

General Legal Activities

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* Please refer to individual GLA component exhibits

I. Overview

The FY 2020 General Legal Activities (GLA) appropriation is requesting a total of 3,700 permanent positions, 4,050 FTE (including 328 reimbursable FTE) and \$927,453,000. This resource level includes program increases of 19 positions, 42 FTE, and \$1,968,000, outlined below. Specific details about individual programs are discussed in the budget justifications of the respective General Legal Activities components.

II. Summary of Program Changes

Civil Division

Consumer Protection Branch: 6 positions, 33 FTE, and \$611,000

Vaccine Injury Compensation: Mandatory Program requesting a total of \$13,000,000

Environment and Natural Resources Division

Securing the Southwest US Border: 10 positions, 5 FTE, and \$960,000

Office of the Solicitor General

Professional/Administrative Positions: 3 positions, 3 FTE, and \$397,000

Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language

A. Appropriations Language

Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities

For expenses necessary for the legal activities of the Department of Justice, not otherwise provided for, including not to exceed \$20,000 for expenses of collecting evidence, to be expended under the direction of, and to be accounted for solely under the certificate of, the Attorney General; and rent of private or Government-owned space in the District of Columbia, \$927,453,000, of which not to exceed \$20,000,000 for litigation support contracts shall remain available until expended: Provided, That of the amount provided for INTERPOL Washington dues payments, not to exceed \$685,000 shall remain available until expended: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$9,000 shall be available to INTERPOL Washington for official reception and representation expenses: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$9,000 shall be available to the Criminal Division for official reception and representation expenses: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for litigation activities of the Civil Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to "Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities" from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: Provided further, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 504 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated, such sums as may be necessary shall be available to the Civil Rights Division for salaries and expenses associated with the election monitoring program under section 8 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10305) and to reimburse the Office of Personnel Management for such salaries and expenses: Provided further, That of the amounts provided under this heading for the election monitoring program, \$3,390,000 shall remain available until expended.

In addition, for reimbursement of expenses of the Department of Justice associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, not to exceed \$13,000,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

Note.—A full-year 2019 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019 (Division C of P.L. 115–245, as amended). The amounts included for 2019 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

B. Analysis of Appropriations Language

The FY 2020 Budget includes the FY 2019 request for \$9,000 in reception and representation funds for Criminal Division.

The lack of available representational funds presents a challenge to the Division's ability to accomplish its international missions. Various Division Sections interact with foreign counterparts on a daily basis—including OIA, which acts as the Central Authority for the entire United States—both in Washington, D.C. and in many overseas posts.

However, these offices are not funded to provide or reciprocate basic hospitalities integral to the process of international relations. Our foreign counterparts are usually funded to provide such hospitality, which can potentially place the United States in uncomfortable situations during foreign interactions when similar funding is not available to reciprocate. Failing to meet this expectation distracts from, and can potentially jeopardize, the U.S. government's objectives for the engagement.

III. Program Activity Justification*

IV. Program Increases by Item*

*Please refer to individual GLA component exhibits