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2016-17 Biennial Budget – Attorney General

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AT A GLANCE

- Chief Legal Officer for the State of Minnesota
- Provides legal representation to State agencies, boards, and commissions
- Takes legal action on behalf of Minnesota citizens

PURPOSE

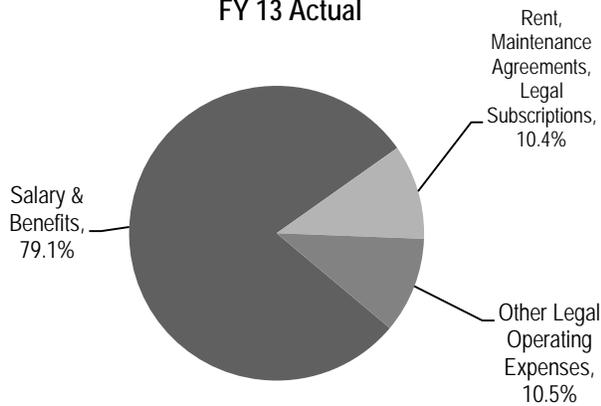
The Attorney General is the State of Minnesota’s Chief Legal Officer. The Attorney General helps to ensure that the laws the Legislature enacts are upheld. The Attorney General’s Office represents the State agencies, boards, and commissions by providing effective, efficient and high quality legal representation. The Attorney General’s Office also

protects the citizens of Minnesota by bringing lawsuits on behalf of the citizens of Minnesota. Through its legal work, including the representation of State agencies, the Attorney General’s Office helps to support the following statewide outcome(s):

- A thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities
- Minnesotans have the education and skills needed to achieve their goals
- All Minnesotans have optimal health
- Strong and stable families and communities
- People in Minnesota are safe
- A clean, healthy environment with sustainable uses of natural resources
- Efficient and accountable government services

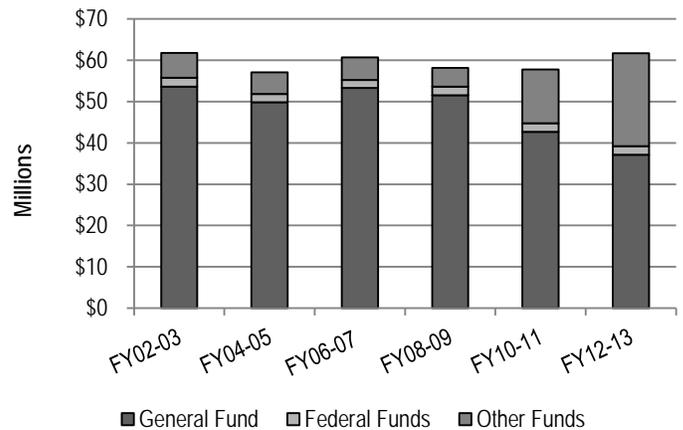
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 13 Actual**



Source: SWIFT

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

STRATEGIES

- Deliver high-quality, efficient and effective legal representation to State agencies, boards and officials.
- Protect and save taxpayers’ dollars by defending claims for monetary judgments against State agencies and employees.
- Defend laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature against constitutional and other legal challenges.
- Facilitate the enforcement of laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- Provide legal representation to State agencies and boards in various civil and administrative proceedings and obtain monetary payments as directed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- Provide proactive legal advice to avoid lawsuits.
- Provide Minnesota counties and law enforcement agencies with assistance in serious criminal matters.
- Ensure that the public interest is protected in delivering legal services.
- Population primarily served is the citizens of the State of Minnesota and the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of State government and State agencies, boards, and commissions.

Program: Attorney General

Activity: Administrative Law Section

<http://www.ag.state.mn.us>

AT A GLANCE

In 2014, the section:

- Protected and saved taxpayer dollars by defending claims against State agencies, boards and employees.
- Upheld and implemented the laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- Represented State agencies and boards in actions to enforce Minnesota laws and regulations.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

The Administrative Law Section provides high quality, efficient and effective legal representation to various Minnesota State agencies and boards, such as Minnesota Management and Budget, Minnesota Departments of Corrections, Commerce, Health, Agriculture and Transportation.

The section provides legal representation to State agencies and boards in disciplinary and enforcement proceedings.

The section also provides legal advice to State agencies and boards in transactional matters, including real estate transactions, contracts and financial transactions. The population primarily served includes State agencies and boards and Minnesota citizens.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The Administrative Law section provides the following services:

- Provides legal counsel to state agencies and boards.
- Represents State agencies and boards in enforcement and disciplinary proceedings.
- Provides proactive legal advice to avoid lawsuits.
- Saves taxpayer dollars by defending against legal claims for money judgments against the State and by recovering funds for the State.
- Delivers legal advice and representation in transactional, contract and financial matters.

