

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DEPARTMENT MISSION

To favorably resolve legal matters involving the City by providing comprehensive, cost efficient legal representation and advice to City Council, Management, Boards and Commissions and all others to whom we provide legal services in the City

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Legal Services

The City Attorney's Office represents the City of Dallas in all legal matters other than tax collections and certain bond related matters. This encompasses prosecution of cases in municipal court and civil litigation in state and federal courts; furnishing legal opinions to the City Council, city officials, and departments; preparing, reviewing and approving as to form ordinances, contracts, resolutions, and other legal documents and transactions; enforcement of the City's code compliance initiative, collecting certain delinquent accounts and invoices due to the city; furnishing legal representation for D/FW International Airport, all City boards and commissions, departments and employees; and representing the City before the Texas Legislature, U.S. Congress, and state and federal regulatory agencies.

OBJECTIVES FOR FY 2002-2003

- Provide objective, sound legal advice and opinions to the Mayor, City Council, City Manager's Office and other City departments, boards and commissions
- Zealously represent the city in all litigation and seek favorable resolutions
- Effectively manage cases on the Municipal Court trial and motion dockets, and provide input into how Municipal Court can operate more efficiently
- To be proactive in the management of certain disputes involving the City so as to decrease the litigation caseload by prudent settlement and trial of cases
- Increase focus on the City Attorney's code compliance initiatives and to work more closely with the Code Compliance Department to improve overall City code enforcement
- Promote and manage government programs which emphasize community involvement and support
- Focus on resolving litigation in-house
- Explore and implement more efficient cost effective ways to manage litigation and other matters through the use of online and electronic subscriptions and services
- Review city ordinances and proposed changes designed to enhance the City's position in the event of court challenges

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

MAJOR BUDGET ITEMS

- Add \$33,984 for cash match funding for various grants
- Delete 5.0 regular FTEs and \$583,578 for legal staff reductions with possible need to retain outside counsel and delays in providing legal advice to City departments and boards and commissions
- Save \$4,926 and 0.1 regular FTE for implementation of Pay Card efficiencies
- Delete 0.5 regular FTE and \$24,634 Human Resource Information System implementation
- Save \$46,536 through various operational efficiencies including reduction of cell phones, copiers and memberships

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

EXPENDITURES (By Category)

	FY 2000-01 Actual	FY 2001-02 Budget	FY 2001-02 Estimate	FY 2002-03 Adopted
Salaries and Benefits	9,768,851	10,761,665	10,835,914	10,103,300
Supplies and Materials	153,983	113,269	126,201	137,003
Other Services and Charges	466,854	427,956	336,224	364,390
Capital Outlays	122,338	0	4,551	19,000
Reimbursements	(410,290)	(744,589)	(744,589)	(652,660)
TOTAL	<u>10,101,736</u>	<u>10,558,301</u>	<u>10,558,301</u>	<u>9,971,033</u>

EXPENDITURES (By Program)

Legal Services	10,101,736	10,558,301	10,558,301	9,971,033
TOTAL	<u>10,101,736</u>	<u>10,558,301</u>	<u>10,558,301</u>	<u>9,971,033</u>

FTEs (By Type)

Regular	121.3	127.0	123.1	121.4
Overtime	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Temporary Help	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.0
Day Labor	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	<u>122.9</u>	<u>128.0</u>	<u>124.1</u>	<u>122.4</u>

FTEs (By Program)

Legal Services	122.9	128.0	124.1	122.4
TOTAL	<u>122.9</u>	<u>128.0</u>	<u>124.1</u>	<u>122.4</u>

GENERAL FUND

9,971,033

ADDITIONAL OPERATING RESOURCES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

100,000

TOTAL

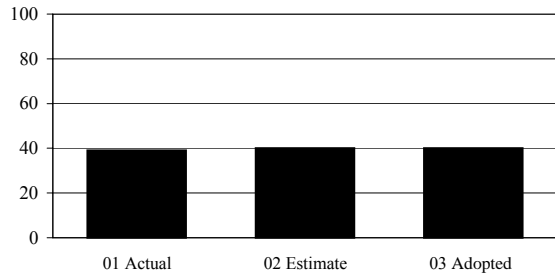
100,000

TOTAL OPERATING RESOURCES

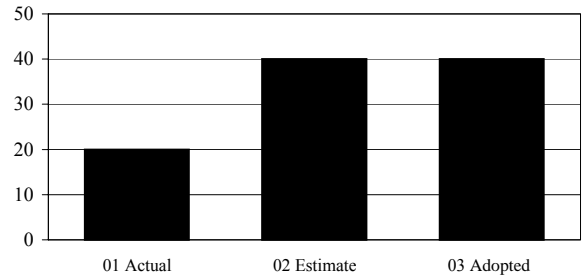
10,071,033

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Chapter 54 Code Lawsuits Filed per Calendar Year



Nuisance Suits per Calendar Year



Houses Demolished or Slated to be Demolished per Calendar Year as a result of amendments to Chapter 27 of the Dallas City Code

