

Agency Recommendation Summary

The House of Representatives (House) has an increased need for legal advice and representation which has caused billing to exceed the legal services appropriation in the Central Service Model (CSM). Providing increased funding to the House and increasing the Attorney General's Office (AGO) billing authority also reduces the need for the House to contract Special Assistant Attorney Generals (SAAGs).

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 405 - 1	\$59	\$59	\$118	\$59	\$59	\$118
Total Expenditures	\$59	\$59	\$118	\$59	\$59	\$118
Revenue						
405 - 0420	\$59	\$59	\$118	\$59	\$59	\$118
Total Revenue	\$59	\$59	\$118	\$59	\$59	\$118

Decision Package Description

Due to increased advice and representation, the House of Representatives (House) spent almost 80 percent of their total 2025-27 biennial legal service appropriation in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 alone. This funding request increases the House's legal service appropriation during FY 2028 and each FY thereafter without contracting with Special Assistant Attorney Generals (SAAGs), which cost substantially more than services provided by the AGO. Most of the billing overage was due to a press credentials case, Hoffman et al v. Washington State House of Representatives et al. It is anticipated the House will need additional legal service appropriation based on previous billing estimates. It is expected that case workload will continue to grow as an increase in the number of individuals or entities seeking to challenge state bodies grows.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

Without this additional funding, the House's appropriation for legal services is inadequate to support the costs of representation and increased need for advice and support. In FY 2026 the House's legal costs were \$45,938 while the legal services appropriation provided was \$29,500.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The House and AGO request funding to support the increased need related to recent and current actions, like the Hoffman et al v. Washington State House of Representatives et al case and the increasingly contentious legal landscape. It is expected that workload will continue to grow as an increase in the number of individuals or entities seeking to challenge state bodies grows.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
PL FTE	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	Y
Object A & B	10	10	10	10	
DSG AAG FTE	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Y
Object A & B	41	41	41	41	
TOTAL FTE	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	
TOTAL A & B	51	51	51	51	

Historical Funding:

FY 2025

FTE =

Total Funds = \$80

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$80

FY 2026

FTE =

Total Funds = \$29.5

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$29.5

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE =

Total Funds = \$29.5

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$29.5

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

We are accountable and transparent and serve as good stewards of state resources – our own and those of our partners. We are committed to managing our resources in a way that is consistent with expectations for any state agency (Your Washington).

Provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services (AGO Strategic Plan).

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002539 - Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year	59	59	59	59

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

Community engagement is achieved through public taskforce participation, open forums, and collaboration with equity-focused offices, ensuring that diverse voices shape both policy and legal precedent.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A.

Target Communities and Populations:

The SGO's primary legal function is appellate advocacy ensuring legal correctness and process integrity. In representing the state in litigation, the SGO provides justice or the protection of rights under law and often involves giving people what they are due, based on fair principles, rights, and moral correctness. It emphasizes fairness and impartiality, which is sometimes even greater than equity.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

The SGO coordinates the involvement of the AGO in cases before the United States Supreme Court, assists the AGO in preparing and presenting appellate cases in state and federal courts, directly handles select appeals, and coordinates the AGO's involvement with amicus curiae "Friend of the Court" briefs. The SGO is responsible for preparing and issuing Attorney General Opinions to officials statutorily authorized to request them and works in conjunction with the Attorney General Opinions Committee to accomplish this responsibility.

The SGO carries out the Attorney General's duties to prepare ballot titles and explanatory statements for ballot measures and represents the state in litigation involving the powers of initiative and referendum. The SGO serves as counsel to the Secretary of State, Lieutenant Governor and Administrative Office of the Courts. The Solicitor General serves as the chair of the AGO Ethics Committee, and the SGO plays a role in coordinating legal advice on issues of statewide significance.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

Client Billing costs are provided, Dollars in thousands:

Client	Fund	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
011 House	405	59	59	59	59
TOTAL		59	59	59	59

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this proposal currently.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$40	\$40	\$80	\$40	\$40	\$80
Obj. B	\$11	\$11	\$22	\$11	\$11	\$22
Obj. E	\$8	\$8	\$16	\$8	\$8	\$16

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak

(360) 664-4350

Joseph.Zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - XM - Senate Legal Services

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Senate has an increased need for legal advice and representation which has caused costs to exceed the Attorney General's Office (AGO) historical billing amounts and thus projections. Providing additional biennial legal service allocation to the Senate and increasing the AGO's billing authority reduces the need for the Senate to contract Special Assistant Attorney Generals (SAAG).

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 405 - 1	\$57	\$57	\$114	\$57	\$57	\$114
Total Expenditures	\$57	\$57	\$114	\$57	\$57	\$114
Revenue						
405 - 0420	\$57	\$57	\$114	\$57	\$57	\$114
Total Revenue	\$57	\$57	\$114	\$57	\$57	\$114

Decision Package Description

The Senate has been utilizing SAAGs to cover their increased need for legal advice and representation as they have spent half of their biennial budget for legal services in FY26. The Senate is on track to fully spend their 2025-27 legal service allocation. The biennial funding request will allow the Senate to pay for routine legal services without contracting more expensive SAAGs.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

Without this additional funding, The Senate's allocation for legal services is inadequate to support the full costs of representation and increased need for legal advice and support.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The Senate and AGO request funding to support the increased need related to recent and current legal actions. It is expected that caseloads will continue to grow as an increase in the number of individuals or entities seeking to challenge state bodies grows. The biennial funding request will allow the Senate to pay for routine legal services without contracting more expensive SAAGs.

