

State of Alaska FY2002 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Law
Office of the Attorney General
Component

Component: Office of the Attorney General

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Component Mission

No mission statement.

Component Services Provided

The Attorney General is the principal executive officer of the Alaska Department of Law. In this role he is responsible for both the legal and administrative aspects of the department's operations. This component supports the Attorney General and his immediate staff as he carries out his statutorily defined functions.

The Attorney General serves as legal advisor for the governor and other state officers. In addition, the Attorney General is responsible for representing the state in all civil actions to which it is a party; prosecuting all cases involving violation of state law; administering state legal services, including furnishing written legal opinions and giving advice on laws or proposed legislation; drafting legal instruments for the state; and bringing, prosecuting, and defending all necessary actions in the name of the state for the collection of revenue.

Component Goals and Strategies

Protect the interests of Alaska citizens and the resources of the state by ensuring that effective, high-quality legal services are provided to state agencies and officers.

Ensure that the civil and criminal laws of the state are followed.

Assist law enforcement agencies with criminal investigations by providing legal and tactical advice.

Reduce fraud in benefit programs.

Represent and defend the state in legal actions.

Implement the Executive Branch Ethics Act.

Manage the department's resources effectively and efficiently to provide support for the work of the department's employees.

Participate actively in interdepartmental efforts to improve government services to Alaskans.

Key Component Issues for FY2001 – 2002

Key Issues are included at the department level.

Major Component Accomplishments for FY2000

Participated in interagency effort on the Balloon Project to reduce backlog of children in foster care longer than new state and federal laws permit. As of October 15, 2000, 81 percent of these children were in a permanent placement and in another 13 percent of the cases, the legal work to free these children for adoption is complete.

Continued its work on litigation involving oil and gas, bringing into the state treasury \$450 million in tax and royalty settlements. Protected the state's revenue, resource development, environmental, and societal interests in antitrust matters involving oil and gas companies in Alaska.

Developed a comprehensive new consumer protection and antitrust web page that serves as a resource for Alaskans on a wide variety of consumer protection and antitrust issues.

Filed an original action in the United States Supreme Court to quiet title to all lands underlying marine waters in Southeast Alaska.

Appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals the final judgment of Federal District Court in the Katie John case, finding federal authority to manage most navigable waters in Alaska for subsistence hunting and fishing; successful in convincing the Ninth Circuit to hear the case as a full court.

Continued efforts to develop the law as it relates to Alaska Natives and the relationship between Alaska Natives and the state. We worked to resolve the law on tribal recognition and tribal authority post-Venetie through our briefing and presentation to the Alaska Supreme Court in the landmark John v. Baker case. The court issued its decision in September 1999.

Began discussions, as part of the State-Tribal Relations Team, with Alaska's federally recognized tribes to define the nature of a government-to-government relationship between the state and the tribes.

Successfully defended the constitutionality of the sex offender registration law in the federal district court; successfully defended the manslaughter statute against a claim by advocates of physician-assisted suicide.

Prosecuted Medicaid provider fraud and obtained restitution and civil and criminal fines totally over \$1 million.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 44.23.020

Office of the Attorney General
Component Financial Summary

All dollars in thousands

	FY2000 Actuals	FY2001 Authorized	FY2002 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	242.5	250.4	252.4
72000 Travel	17.4	10.0	10.0
73000 Contractual	55.2	76.1	67.0
74000 Supplies	10.9	4.0	8.8
75000 Equipment	0.5	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	326.5	340.5	338.2
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	326.5	338.2	338.2
1053 Investment Loss Trust Fund	0.0	1.7	0.0
1108 Statutory Designated Program Receipts	0.0	0.6	0.0
Funding Totals	326.5	340.5	338.2

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2000 Actuals	FY2001 Authorized	FY2001 Cash Estimate	FY2002 Governor	FY2003 Forecast
Unrestricted Revenues						
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Revenues						
Statutory Designated Program Receipts	51063	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Investment Loss Trust Fund	51393	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Total		0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Estimated Revenues		0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

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Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2002

None.

Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2001 Authorized to FY2002 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2001 Authorized	339.9	0.0	0.6	340.5
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Convert Special FY2001 Labor Cost Fund Sources to GF	0.6	0.0	-0.6	0.0
-Year 2 Labor Costs - Net Change from FY 2001	-2.3	0.0	0.0	-2.3
FY2002 Governor	338.2	0.0	0.0	338.2

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Personal Services Information

Authorized Positions			Personal Services Costs	
	FY2001 Authorized	FY2002 Governor		
Full-time	3	3	Annual Salaries	193,617
Part-time	0	0	COLA	4,446
Nonpermanent	0	0	Premium Pay	0
			Annual Benefits	54,379
			<i>Less 0.00% Vacancy Factor</i>	(0)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	3	3	Total Personal Services	252,442

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Commissioner	0	0	1	0	1
Exec Secretary II	0	0	1	0	1
Spec Asst To The Comm II	0	0	1	0	1
Totals	0	0	3	0	3