

Law, Department of

Mission

The Department of Law is responsible for protecting the legal rights of New York State and its citizens by representing the State in litigation and in other legal affairs.

In implementing its constitutional responsibilities, the Department performs a wide range of functions including prosecuting or defending actions and proceedings for or against the State and its departments; prosecuting certain criminal violations of the Labor, Workers' Compensation, and Unemployment Insurance laws; investigating and prosecuting other criminal cases at the request of the Governor or the commissioners of State departments; investigating the activities of organized crime; bringing civil and/or criminal actions against polluters, violators of antitrust laws, and those who defraud consumers or investors; mediating consumer complaints; and investigating and prosecuting cases of Medicaid fraud.

Organization and Staffing

The legal functions and administrative functions of the Department of Law are divided into eight major divisions: Administration, Appeals and Opinions, Counsel for the State, Criminal Justice, Economic Justice, Investigations, Social Justice, and Regional Offices. Each division consists of smaller bureaus or specialized units dealing with specific issues.

The Department's main offices are located in Albany and New York City, with regional offices in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Binghamton, Utica, Watertown, Plattsburgh, Poughkeepsie, White Plains, Harlem, Brooklyn, Mineola, and Hauppauge.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2023 Executive Budget recommends \$305.1 million all funds appropriation for the Department of Law. This is a \$31.7 million all funds increase from the previous year due to the addition of new capital for IT modernization projects, the removal of refund of appropriation language, the direct allocation of oil spill appropriation, and general salary increases. The Department of Law maintains a workforce of 1,820 FTEs, unchanged from the previous fiscal year.

Program Highlights

The **Administration Division** provides budget, finance, personnel, operations, and technology services for the agency.

The **Division of Appeals and Opinions** handles appellate litigation in both State and Federal courts. The Division also prepares opinions, both formal and informal, interpreting State laws for State agencies and municipalities.

The **Criminal Justice Division** investigates and prosecutes criminal cases, including those involving Medicaid fraud, auto insurance fraud, white collar and organized crime cases involving multi-county, multi-state and even multi-national criminal activities occurring within New York State.

The **Investigations Division** provides investigative support for legal divisions throughout the Department, and works cooperatively with State, local and Federal law enforcement agencies on cases that cross jurisdictional lines.

The **Division of State Counsel** provides State agencies, the Governor, other State officials, and the Legislature with counsel and representation in legal proceedings. It recoups non-tax revenue on behalf of State taxpayers and provides legal assistance to State agencies in connection with the acquisition and disposition of public land.

The **Division of Economic Justice** defends and protects the public interest in the courts. It enforces laws to prevent restraint of trade, protects consumers from fraudulent and/or deceptive business practices, regulates the sale of securities, and addresses people's concerns about criminal online activities.

The **Division of Social Justice** also defends and protects the public interest in the courts. It ensures compliance with the State's health care and environmental laws, enforces State Labor and Workers' Compensation Laws, protects charitable donors and beneficiaries, and enforces laws prohibiting discrimination.

The **Regional Offices Division** provides satellite offices across the State to ensure that all New York agencies have cost-effective representation in all local, State and Federal courts, and that citizens have full access to the

**ALL FUNDS
 APPROPRIATIONS
 (dollars)**

Category	Available FY 2022	Appropriations Recommended FY 2023	Change From FY 2022	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2023
State Operations	273,440,500	298,612,000	25,171,500	47,832,000
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	4,342,000
Capital Projects	0	6,500,000	6,500,000	4,995,000
Total	273,440,500	305,112,000	31,671,500	57,169,000

**ALL FUND TYPES
 PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM
 FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS**

Program	FY 2022 Estimated FTEs 03/31/22	FY 2023 Estimated FTEs 03/31/23	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	185	185	0
Appeals and Opinions			
General Fund	48	48	0
Counsel for the State			
General Fund	358	358	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	114	114	0
Internal Service Funds	88	88	0
Criminal Investigations			
General Fund	145	145	0
Economic Justice			
General Fund	1	1	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	121	121	0
Social Justice			
General Fund	74	74	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	84	84	0
Capital Projects Funds - Other	3	3	0
Criminal Justice			
General Fund	125	125	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	52	52	0
Medicaid Fraud Control			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	201	201	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	83	83	0
Regional Offices			
General Fund	138	138	0
Total	1,820	1,820	0