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
PL FTE	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	Y
Object A & B	10	10	10	10	
DSG AAG FTE	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Y
Object A & B	41	41	41	41	
TOTAL FTE	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	
TOTAL A & B	51	51	51	51	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE =

Total Funds = \$46.5

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$46.5

FY 2026

FTE =

Total Funds = \$28.4

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$28.4

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE =

Total Funds = \$28.4

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$28.4

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

We are accountable and transparent and serve as good stewards of state resources – our own and those of our partners. We are committed to managing our resources in a way that is consistent with expectations for any state agency. (Your Washington)

Provide exceptional legal, policy, and public services. (AGO Strategic Plan)

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002539 - Cases Open at End of Fiscal Year	57	57	57	57

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

While the SGO's primary legal function is appellate advocacy and representing the state in high-stakes litigation, the SGO's work intersects with equity and community engagement through the broader Attorney General's Office priorities. The SGO influences equity outcomes by supporting statewide policy priorities that protect vulnerable populations, advancing environmental justice, and ensuring legal standards reflect equity goals. Community engagement is achieved through public taskforce participation, open forums, and collaboration with equity-focused offices, ensuring that diverse voices shape both policy and legal precedent.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A.

Target Communities and Populations:

The Solicitor General's Office (SGO) influences equity by working alongside historically marginalized and overburdened populations, especially low-income, Tribes, and communities of color by embedding environmental justice, racial equity, and access to legal services into state policy and enforcement.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

The SGO coordinates the involvement of the AGO in cases before the United States Supreme Court, assists the AGO in preparing and presenting appellate cases in state and federal courts, directly handles select appeals, and coordinates the AGO's involvement with amicus curiae "Friend of the Court" briefs. The SGO is responsible for preparing and issuing Attorney General Opinions to officials statutorily authorized to request them and works in conjunction with the Attorney General Opinions Committee to accomplish this responsibility.

The SGO carries out the Attorney General's duties to prepare ballot titles and explanatory statements for ballot measures and represents the state in litigation involving the powers of initiative and referendum. The SGO serves as counsel to the Secretary of State, Lieutenant Governor and Administrative Office of the Courts. The Solicitor General serves as the chair of the AGO Ethics Committee, and the SGO plays a role in coordinating legal advice on issues of statewide significance.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

Client Billing costs are provided, Dollars in thousands:

Client	Fund	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
012 Senate	405	57	57	57	57
TOTAL		57	57	57	57

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this proposal currently.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$40	\$40	\$80	\$40	\$40	\$80
Obj. B	\$11	\$11	\$22	\$11	\$11	\$22
Obj. E	\$6	\$6	\$12	\$6	\$6	\$12

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
Joseph.Zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Office of Attorney General
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
Maintenance Level - 8L - Lease Adjustments

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) requires an increase for expected annual lease contract increases and decreases in 2027-29. The required funding changes are necessary to sustain leases in buildings where AGO divisions are currently located. These facilities are included in the AGO six-year lease facility plan.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$106	\$109	\$215	\$112	\$115	\$227
Fund 001 - 2	\$1	\$2	\$3	\$1	\$1	\$2
Fund 111 - 1	\$11	\$12	\$23	\$12	\$12	\$24
Fund 12F - 1	\$5	\$5	\$10	\$6	\$6	\$12
Fund 154 - 1	\$35	\$36	\$71	\$37	\$38	\$75
Fund 17L - 1	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$1	\$1	\$2
Fund 19A - 1	(\$4)	\$21	\$17	\$10	\$28	\$38
Fund 405 - 1	\$720	\$679	\$1,399	\$395	\$566	\$961
Fund 424 - 1	\$6	\$6	\$12	\$6	\$6	\$12
Fund 441 - 1	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$882	\$872	\$1,754	\$580	\$773	\$1,353
Revenue						
001 - 0393	\$1	\$2	\$3	\$1	\$1	\$2
405 - 0420	\$720	\$679	\$1,399	\$395	\$566	\$961
Total Revenue	\$721	\$681	\$1,402	\$396	\$567	\$963

Decision Package Description

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) requests funding to cover the increase and decrease in annual lease contract renewals and contractually scheduled rate increases in 2027-29 and projected in 2029-31.

All 2027-29 and 2029-31 lease increases and renewals are either previously established in existing leases, or are projections based on assumed percentage increases provided by OFM Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) calculator.

The Department of Enterprise Services (DES) negotiates new lease costs with property owners on behalf of the AGO. The AGO has limited control over the increase in lease costs and this request does not duplicate any funding proposed in any other decision package within the 2027-29 budget request. These facilities are all in the AGO six-year lease facility plan.

The increases and renewals identified in this request are to continue occupancy in buildings around Washington State where AGO divisions are currently located to provide services to client agencies and the citizens of Washington State.

- Bellingham: The current lease rate of \$17,865 will end on June 30, 2029. A 13.483% increase is assumed based on the CPI-U calculator in July 2029. The 13.483% increase raises the monthly assumed lease rate to \$20,273 per fiscal month through the end of 2029-31.