RESULTS

- Taxpayer dollars are protected due to defense of legal claims for monetary judgments made against the State and by recovering funds for the State.
- Citizens' rights are protected by ensuring Minnesota's laws and the Minnesota Constitution are enforced and upheld.
- The public's interest is advanced in litigation and legal representation.
- High quality, effective and efficient legal representation delivered to state agencies and boards.
- Legal work helps facilitate the implementation and enforcement of laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.

Program: Attorney General
Activity: State Services Section

<http://www.ag.state.mn.us>

AT A GLANCE

In 2014, the section:

- Protected and saved taxpayer dollars by defending claims for monetary judgments against State agencies, boards and employees.
- Upheld and implemented the laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- Represented residential and small business utility ratepayers before the Public Utilities Commission in rate cases and other significant matters.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

The State Services Section provides effective, efficient and high-quality legal representation to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Minnesota health licensing boards and the Environmental Quality Board (EQB). As part of the representation, the section commences disciplinary and enforcement proceedings to make sure that laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature are upheld and enforced.

The section also ensures that businesses operating in Minnesota comply with state and federal antitrust laws by investigating and taking enforcement actions against entities

violating state and federal antitrust laws. The section also provides legal counsel to state agencies regarding antitrust matters.

The section represents residential and small business utility ratepayers before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and the courts pursuant to state law. The population primarily served includes State agencies and boards, including the health licensing boards, EQB and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Minnesota citizens.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The State Services section provides the following services:

- Provides legal counsel to state agencies and boards including the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Environmental Quality Board and Minnesota's health licensing boards.
- Represents residential and small business utility ratepayers before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.
- Conducts investigations and pursues actions to ensure businesses comply with the state and federal antitrust laws.
- Delivers proactive legal advice to avoid lawsuits.
- Ensures that the public interest is protected in delivering legal services.

RESULTS

- Legal work helps facilitate the implementation and enforcement of laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- High quality, effective and efficient legal representation delivered to state agencies and boards.
- Taxpayer dollars are protected due to defense of legal claims for monetary judgments made against the State and by recovering funds for the State.
- Public interest is advanced in civil litigation.
- Citizen's rights are protected by making sure laws are enforced and upheld.
- Health care professionals are disciplined to help ensure Minnesota citizens obtain safe and reliable health care.
- Minnesota residential and small business utility ratepayers' interests are provided representation before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Program: Attorney General
Activity: Public Services Section

<http://www.ag.state.mn.us>

AT A GLANCE

In 2014, the section:

- Provided Minnesota counties and law enforcement agencies with prosecutorial assistance in serious criminal matters.
- Prosecuted healthcare providers that fraudulently obtained State Medicaid funds.
- Represented the Department of Public Safety at implied consent hearings.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

The Public Services Section provides effective, efficient and high quality legal representation to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety as well as other boards and commissions. The section provides assistance to county attorneys and local law enforcement agencies in prosecuting serious crimes and in the civil commitment of sex offenders. The section also investigates and prosecutes healthcare providers committing Medicaid fraud and assists county attorneys in prosecuting vulnerable adult abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation cases. The section further provides assistance to Minnesota counties for criminal appeals.

In addition, the section provides legal representation to the Commissioner of Public Safety including at implied consent hearings. The population primarily served includes Minnesota county attorneys and local law enforcement agencies, Minnesota agencies, boards and commissions and Minnesota citizens.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The Public Services Section provides the following services:

- Assists Minnesota counties and law enforcement in prosecuting serious crimes.
- Conducts grand jury proceedings to obtain first-degree murder indictments.
- Provides assistance to county attorneys in felony appeals, including murder, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, felony assault, and drug distribution cases.
- Assists county attorneys in civil commitment hearings involving dangerous sexual predators.
- Investigates and prosecutes healthcare provider fraud within the Medicaid program and recovers fraudulently obtained Medicaid funds.
- Appears in court on behalf of the Commissioner of Public Safety in implied consent cases.

RESULTS

- Legal work helps facilitate the implementation and enforcement of laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- High quality, effective and efficient legal representation delivered to state agencies, boards, and commissions.
- Providers are disciplined for fraudulent use of Medicaid funds.
- Public interest is advanced by providing assistance in prosecutions and appeals.
- Citizen's rights and safety are protected by making sure laws are enforced and upheld.

