



Office of the Attorney General

OAG (CB)

MISSION

The mission of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is to enforce the laws of the District of Columbia and to provide legal services to the District of Columbia government.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

OAG is charged with conducting the District's legal business. To discharge these duties, OAG is divided into eleven Divisions: the Office of the Solicitor General, Child Support Services, Civil Litigation, Commercial, Family Services, Health and Human Services, Legal Counsel, Public Safety, Public Advocacy, Personnel and Labor/Employment, and Shared Services.

OAG represents the District in virtually all civil litigation, prosecutes certain criminal offenses on the District's behalf and represents the District in a variety of administrative hearings and other proceedings. In addition, OAG is responsible for advising the Executive Office of the Mayor, the D.C. Council, the D.C. Courts, various Boards and Commissions, for reviewing legislation and regulations, and for supervising lawyers working in the general counsel offices of 28 agencies. All told, the Attorney General supervises the legal work of about 350 attorneys and an additional 350 paraprofessional staff.

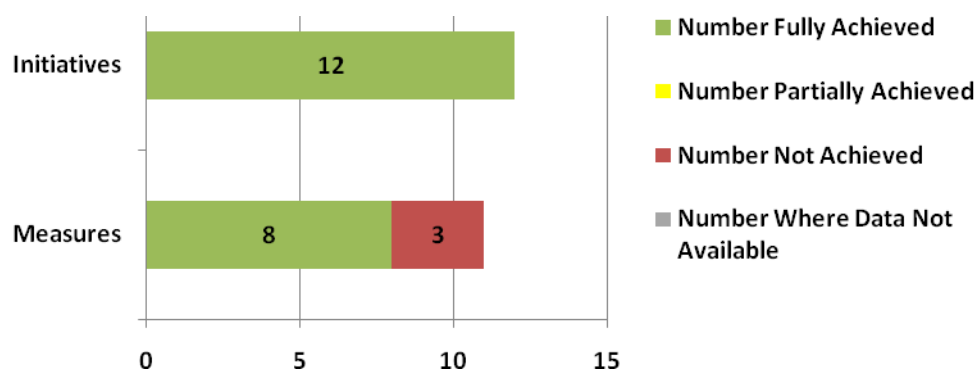
AGENCY OBJECTIVES

1. Reduce exposure to risk by District residents and the District Government by strengthening litigation efforts.
2. Increase child-support orders and child-support payments to legally entitled District families through vigorous enforcement of applicable laws and through programs for ex-offender parents owing child support and other non-custodial parent groups needing special assistance.
3. Enhance public safety through regional cooperation and strategic litigation.
4. Attract and retain highly qualified legal and administrative staff.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ More child support orders established and more order modifications for incarcerated parents.
- ✓ More funds collected for child support.
- ✓ A much higher than expected number of nuisance property law suits filed.

OVERVIEW OF AGENCY PERFORMANCE








Performance Initiatives – Assessment Details



Performance Assessment Key:

-  Fully achieved  Partially achieved  Not achieved  Data not reported

OBJECTIVE 1: Reduce exposure to risk by District residents and the District Government by strengthening litigation efforts.

-  **INITIATIVE 1.1: Dramatically increase the enforcement of consumer, housing, labor and environmental laws. Fully Achieved.** OAG filed criminal charges against several landlords charging them with various and numerous housing code violations, from nonworking smoke detectors and rodent infestation to holes and cracks in walls and ceilings. The office also brought court actions to stop deceptive, anticompetitive, or unconscionable business practices and to obtain compensation for consumers, most notably DC v. Proctor. DDOE/Office of the General Counsel has stepped up enforcement of environmental laws in several ways. Most notably, DDOE/OGC is systematically reviewing several hundred backlogged underground storage tank cases and filing enforcement actions, where appropriate.
-  **INITIATIVE 1.2: Triage civil cases for more efficient resolution and launch the civil litigation “Early Settlement Program” (ESP).**
Fully Achieved. Increased the percent of customers served within 24 hours, the number of juvenile cases adjudicated, and the number of nuisance property matters prosecuted. Also launched the civil litigation “Early Settlement Program” on October 1, 2007.
-  **INITIATIVE 1.3: Improve risk management.**
Fully Achieved. Nearly all OAG agency counsel have access to the District’s Prolaw litigation data management system, which allows agency counsel to directly check on the current status of cases. The Civil Litigation Division works with agency counsel, agency heads and senior agency managers to address issues raised in litigation or threatened litigation prior to the commencement of a lawsuit, while the case is pending and/or after a case is concluded. The trial counsel works with the agency client to avoid a lawsuit if possible, to bolster the agency’s defense once a lawsuit is filed, to minimize the agency’s legal exposure as the case progresses and/or to limit the agency’s exposure to potential damages and possible judicial oversight if the case is resolved against the District. Effective consultation with the client helps to reduce the frequency of litigation regarding a particular program activity or operation.