- Bristol Court: The current lease rate of \$59,566 will have a step increase in August 2029 to the new monthly rate of \$60,951. This lease expires on July 31, 2030, and a 7.125% increase is assumed based on the CPI-U calculator in August 2030. The 7.125% increase raises the monthly assumed lease rate to \$65,294 per fiscal month through the end of 2029-31.

- Everett: The current lease rate of \$30,331 is effective through July 31, 2031. The current lease rate is effective through 2027-29 and 2029-31.

- Highway License Building (HLB): There is no lease for HLB office space on Capital Campus. DES states they will only bill the AGO for the

funding totals allotted in the Central Service Model (CSM) for office space. The CSM funding allotment for HLB for 2027-29 is \$84,875 per fiscal month.

- Kennewick: The current lease rate of \$12,142 will end on January 31, 2029. A 7.125% increase is assumed based on the CPI-U calculator in February 2029. The 7.125% increase raises the monthly assumed lease rate to \$13,779 per fiscal month through the end of 2027-29 and 2029-31.

- Kent: The current lease agreement expires April 30, 2028. The current lease rate is \$228 per fiscal month until the lease expiration date. A 15.018% increase is assumed to begin in May 2028 based on the CPI-U calculator. This assumption raises the monthly lease rate to \$262 per fiscal month through the rest of 2027-29 and 2029-31.

- Kitsap County Juvenile Court: The current lease agreement is from April 2026 and expires March 2028. The current lease agreement is \$220 per fiscal month. Beginning April 2028, an increase of 4.914% is assumed, based on the CPI-U calculator. This assumption raises the monthly lease rate to \$231 per fiscal month through 2027-29 and 2029-31.

- Montesano: The current lease agreement expires April 30, 2030. The current lease rate is \$700 per fiscal month until the lease expires. A 13.197% increase is assumed to begin in May 2030 based on the CPI-U calculator. This assumption raises the monthly lease rate to \$793 per fiscal month through 2027-29 and 2029-31.

- Port Angeles: The current lease agreement expires July 31, 2027. The current lease is \$9,665 per fiscal month and increases four percent annually on August 1 of each year until August 1, 2027. A 2.515% increase is assumed to begin in August 2027 based on the CPI-U calculator. This assumption raises the monthly lease rate to \$9,908 per fiscal month through the rest of the 2027-29 and 2029-31 biennia.

- Seattle: The current lease began July 1, 2022, and ends June 30, 2033. The lease also includes parking costs. This lease increases every year on July 1st. Lease rates per fiscal month for FY 2028 is \$704,976, FY 2029 monthly rate is \$723,986, FY 2030 monthly rate is \$743,329, and FY 2031 monthly rate is \$763,795.

- Spokane: The current lease agreement expires October 31, 2029. The lease rate is \$1,220 per fiscal month until August 1, 2027, where an agreed increase to \$53,720 occurs. A projected increase to \$59,392 will begin in November 2029 based on assumed 10.559% increases provided by OFM CPI-U calculator.

- Tacoma: The current lease agreement expires July 31, 2030. The current lease rate is \$95,273 per fiscal month until July 31, 2030, where a projected increase to \$107,847 will begin in August 2030 based on assumed 13.197% increase provided by the OFM CPI-U calculator through the rest of the 2029-31 biennium.

- Tumwater: The current lease agreement expires November 30, 2031. The current lease rate is \$281,173 per fiscal month until November 30, 2026, where it will increase to \$302,802 through 2027-29 and 2029-31.

- Vancouver: The current lease agreement expires March 31, 2029. The current lease rate is \$20,553 per fiscal month until the lease expires March 31, 2029, where a projected increase to \$23,325 will begin in August 2029 based on assumed 13.483% increase provided by the OFM CPI-U calculator through the rest of 2029-31.

- Warehouse (Facilities): The current lease expires June 30, 2029. The current lease rate is \$19,366 per fiscal month until the lease expires June 30, 2029, where a projected increase to \$21,977 will begin in July 2029 based on assumed 13.483% increase provided by the OFM CPI-U calculator through 2029-31.

- Warehouse (Information Services): The current lease expires June 30, 2029. The current lease rate is \$9,344 per fiscal month until the lease expires June 30, 2029, where a projected increase to \$10,603 will begin in July 2029 based on assumed 13.483% increase provided by the OFM CPI-U calculator through the 2029-31.

- Wenatchee: Wenatchee's new location's lease began on June 1, 2024, and expires May 31, 2034. The current lease rate is \$11,831 per fiscal

month until May 30, 2029, where a scheduled increase to \$12,660 begins in June 2029 and continues through 2029-31.

- Yakima: The current lease agreement expires July 31, 2030. The current lease rate is \$11,668 per fiscal month until July 31, 2030, where a projected increase to \$13,441 will begin in August 2030 based on assumed 13.197% increases provided by OFM CPI-U calculator through 2029-31.

The AGO is obligated to pay lease costs negotiated by DES. There is no alternative to fully fund leased facility cost requirements.

The AGO is unable to address this issue within its current appropriation levels without having a detrimental impact on the delivery of legal services.

A lease funding shortfall will have a greater negative impact on programs with smaller funding sources and include but are not limited to the services of Mobile Home Dispute Resolution, Lemon Law Enforcement, Foreclosure Compliance Program, Anti-Trust, and Consultation Program.