Program: Attorney General
Activity: Regulatory Law Section

<http://www.ag.state.mn.us>

AT A GLANCE

In 2014, the section:

- Protected and saved taxpayer dollars by defending claims for monetary judgments against the Department of Human Services.
- Upheld and implemented the laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- Ensured Minnesota nonprofits, charities and trusts registered and complied with Minnesota law.

investigating and taking enforcement actions against entities violating state consumer protection laws. The section often works jointly with other states and the federal government in joint investigations and enforcement. Through its defense of the Minnesota Department of Human Services in litigation, the section defends the State's laws and the constitutionality of the State's actions and decisions, when challenged. The population primarily served includes the Department of Human Services, Minnesota businesses and Minnesota citizens.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

The Regulatory Law Section of the Attorney General's Office provides high quality legal representation to one of the State's largest agencies, the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The section also regulates nonprofits, charities, and trusts that operate and fund raise in Minnesota, as well as taking enforcement action against nonprofits and other entities that commit fraud in Minnesota.

The section also ensures that businesses operating in Minnesota comply with state consumer protection laws by

SERVICES PROVIDED

The Regulatory Law section provides the following services:

- Conducts investigations and pursues enforcement actions to ensure business comply with the state consumer protection laws.
- Delivers proactive legal advice to avoid lawsuits.
- Ensures that the public interest is protected in delivering legal services.
- Provides legal counsel to the Minnesota Department of Human Services.
- Protects consumers from businesses violating state consumer protection laws.
- Oversees and regulates Minnesota nonprofit organizations, charities and trusts.

RESULTS

- Legal work helps facilitate the implementation and enforcement of laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- High quality, effective and efficient legal representation delivered to state agencies.
- Taxpayer dollars are protected due to defense of legal claims for monetary judgments made against the State and by recovering funds for the State.
- Public interest is advanced in civil litigation.
- Citizen's rights are protected by making sure laws are enforced and upheld.
- Ensures nonprofits, charities and trusts register and comply with Minnesota laws.

Program: Attorney General

Activity: Solicitor General Section

<http://www.ag.state.mn.us>

AT A GLANCE

In 2014, the section:

- Protected and saved taxpayer dollars by defending tort, employment law claims and other significant claims for monetary judgments against State agencies, boards, and employees.
- Upheld and implemented the laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature.
- Provided legal advice and representation to the Public Utilities Commission.
- Successfully defended constitutional challenges and other legal challenges to Minnesota laws.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

The Solicitor General Section provides efficient and high-quality legal representation to State agencies, boards and officials. The section represents the State in constitutional and other legal challenges to laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature. The section also represents the State by defending tort and employment claims as well as other important civil legal claims where the party is often seeking a large monetary payment.

The section is responsible for representing the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and providing legal advice on matters brought before the Commission. The population primarily served includes the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government and the citizens of Minnesota.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The Solicitor General section provides the following services:

- Defends laws passed by the Minnesota Legislature against constitutional and other legal challenges.
- Protects taxpayer dollars by defending tort, employment, and other claims for monetary relief made against State agencies, boards, officials, and employees.
- Represents the State of Minnesota in state and federal courts at all levels.
- Delivers high-quality, efficient legal representation to State agencies, boards, and officials.

RESULTS

- High quality, effective and efficient legal representation delivered to State agencies, board, officials, and employees.
- Taxpayer dollars are protected due to defense of legal claims for monetary judgments made against the State of Minnesota.
- Public interest is advanced in litigation.
- State laws are protected for constitutional and other legal challenges allowing the laws to be enforced.
- Minnesota Public Utility Commission is provided legal counsel in matters brought before the Commission.

Program: Attorney General
Activity: Administrative Operations

www.ag.state.mn.us

AT A GLANCE

- Provide a wide range of administrative, human resources and accounting services to the Attorney General's Office.
- Purchase goods and services pursuant to State guidelines and requirements.
- Protect and save taxpayer dollars by ensuring an efficient use of resources and staff.
- Primary customers are the Attorney General's Office and the citizens of the State.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

- Interact with other State agencies and boards on personnel, administrative and accounting issues.
- Ensure that budget and accounting practices are in accordance with State law and procedures.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Supply human resource, administrative and accounting services.
- Protect taxpayer dollars by ensuring accounting services are accurate and in accordance with the law.
- Maintain budget and accounting systems to ensure that they are in compliance with State law and practice.
- Facilitate purchasing to ensure that it is in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- Provide the Attorney General's Office with adequate support to provide high quality and efficient legal representation.
- Implement administrative policies and procedures in accordance with State law and requirements.

RESULTS

- Administrative support is provided to carry out the delivery of high quality and efficient legal services.
- Access to accurate legal resources is provided to ensure accurate and timely representation is provided.
- Personnel matters are dealt with in an accurate and timely manner and in accordance with the law.
- Fiscal matters are handled to ensure that efficient and accountable government services are provided and that the systems are in accordance with the laws of the State.