



FY09 PERFORMANCE PLAN Office of the Attorney General

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 ten Divisions: the Office of the Solicitor General, Child Support Services, Civil Litigation, Commercial, Family Services, Health and Human Services, Legal Counsel, Public Safety, Personnel and Labor/Employment, and Support 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 administrative/professional staff.

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

INITIATIVE 1.1: Dramatically increase the enforcement of consumer, housing, labor and environmental laws.

Increase comprehensive litigation against slumlords by filing more cases to hold them accountable and ensure decent housing for tenants in the District of Columbia. This effort will reduce the number of rental housing complaints and improve the overall quality of the rental housing inventory, thereby enhancing safety and habitability for current and prospective tenants.

INITIATIVE 1.2: Triage civil cases for more efficient resolution and refine the civil litigation "Early Settlement Review Program" (ESRP).

To make the civil litigation process more efficient and save substantial tax dollars, OAG will conduct early settlement reviews of 10% more cases within 60 days of receiving them, based on a risk and cost analysis in qualifying cases for this program.

INITIATIVE 1.3: Ascertain and address rulemaking needs of all Executive agencies that lack dedicated legal staff.

The Rulemaking Section of the Legal Counsel Division has conducted on-site interviews and surveys of agencies to determine their rulemaking needs. From this process, the Rulemaking Section anticipates that it will complete 30 major rulemakings for its client agencies, including the DCPS. These undertakings will clarify the law and provide clear processes for those who live and work in the District of Columbia.

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: Conduct in-house genetic testing for paternity to increase child support collections.

Historically, there has been a six to nine-month delay in obtaining child support orders because genetic testing was done off-site by court order. OAG will shorten the processing time by conducting on-site voluntary testing before filing a child support case. This initiative will shorten the time it takes to process and file for a support order by 30%, thereby enabling custodial parents and children to receive support payments more quickly.

INITIATIVE 2.2: Create an on-site job resource center for non custodial parents.

Child Support Services Division (CSSD) will partner with the Department of Employment Services (DOES) to create an on-site job resource center to assist non-custodial parents in finding employment so they can pay child support. This initiative will enable CSSD to assist 100 non-custodial parents in finding employment, establishing better relationships with their children and making timely support payments to them.

INITIATIVE 2.3: Establish Fathering Court with D.C. Superior Court.

To help ex-offender non-custodial parents establish a positive relationship with their children, CSSD will partner with D.C. Superior Court to establish, as a pilot program, a Fathering Court. Its purpose will be to counsel, train and offer employment to this re-entry population so that they may better meet the financial and emotional needs of their children. The goal is to assist 40 ex-offender non-custodial parents during FY09.

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

INITIATIVE 3.1: Increase drug and prostitution nuisance prosecutions.

To improve the quality of life for District of Columbia residents, OAG will prosecute 10% more landowners and tenants who allow their properties to become drug or prostitution nuisances.

INITIATIVE 3.2: Enhance pre-trial alternatives for eligible, first-time Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle (UUV) offenders and truant youth.

OAG will enhance its program to divert 91% of first-time UUV offenders and truant youth. In this manner, juvenile offenders will avoid adjudication while remaining eligible to receive the services necessary to prevent/deter future infractions; OAG staff will reduce the amount of time spent preparing for court or being in court, allowing them to use this time to further assist with juvenile rehabilitation efforts on behalf of the city.

INITIATIVE 3.3: Educate District of Columbia children on internet safety.

OAG will coordinate with the U.S. Attorney's Office, DCPS and other partners to protect District of Columbia children from internet predators, online scams and cyber-bullying. For FY09, OAG will make 30 presentations to DCPS students.

INITIATIVE 3.4: Reduce case-processing time in juvenile cases.

OAG is committed to reducing the amount of time it takes to process juvenile justice cases. There is a close correlation between recidivism and swift disposition in juvenile cases, so faster dispositions are essential. In addition, expedited processing will avoid inappropriate or overlong detention of juvenile offenders. To reach this goal, OAG will add a juvenile Case Expediter, reduce the number of court continuances sought, and work with the court, defense counsel and DYRS to address other sources of delay. In FY09, OAG expects to shorten the amount of time for processing these cases by 30% overall.

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



INITIATIVE 4.1: Increase retention efforts.

OAG will devote additional attention and resources to its internship program; “Honors” program; and workplace policies that increase quality of life and morale. OAG will enhance its pro-bono partnerships with local top law firms. To foster retention of its staff, OAG will further develop its comprehensive professional development program for its entire staff and create greater opportunities for growth and mobility. To measure its achievements in this area, OAG will compare the number of attorneys recruited in FY08 and FY09 for similar positions.

INITIATIVE 4.2: Develop new and more effective performance standards.

OAG will establish and implement new performance measures for 50% of its position classifications so that job duties are clearly understood and productivity is maximized.



PROPOSED KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Measures	FY07 Actual ¹	FY08 Target	FY08 YTD	FY09 Projection	FY10 Projection	FY11 Projection
Objective 1						
Increase slumlord prosecution by 10%	N/A	13	13	15	17	19
% increase in ESRP cases	N/A	N/A	N/A	10%	20%	25%
# of Rulemaking projects completed for client agencies	N/A	N/A	N/A	30	35	41
Objective 2						
Increase in number of in-house genetic testing cases	N/A	N/A	N/A	30%	40%	N/A
# of non-custodial parent job applicants assisted	N/A	N/A	N/A	100	125	N/A
# of ex-offender non-custodial parents assisted through job training program/Fathering Court	N/A	N/A	N/A	45	60	N/A
Objective 3						
# of nuisance property matters prosecuted	N/A	35	35	35	40	45
% of juvenile offenders (appropriately presented for prosecution) referred for rehabilitation services	87	88	91	91	93	91
% of internet safety presentations for DCPS students	N/A	N/A	N/A	30	45	50
# of juvenile cases adjudicated	N/A	1050	1045	1100	1150	1160
Objective 4						
% turnover rate among lawyers	N/A	15	6	13	11	10

¹N/A represents new measures introduced in FY08 or to be introduced in FY 09.