The increased cost of leased space is an unavoidable cost that must be incurred by the AGO to provide legal services to its client agencies.

See attachments for additional details.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

AGO facility leases have been fully funded in the last two biennia.

2023-25: \$32,632,000

2025-27: \$33,204,000

2027-29: \$35,002,000

This request includes increased lease contracts and projected costs of lease renewals.

These costs are ongoing and will carry forward into future biennia. One-time costs are not included in this request.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Dollars in Thousands:

	2027-29 Budget Request (Excludes Torts IAA Costs)			
	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
TOTAL REQUEST	882	872	580	773

All projections include additional lease contracts, or projected rates of new leases. There are no one-time costs included in this request.

The following funding is required to pay lease rates beginning FY 2028 based on percentage increases provided by OFM Facility Oversight section. See Attachment 1 for each facility's annual lease costs and projected costs.

- Bellingham: The current lease rate is \$17,865 per fiscal month through the end of the biennium. No lease rate adjustment for 2027-29.

- Bristol Court: The current lease rate is \$59,566, effective August 1, 2027, a \$1,386 per fiscal month rate increase to the current lease, resulting in \$60,952 per fiscal month as the new lease rate for 2027-29.

- Everett: The lease rate is \$30,331 per fiscal month through the end of the biennium. No lease rate adjustment for 2027-29.
- Kennewick: The current lease rate is \$12,152, effective Feb 1, 2029, a \$1,637 per fiscal month increase to the current lease rate, resulting in \$13,779 per fiscal month as the new lease rate for 2027-29.
- Kent: The current lease rate is \$228 per fiscal month effective May 2029, a \$34 per fiscal month rate increase to the current lease, resulting in \$262 per fiscal month as the new projected lease rate for 2027-29.
- Kitsap County Juvenile Court: The current lease rate is \$220 per fiscal month, effective April 2028 a \$11 per fiscal month increase to the current lease resulting in \$231 per fiscal month for 2027-29.
- Montesano: The current lease rate is \$700 per fiscal month through the end of the biennium. No lease rate adjustment for 2027-29.
- Port Angeles: The current lease rate is \$9,665 per fiscal month and increases by four percent every year on August 1st, ending July 31, 2027. Beginning August 2027, a 2.515% increase (from OFM CPI-U calculator) of \$244 per fiscal month resulting in new monthly lease rate of \$9,908 per fiscal month for 2027-29.
- Seattle: The current lease rate is \$704,976 per fiscal month. The lease rate increases approximately 3% every July until the lease expires in 2033.
- Spokane: The current lease rate is \$41,220 per fiscal month, effective July 1, 2027 a scheduled increase to \$53,720 per fiscal month takes effect. Effective November 1, 2029, a 10.559% increase of \$5,673 per fiscal month to the current monthly lease rate is assumed based off OFM CPI-U calculator. The new lease rate effective November 1, 2029, is \$59,392 per fiscal month.
- Tacoma: The current lease rate is \$95,273 per fiscal month, effective August 1, 2030, a 13.197% increase of \$14,545 per fiscal month to the current monthly lease rate is assumed based off OFM CPI-U calculator. The new lease rate effective August 1, 2030, is \$107,817 per fiscal month.
- Tumwater: The current lease rate is \$302,802 per fiscal month through the end of the biennium. No lease rate adjustment for 2027-29.
- Vancouver: The current lease rate is \$20,553 per fiscal month, effective April 1, 2029, a 13.483% increase of \$2,772 per fiscal month to the current monthly lease rate is assumed based off OFM CPI-U calculator. The new lease rate effective April 1, 2029, is \$23,325 per fiscal month.
- Warehouse (Facilities): The current lease rate is \$19,366 per fiscal month through the end of the biennium. No lease rate adjustment for 2027-29.
- Warehouse (Information Services): The current lease rate is \$9,344 per fiscal month through the end of the biennium. No lease rate adjustment for 2027-29.
- Wenatchee: The current lease rate is \$11,832 per fiscal month, effective June 1, 2029, a scheduled increase of \$828 per fiscal month to the current monthly lease rate is assumed based off agreed upon lease conditions. The new lease rate, effective June 1, 2029, is \$12,660 per fiscal month.
- Yakima: The current lease rate is \$11,668 per fiscal month through the end of the biennium. No lease rate adjustment for 2027-29.

Workforce Assumptions:

N/A.

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE = 0.0

Total Funds = \$14,335

Near General Fund = \$1,333

Other Funds = \$13,002

FY 2026

FTE = 0.0

Total Funds = \$16,105

Near General Fund = \$1,823

Other Funds = \$14,282

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE = 0.0

Total Funds = \$16,514

Near General Fund = \$1,872

Other Funds = \$14,642

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Relationship to the AGO Strategic Plan:

Every aspect of the AGO's Strategic Plan is affected by the availability of appropriate office space for each Division to function and funding being available to pay for this space. Funding the projected lease shortfalls will empower the AGO to sustain current legal efforts across the state, thus enabling employees to meet Strategic Plan goals and objectives.