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STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
General Fund	118,496,000	124,512,000	6,016,000
Internal Service Funds	16,738,500	16,940,000	201,500
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	42,912,000	44,939,000	2,027,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	95,294,000	112,221,000	16,927,000
Total	273,440,500	298,612,000	25,171,500
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(1,351,500)		
Appropriated FY 2022	272,089,000		

STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
Administration			
General Fund	16,163,400	16,645,000	481,600
Appeals and Opinions			
General Fund	9,143,800	9,503,000	359,200
Counsel for the State			
General Fund	36,117,700	39,425,000	3,307,300
Internal Service Funds	16,738,500	16,940,000	201,500
Special Revenue Funds - Other	27,152,000	29,844,000	2,692,000
Criminal Investigations			
General Fund	13,935,700	14,300,000	364,300
Criminal Justice			
General Fund	15,981,000	16,483,000	502,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,372,000	1,372,000	0
Economic Justice			
General Fund	152,000	155,000	3,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	30,165,000	36,733,000	6,568,000
Medicaid Fraud Control			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	42,912,000	44,939,000	2,027,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	14,304,000	15,439,000	1,135,000
Regional Offices			
General Fund	17,869,500	18,537,000	667,500
Social Justice			
General Fund	9,132,900	9,464,000	331,100
Special Revenue Funds - Other	22,301,000	28,833,000	6,532,000
Total	273,440,500	298,612,000	25,171,500

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STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2023 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	15,478,000	481,600	15,281,000	481,600
Appeals and Opinions	8,460,000	359,200	8,433,000	359,200
Counsel for the State	35,513,000	1,524,300	35,433,000	1,524,300
Criminal Investigations	13,924,000	364,300	13,328,000	364,300
Criminal Justice	13,757,000	502,000	13,701,000	502,000
Economic Justice	155,000	3,000	0	0
Regional Offices	15,359,000	667,500	14,626,000	667,500
Social Justice	6,586,000	331,100	6,555,000	331,100
Total	109,232,000	4,233,000	107,357,000	4,230,000

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	160,000	0	37,000	0
Appeals and Opinions	26,000	0	1,000	0
Counsel for the State	78,000	0	2,000	0
Criminal Investigations	0	0	596,000	0
Criminal Justice	0	0	56,000	0
Economic Justice	155,000	3,000	0	0
Regional Offices	731,000	0	2,000	0
Social Justice	0	0	31,000	0
Total	1,150,000	3,000	725,000	0

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2023 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	1,167,000	0	775,000	0
Appeals and Opinions	1,043,000	0	389,000	0
Counsel for the State	3,912,000	1,783,000	1,000	0
Criminal Investigations	376,000	0	12,000	0
Criminal Justice	2,726,000	0	80,000	0
Regional Offices	3,178,000	0	2,000	0
Social Justice	2,878,000	0	45,000	0
Total	15,280,000	1,783,000	1,304,000	0

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Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	107,000	0	285,000	0
Appeals and Opinions	20,000	0	634,000	0
Counsel for the State	0	0	3,911,000	1,783,000
Criminal Investigations	94,000	0	270,000	0
Criminal Justice	124,000	0	2,044,000	0
Regional Offices	100,000	0	3,076,000	0
Social Justice	7,000	0	2,806,000	0
Total	452,000	0	13,026,000	1,783,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Criminal Justice	478,000	0
Social Justice	20,000	0
Total	498,000	0

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2023 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Counsel for the State	46,784,000	2,893,500	13,335,000	1,705,000
Criminal Justice	1,372,000	0	0	0
Economic Justice	36,733,000	6,568,000	16,878,000	3,938,000
Medicaid Fraud Control	60,378,000	3,162,000	29,532,000	60,000
Social Justice	28,833,000	6,532,000	15,109,000	3,867,000
Total	174,100,000	19,155,500	74,854,000	9,570,000

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Counsel for the State	33,449,000	1,188,500
Criminal Justice	1,372,000	0
Economic Justice	19,855,000	2,630,000
Medicaid Fraud Control	30,846,000	3,102,000
Social Justice	13,724,000	2,665,000
Total	99,246,000	9,585,500

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CAPITAL PROJECTS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
 (dollars)

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change	Reappropriations FY 2023
IT Initiative Program				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	0	6,500,000	6,500,000	4,995,000
Total	0	6,500,000	6,500,000	4,995,000

Note: Most recent estimates as of 05/11/2020