OBJECTIVE 2: Increase child-support orders and child-support payments to legally entitled District families through vigorous enforcement of applicable laws and through programs for ex-offender parents owing child support and other non-custodial parent groups needing special assistance.

-  **INITIATIVE 2.1: Create a New Customer Service Unit in the Child Support Services Division (CSSD).**
Fully Achieved. Launched the Customer Service Unit to help resolve questions, concerns, or field complaints about child support cases.
-  **INITIATIVE 2.2: Improve the service-of-process rate for notices to appear in court for non-custodial parents owing child support.**
Fully Achieved. Increased the number of families obtaining child payments through CSSD from 2,077 in FY07 to 2,628 in FY08.



- **INITIATIVE 2.3. Work with the Family Court to improve the efficiency of child support court processes.**
Fully Achieved. Increased the number of child support modifications for incarcerated and ex-offender parents from 125 in FY07 to 368 in FY08.

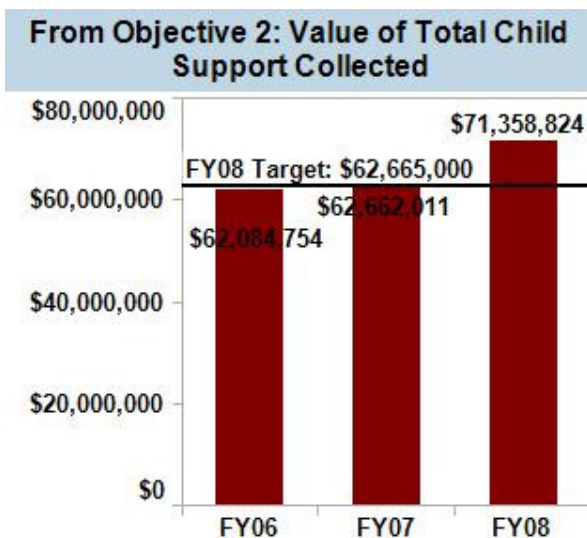
OBJECTIVE 3: Enhance public safety through regional cooperation and strategic litigation.

- **INITIATIVE 3.1: Strengthen the District's gun laws.**
Fully Achieved. Launched Gun Amnesty Program on December 15, 2007. The OAG is engaged in ongoing efforts that it expects will ultimately strengthen the District's gun laws. Most notably, the District has taken its case to the Supreme Court.
- **INITIATIVE 3.2: Develop pre-trial alternatives for eligible, first-time UUV offenders and truant youth.**
Fully Achieved. Eighty-six percent of juvenile offenders (appropriately presented for prosecution) were referred for rehabilitation services from October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008.
- **INITIATIVE 3.3: Dramatically increase nuisance property prosecutions.**
Fully Achieved. Increased the number of nuisance property matters prosecuted to 42 in FY08 from 20 in FY07.
- **INITIATIVE 3.4: Reduce case-processing time in juvenile cases.**
Fully Achieved. Increased the number of adjudicated juvenile cases to 1,363 in FY08 from 1,020 in FY07.