Link to Governor's Goals and Priorities that this Decision Package supports:

[Priorities | Governor Bob Ferguson](#)

Performance Outcomes:

The AGO submits this request to sustain the current level of legal services to communities statewide without any disruption. The approval of this request will not result in incremental changes to agency performance measures. If a shortfall is generated through a lack of fully funding this request, it will result in a reduction to currently funded legal services, and potentially in the consideration of the costly alternative of moving to different, cheaper facilities. This request supports all the AGO Performance Measures.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A.

Target Communities and Populations:

N/A.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

It is assumed there is no opposition to fully funding AGO lease rate needs. Occupying facilities across the state provides a service to these communities mentioned above.

Courthouse space leases are low-cost efficiency for AGO Assistant Attorney Generals (AAG).

The increased cost of leased space is an unavoidable cost that must be incurred by the AGO to provide legal services to client agencies and serve the citizens of Washington State. These lease costs are included in bills to clients on monthly legal service invoices.

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this request at this time.

State Facilities Impacts:

This request impacts the AGO leased facilities with expiring or changing lease amounts per current lease and contract agreements.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

Reference Documents

[8L Lease DP Attch 1.pdf](#)

[8L Lease DP Attch 2.pdf](#)

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. E	\$882	\$872	\$1,754	\$580	\$773	\$1,353

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov



Agency Recommendation Summary

The AGO's Manufactured Housing Dispute Resolution Program (Program) serves the public by enforcing RCW 59.20, the Manufactured and Mobile Home Landlord Tenant Act (MHLTA) and by offering a dispute resolution program for landlords and tenants to address alleged MHLTA violations. The Program protects affordable housing in our most disadvantaged communities and for residents at the lowest income levels, directly supporting a key state and gubernatorial priority. Recent statutory changes have increased the Program's workload, requiring additional staffing to avoid backlogs that delay delivery of services.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 12F - 1	\$130	\$130	\$260	\$130	\$130	\$260
Total Expenditures	\$130	\$130	\$260	\$130	\$130	\$260

Decision Package Description

The AGO's Manufactured Housing Dispute Resolution Program (Program) receives complaints from both landlords and tenants who allege violations of the Manufactured and Mobile Home Landlord Tenant Act (MHLTA) and facilitates a dispute resolution program for these stakeholders to resolve these MHLTA issues without need for litigation. The Program's work protects affordable housing in the most disadvantaged communities and for residents at the lowest income levels. Recent statutory changes have increased the Program's workload, requiring additional staffing to avoid backlogs that delay essential services.

In 2023, the legislature amended RCW 59.20.030 to require landlords to provide notice of intent to sell. Two years later, HB 1217 (rent stabilization) went into effect and the MHLTA was amended to provide additional tenant protections, including limits on the amount a landlord may increase a tenant's rent and new requirements for notices of rent increase. These amendments expanded the scope of the Program's dispute resolution services, increasing complaint volume and complexity. The Program's expanded enforcement requires additional staff to process complaints and provide services; for complaints that allege violations of rent stabilization laws immediate action is frequently required to prevent potential eviction. Rent issues under the MHLTA are particularly urgent, as if a tenant is evicted from their mobile home and owes money to the landlord, landlords may place liens and sell the home. MHLTA complaints must be monitored continuously once dispute resolution services are initiated to ensure prompt resolution or enforcement of the MHLTA.

Current Program staff resources are insufficient to effectively and efficiently meet demand for program services.

The Program has seen a steady and sustained increase in complaints over the past five years related to amendments to RCW 59.20.320-355, RCW 59.20 rent stabilization laws, and corporate purchases of Washington State mobile home communities that resulted in significantly increased rent, reduced amenities, and deferred maintenance of park infrastructures. In 2020, Program staff FTE was set at 5.5 and the Program received 389 complaints that year. By 2025, Program staff FTE had slightly increased to 6.0, but the Program fielded 860 complaints. If Program staff FTE are not aligned with service demands, the Program will experience increasing backlogs that delay delivery of services, staff burnout, and staff turnover.

Manufactured and mobile home communities are a source of affordable housing in Washington State, and tenants are uniquely vulnerable. If the Program cannot effectively provide services and enforce the MHLTA, tenants are likely to face increased financial hardship, evictions, and loss of housing because of illegal rent increases.

Effectively fulfilling the statutory requirements of RCW 59.30 requires additional program staff. The other option is to ineffectively fulfill requirements or fail to fulfill statutory requirements. Increasing complaints suggest that the Program will also see a future increase in enforcement

work, including Notices of Violation that can be appealed to Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), with attendant increases in associated costs.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This proposal expands Program staff FTE and requires an expenditure authority increase for maintenance level operations. Expenditure authority for the Program in 2023-25 was \$2,165,000 and in 2025-27 was \$2,218,000.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Due to increasing workload, the Manufactured Housing Unit would add 1.0 FTE Program Specialist 4, requiring an increase in expenditure authority.

MHLT STATS 2019-2026* Projected		
Year	Written Complaints	Telephone Inquiries
2019	369	668
2020	389	351
2021	414	606
2022	573	1,401
2023	718	1,781
2024	801	1,586
2025	860	1,538
2026*	910	1,600

Workforce Assumptions:

FTE detail is provided, Dollars in thousands:

FTE	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	Ongoing ? Y / N
Program Specialist 4 FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	Y
Object A & B	109	109	109	109	
TOTAL FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
TOTAL A & B	109	109	109	109	

Historical Funding:

Dollars in Thousands:

FY 2025

FTE = 6.0

Total Funds = \$1,070

Near General Fund = \$0
125 of 152

Other Funds = \$1,070

FY 2026

FTE = 7.8

Total Funds = \$1,117

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$1,117

FY 2027 (current funding)

FTE = 7.8

Total Funds = \$1,101

Near General Fund = \$0

Other Funds = \$1,101

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

The Program and its work fits squarely within key Legislative, Agency, and Governor priorities. The Legislature created the Program to preserve affordable housing and reduce the expense of resolving landlord and tenant disputes. See RCW 59.30.010(2) (finding that “legal action ... can be a costly and lengthy process, and that many people cannot afford to pursue a court process to vindicate statutory rights.”). The Program manufactured and mobile home community landlords will also benefit by having access to a process that resolves disputes quickly and efficiently.”) The Program is central to all four of the Attorney General’s strategic goals for the next two years, because it is instrumental “protecting the rights of the people,” providing exceptional public service to underserved and vulnerable communities, advancing work on housing, and using the power of the office to create a safe, fair, and affordable Washington State for all. The Program also directly addresses the Governor’s priorities. See <https://governor.wa.gov/priorities> (“Addressing Washington’s housing shortage is key for Governor Ferguson. In the next 20 years, Washington will need 1.1 million more homes, at least half of which will need to be affordable for residents at the lowest income levels.”)

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029	Incremental Changes 2030	Incremental Changes 2031
002534 - Direct Restitution Provided to Consumers through Litigation and Complaint Resolution	\$130	\$130	\$130	\$130

Performance Outcomes:

Incremental impact for this performance measure is indeterminate.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

The Program regularly conducts outreach with stakeholders across the state, but none has been done specific to this request.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

As of 2020, there were more than 1,232 manufactured housing communities across Washington State offering spaces for homes at the land rental rate, making homeownership affordable for many Washington State families, seniors, and low income wage earners. *See* Manufactured Housing Communities Workgroup Report, Department of Commerce, 2020 (([Legislative Report v1.6](#))).

Target Communities and Populations:

Manufactured and mobile home landlords, tenants, and communities.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A.

Intergovernmental:

N/A.

Stakeholder Impacts:

There is no known opposition to this request at this time.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A.

Changes from Current Law:

N/A.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

As described, the Program requires increased staffing in part due to legislative amendments to RCW 59.20.030 in 2023 and 2025. These amendments expanded tenant protections, and thus the scope of the Program's dispute resolution services, increasing complaint volume and complexity.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A.

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	\$82	\$82	\$164	\$82	\$82	\$164
Obj. B	\$27	\$27	\$54	\$27	\$27	\$54
Obj. E	\$20	\$20	\$40	\$20	\$20	\$40
Obj. G	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$1	\$1	\$2

Agency Contact Information

Joseph Zawislak
(360) 664-4350
joseph.zawislak@atg.wa.gov

Tab D

REVENUE





Dollars in Thousands

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Office of Attorney General
Agency Level
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
001 - General Fund							
0393 - Health & Human Svc - F							
8L - Lease Adjustments	1	2	0	0			
Total - 0393 - Health & Human Svc - F	1	2	0	0	1	2	3
001 - General Fund - Federal	1	2			1	2	3
Total - 001 - General Fund	1	2			1	2	3
 405 - Legal Serv Rev Acct							
0420 - Charges for Services - S							
8L - Lease Adjustments	720	679	0	0			
XG - UW Support Staff Transfer	0	0	1,000	1,000			
XH - DOL Legal Services	756	756	0	0			
XJ - UW Legal Services	3,340	3,340	0	0			
XK - OSPI Legal Services	615	615	0	0			
XL - House Legal Services	59	59	0	0			
XM - Senate Legal Services	57	57	0	0			
Total - 0420 - Charges for Services - S	5,547	5,506	1,000	1,000	6,547	6,506	13,053
405 - Legal Serv Rev Acct - State	5,547	5,506	1,000	1,000	6,547	6,506	13,053
Total - 405 - Legal Serv Rev Acct	5,547	5,506	1,000	1,000	6,547	6,506	13,053
 Agency: 100 ATG - State	5,547	5,506	1,000	1,000	6,547	6,506	13,053
Agency: 100 ATG - Federal	1	2			1	2	3
Total - Agency: 100 ATG	5,548	5,508	1,000	1,000	6,548	6,508	13,056
- unknown source title - Z							

8L - Lease Adjustments

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) requires an increase for expected annual lease contract increases and decreases in 2027-29. The required funding changes are necessary to sustain leases in buildings where AGO divisions are currently located. These facilities are included in the AGO six-year lease facility plan.

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Office of Attorney General
Agency Level
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

8L - Lease Adjustments

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) requires an increase for expected annual lease contract increases and decreases in 2027-29. The required funding changes are necessary to sustain leases in buildings where AGO divisions are currently located. These facilities are included in the AGO six-year lease facility plan.

XG - UW Support Staff Transfer

This request is for the transition of legal support staff to the Attorney General's Office (AGO) from the University of Washington (UW). The transition of legal support staff positions will provide for more efficient and effective operations of the division because the transferred positions would report directly to the AGO University of Washington (UOW) division. This request also aligns compensation for all legal service positions.