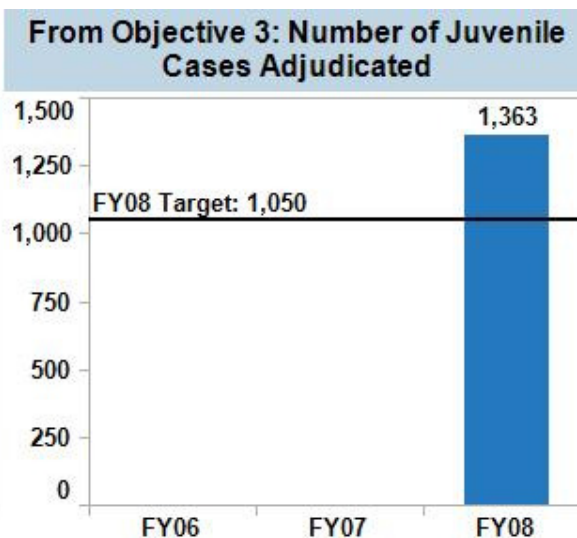
OBJECTIVE 4: Attract and retain highly qualified legal and administrative staff.

- **INITIATIVE 4.1: Overhaul and increase recruitment and retention efforts.**
Fully Achieved. Reduced turnover rate to 9.1% in FY08 from 25% in FY07.
- **INITIATIVE 4.2: Develop new and more effective performance standards.**
Fully Achieved. OAG revised its attorney evaluation form effective fiscal year 2008. The new form should provide more useful feedback to the attorneys on how their work product affects the agency's overall performance.

Key Performance Indicators – Highlights



FULLY ACHIEVED



FULLY ACHIEVED

More About These Indicators:

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- Initiated wage withholdings for court ordered cases; followed up with employers to insure compliance.
- Increased data base submission for tax offsets to include children over 18.
- Aggressively intercepted economic stimulus.
- Lottery intercepts were reduced by more than 30%; OAG made up this difference through projects designed to increase non-custodial parent participation in the system.
- Worked with the District's Tax Dept. to improve automation for state tax intercepts.

What external factors influenced this indicator?

- Congressional passage of the stimulus package provided our clients with additional funds from which child support could be paid.

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- Created 8 new attorney positions.
- Our team of prosecutors worked collectively, and along with management, ensured that all cases were covered and that prosecutors were available to try cases.
- Collaborated with MPD, DEA and FBI to obtain evidence and expedite juvenile cases.
- Hired a paralegal and a case expeditor who put systems in place to request and receive information electronically, which also expedited our receiving evidence for trial.

What external factors influenced this indicator?

- Legislation requiring a speedy trial gave OAG an opportunity to try more cases, thus providing rehabilitation referrals for more juvenile offenders.



Key Performance Indicators – Details

Performance Assessment Key:

● Fully achieved
 ● Partially achieved
 ● Not achieved
 ● Data not reported

	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08 Target	FY08 Actual	FY09 Projection
OBJECTIVE 1: Reduce exposure to risk by District residents and the District Government by strengthening litigation efforts.					
● Value of funding collected by the Consumer Protection Section	\$340,634	\$1,967,408	\$2,000,000	\$2,089,606	\$2,100,000
● Value of funding collected by the Civil Enforcement Section	\$5,449,455	\$6,307,240	\$6,350,000	\$3,190,682	\$6,400,000
● Number of closed cases	N/A	739	750	325	765
OBJECTIVE 2: Increase child-support orders and child-support payments to legally entitled District families through vigorous enforcement of applicable laws and through programs for ex-offender parents owing child support and other non-custodial parent groups needing special assistance.					
● Value of total child support collected.	\$62,084,754	\$62,662,011	\$62,665,000	\$71,358,824	\$62,675,000
● # of families obtaining child payments through CSSD	N/A	N/A	2,077	2,628	2,085
● # of child support modifications for incarcerated and ex-offender parents	N/A	N/A	135	361	140
OBJECTIVE 3: Enhance public safety through regional cooperation and strategic litigation.					
● % of juvenile offenders (appropriately presented for prosecution) referred for rehabilitation services.	91.0%	87.0%	88.0%	90.3%	89.0%
● % of all gun-related criminal prosecutions resulting in a plea, diversion or a guilty verdict at trial.	N/A	N/A	75.0%	87.5%	80.0%
● # of nuisance property matters prosecuted	N/A	N/A	30	42	35
● # of juvenile cases adjudicated	N/A	N/A	1,050	1,363	1,075
OBJECTIVE 4: Attract and retain highly qualified legal and administrative staff.					
● % turnover rate among lawyers	N/A	N/A	20.0%	9.1%	15.0%