XH - DOL Legal Services

The Department of Licensing (DOL) has an ongoing and increasing need for the Attorney General's Office (AGO) legal services. Workloads related to litigation, client advice, and help with public records and data sharing, especially related to federal government issues and inquiries, tax enforcement and collection, among other needs. The AGO requests adequate billing authority based on DOL's assessed needs to address this continued need.

XJ - UW Legal Services

The University of Washington (UW) requires additional legal resources to defend against the current federal administration's attacks on higher education and to reduce reliance on private law firms. Adding resources to the Attorney General's Office (AGO) will save state money, result in a stronger, more cohesive defense, and provide additional efficiencies where the AGO can do more legal work for UW that is currently sent to Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAGs). UW is currently significantly under-resourced compared to similarly sized institutions and has become a significant target for the federal government's attacks on higher education.

XK - OSPI Legal Services

This request is to align funding to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with their legal service needs that have increased because of federal government actions and challenges to OSPI's regulatory and enforcement actions in areas including, but not limited to, bus driver certifications and special education due process hearings.

XL - House Legal Services

The House of Representatives (House) has an increased need for legal advice and representation which has caused billing to exceed the legal services appropriation in the Central Service Model (CSM). Providing increased funding to the House and increasing the Attorney General's Office (AGO) billing authority also reduces the need for the House to contract Special Assistant Attorney Generals (SAAGs).

XM - Senate Legal Services

The Senate has an increased need for legal advice and representation which has caused costs to exceed the Attorney General's Office (AGO) historical billing amounts and thus projections. Providing additional biennial legal service allocation to the Senate and increasing the AGO's billing authority reduces the need for the Senate to contract Special Assistant Attorney Generals (SAAG).

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Office of Attorney General
Agency Level
2729 - 2027-29 Biennial Request
Dollars in Thousands

Report Number: ABS029

Input Parameters

Session	2027-29 Regular
Agency	100
Version	2729
Program	Agency Level
Include Text	Y
For Word	N
Display Parameter Page	Y

Proposed Fee Changes

Not Applicable



Dollars in Thousands

ABS030 Working Capital Reserve
100
2027-29 Regular
2729

No data available for selected parameters

Report Number: ABS030

Input Parameters

Entered as

Session	2027-29 Regular
Agency	100
Version	2729
For Word	N
Display Parameter Page	Y

Revenue Transfer Reconciliation Statement

Not Applicable

Federal Fund Estimates-State Match

Not Applicable

Additional Federal Receipts Reporting Requirements

Not Applicable

Non-budgeted Local Fund Summary

Not Applicable

Puget Sound Action Agenda

Not Applicable

JLARC Audit Response

Not Applicable

Tab E

OTHER REQUIRED
INFORMATION



Central Service Fund Splits
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
2027-29 Biennium

All Columns by Agency must equal 100%											
Agency	Account and Approp Title	Auditor	AttGen	OAH	Facilities & Services Only	WaTech	Debt Services	Workers' Comp	All Other	Risk Mgmt Division	Self Insurance
100-Office of the Attorney General	001-1 General Fund-State	14.41%	14.41%	0.00%	14.41%	14.41%	14.41%	14.41%	14.41%	14.41%	14.41%
100-Office of the Attorney General	111-1 Public Service Revolving Account-State	1.21%	1.21%	0.00%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%
100-Office of the Attorney General	12F-6 Manufactured/Mobile Home Dispute-Non-Ap	0.41%	0.41%	35.71%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%
100-Office of the Attorney General	141-6 Federal Seizure Account	0.72%	0.72%	0.00%	0.72%	0.72%	0.72%	0.72%	0.72%	0.72%	0.72%
100-Office of the Attorney General	154-1 New Motor Vehicle Arbitration Acct-State	0.36%	0.36%	0.00%	0.36%	0.36%	0.36%	0.36%	0.36%	0.36%	0.36%
100-Office of the Attorney General	17L-6 Foreclosure Fairness Account-Non-Appropri	0.12%	0.12%	0.00%	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%	0.12%
100-Office of the Attorney General	25V-6 WA ST Atg Charitable Asset Prtcn Acct	0.30%	0.30%	0.00%	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%
100-Office of the Attorney General	405-1 Legal Services Revolving Account-State	79.79%	79.79%	64.29%	79.79%	79.79%	79.79%	79.79%	79.79%	79.79%	79.79%
100-Office of the Attorney General	424-6 Anti-Trust Revolving Account-Non-Appropri	2.43%	2.43%	0.00%	2.43%	2.43%	2.43%	2.43%	2.43%	2.43%	2.43%
100-Office of the Attorney General	441-1 Local Government Archives Account-State	0.21%	0.21%	0.00%	0.21%	0.21%	0.21%	0.21%	0.21%	0.21%	0.21%
100-Office of the Attorney General	828-1 Tobacco Prevention and Control Acct-State	0.05%	0.05%	0.00%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Attorney General's Office Enterprise Risk Management Update – 2026

The following are three major risks that could impact the Attorney General Office's (AGO) ability to achieve its strategic objectives on time. For each risk there are several initiatives and activities either completed or underway designed to address the concern.

1. **Similar to all organizations, the office faces a threat of cyber security or network attacks.**

In light of the increased sophistication and magnitude of recent cyberattacks on governmental and non-governmental entities, the AGO is working extensively to mitigate the risk of attacks and develop actions plans to promptly address and minimize the impact of any cyber security incidents. The AGO's efforts to continuously focus on this area in order to protect our Information Technology (IT) infrastructure and data include the following:

- Public law firms are routinely targets for ransomware. Several large public law firms have been targeted leaving attorneys without access to documents needed to represent their clients. To mitigate these risks, ISD built a team of cybersecurity professionals and developed a strong IT Security Program.
- The AGO prioritizes IT security awareness through training for all staff. The AGO is leveraging the existing newly released statewide training to ensure staff are aware of emerging tactics used to jeopardize organizational operations.
- As a part of a statewide effort, the AGO continues to monitor and update IT policies. The purpose of the project was to ensure policy language is clear and that all of the policy elements work collectively to ensure that security, data integrity and data privacy are maintained within the agency. For example, based on advice for leading consultants in cyber security, the AGO released updated agencywide guidance on ensuring equipment is safely maintained by employees while out of AGO buildings. Additionally, the AGO deployed more rigorous password and cyber security related measures for all staff.
- The AGO also works collaboratively with WaTech and uses statewide security services provided under the allocations to meet all security standards and prevent avert attacks.
- The AGO retained experts in cyber security to develop a tabletop exercises specific to risks the AGO may encounter. These exercises included executive participation from Information Services, Facilities, Human Resources, Risk Management and AGO Business Counsel along with cyber security experts in the AGO.
- The AGO proactively engaged with US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to conduct assessments regarding AGO systems and networks. As a result, the AGO implemented recommendations to strengthen cybersecurity practices.

2. **Business interruption due to natural disaster or another threat is a risk that could pose a significant impact on the agency's ability to serve our state agency clients.** During instances of significant disruption of state operations, the AGO is tasked with ensuring core operations continue while also being called on to provide an extraordinary level of legal services to client agencies and Executive Branch leadership throughout the response. The AGO must also be positioned to quickly implement unique safety measures and interventions in direct support of agency staff.

- From an operations perspective, worker safety is our paramount focus. This includes continuing operation of our buildings and employing best practices to ensure staff safety in our facilities and community settings such as courts, other agency facilities, and public venues.
- The AGO is committed to leveraging resources, ensuring the agency is strongly positioned to fully execute core operations and business continuity during emergent situations. To further this objective, agency Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP), division level COOPs, and

building safety plans and documents have been evaluated and updates are currently underway.

- The AGO conducts a variety of physical training and tabletop exercises focused on preparedness, awareness and implementation of COOPs and other agency plans during disaster response, particularly in a work environment with a blend of remote and in-office employees on a given day. The trainings and exercises expand knowledge and awareness to ensure preparedness, continuity of operations, and disaster response. The Agency COOP has been updated and the AGO is planning a tabletop exercise by the end of 2026 to further test agency and division COOPs. The exercise will expand and test knowledge and awareness, as well as ensure the AGO is prepared to respond during a disaster.
- Communications are critical during business interruption or an emergent event. For these purposes, the AGO has employed enhanced communications practices as follows:
 - **Government Emergency Telecommunications System (GETS) and Wireless Priority Service (WPS).** These tools are provided to agency leadership to receive priority access and prioritized processing, greatly increasing the probability of call completion during disasters. This system can be tested individually at any time, and the agency conducts formal testing with staff on an annual basis.
 - **COOP Sync.** The AGO has developed a system that automatically uploads safety related documents onto division management's laptop each day. The uploaded documents include agency and divisional COOP documents, building safety plans, policies and procedures, critical events calendars, employee emergency contacts, and a document showing AAG expertise in specific areas of law.
 - **Everbridge.** The AGO has employed Everbridge as an emergency push notification system for messaging our staff during a variety of situations, including severe or inclement weather, network outages or issues, and emergency situations. Staff are automatically enrolled with their primary work location and further can set alerts using multiple notification methods and for other AGO locations.

3. **Given the amount of sensitive information, the AGO holds on behalf of its clients, a data breach of medical information that is protected by the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) or other Personal Health Information (PHI) is a serious risk that could result in civil and criminal penalties, adverse outcomes for the individuals directly impacted with the breach as well as significant negative impacts to agency reputation.** The AGO developed policies and practices for handling PHI to assure compliance with the HITECH Act. In addition, all AGO employees are required to take HIPAA/HITECH training as well as completing IT Security Awareness training at regular intervals. When incidents contrary to policy occur, the AGO reviews and implements mitigation strategies.

- The AGO developed a HIPAA Medical Information Security and Privacy policy that will be completed in conjunction with the IT policy consolidation project.
- All AGO Divisions handling PHI have developed or updated their division business rules for PHI.
- HIPAA training materials are available to all divisions that handle PHI, this is a yearly required training course for all AGO staff.
- The AGO continues to refine best practices to include developing division checklists and acknowledgement of accountability for employees in those divisions.
- The AGO provides staff options to securely transfer confidential, sensitive information with the use of encryption. File Transfer and Data Sharing Best Practices is maintained and updated regularly with instruction on how to handle information that is classified at Category 3 and 4 levels.

AGENCY	Code	Name
	100	Attorney General's Office

152 of 152