LEGAL

Department Description and Mission

The mission of the Legal Department is to provide the City of Houston with the highest quality municipal legal services, facilitate the operations of the City and protect its interests. The department is organized into eight (General Fund) sections to accomplish this mission: Staff Administration, General Counsel, Municipal Prosecution, Real Estate, Neighborhood Service, Contracts, PWE Legal Administration and Office of Inspector General.

The Legal Department's work is funded primarily from the General Fund and the Property and Casualty Fund. Additionally, some legal services related to workers compensation benefits are funded out of the Workers Compensation Administration Fund.

The central duties of the Legal Department funded from the General Fund include the preparation of City ordinances and resolutions, research and drafting of legal opinions, preparation of contracts, bond issue representation, deed restriction (DR) enforcement, support for the dangerous building demolition project, utility regulation, collection of revenue on past due accounts, claims resolution, personnel actions, prosecution of violators of City ordinances, and representing the City in commercial and employment litigation.

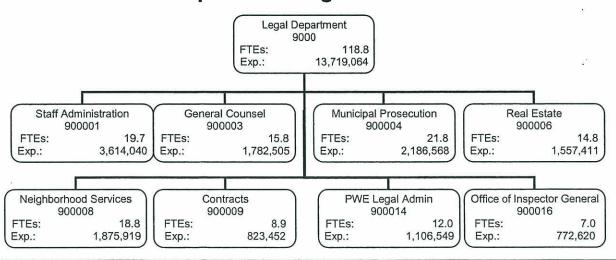
Department Short Term Goals

- Provide greater efficiencies in the provision of high quality and timely legal services.
- Enhance coordination of legal services related to neighborhood preservation and focus attention on consistency in litigation and administrative hearing processes.
- Seek to enhance responsiveness to requests for ordinance and opinion research and drafting.
- Review the department's computer technology and support services to maximize efficient use of resources.
- Recover funds for the City and seek incentives to assist in recruiting and retaining high quality personnel.
- Improve awareness by City employees of liability concerns through training.

Department Long Term Goals

- Reduce turnaround time for assignments and expand use of technology to enhance efficiency of service.
- Continue to improve incentives to aid in recruiting and retaining high quality professionals.

Department Organization



Business Area Budget Summary	Busin	ness Ai	rea Bu	daet S	ummary
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Fund Name Business Ar Fund No./Bu	: General Fund rea Name : Legal ıs. Area No. : 1000 / 9000	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Current Budget	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
	Personnel Services	14,943,943	15,515,478	15,559,006	12,003,716
	Supplies	459,473	368,852	354,800	353,900
	Other Services and Charges	898,490	915,334	885,858	1,361,448
Expenditures	Total M & O Expenditures	16,301,906	16,799,664	16,799,664	13,719,064
N= -	Debt Service & Other Uses	8,584	2,767	2,767	0
	Total Expenditures	16,310,490	16,802,431	16,802,431	13,719,064
Revenues		926,230	1,247,598	1,247,134	1,123,824
	Full-Time Equivalents - Civilian	161.0	169.8	162.3	118.8
	Full-Time Equivalents - Classified	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Staffing	Full-Time Equivalents - Cadets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1377	Total	161.0	169.8	162.3	118.8
	Full-Time Equivalents - Overtime	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

o In FY2012 the City Attorney is instituting a re-organization effort to have the Legal Department closely resemble and operate as a law firm.
o Land Use Section has merged into the Real Estate Section in FY2012.

Significant Budget

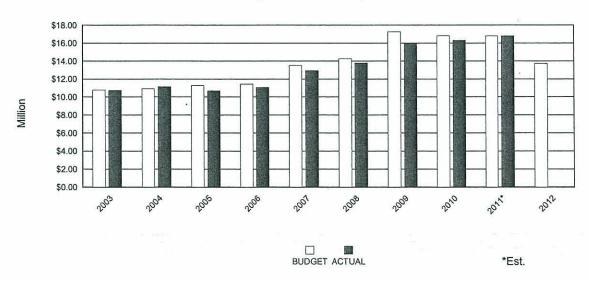
Changes

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Highlights

- Defense Litigation Section dissolved and personnel moved to the Labor, Employment and Civil Rights Section and the General Litigation Section in FY2012.
- o The FY2012 reorganization and transfer of 25 FTEs from the General Fund decreased personnel budget by \$2,897,974.
- FY2012 Management Consulting Services' Budget includes \$500,000 for contract services associated with redistricting.

Legal Current Budget vs Actual Expenditures



Fund Name

General Fund

Business Area Name

Legal

Fund No./Bus Area No. :

1000 / 9000

Name: LGL - Staff Administration Section -- 900001

Mission: To facilitate the general operations of the department and to support the efforts of its attorneys and paralegals in completing their primary functions.

Goal: Maintain continuous operation of dept PC environment, control records management from inception to archiving, create/monitor/close POs. Process timely payments to vendors and employee reimbursements, manage petty cash/check book to expedite court payments, respond to all HR matters, coordinate all courthouse/other deliveries, handle facility/conference room needs, coordinate Continue Legal Education programs and control budget.

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
100% data restore after			
PC failures-0 byte loss	100%	100%	100%
Work intake files created	10,441	10,849	11,000
Work file aging reports	4	4	4

Name: LGL - General Litigation Section -- 900002

Mission: This division was moved to Fund 1004 as part of the department's reorganization.

Goal: N/A

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		8 E	

Name: LGL - General Counsel Section -- 900003

Mission: To provide legal services and assistance to the Mayor and City Council, City Boards and Commissions and the client departments in the Section's assigned areas of practice.

Goal: Improve response time for ordinances and opinions, track requests and response status, interface with Council and Depts on their needs, attend regulatory board and committee meetings, subpoena requests, work with Planning Dept on strategic partnership agreements with MUDs, track collection of delinquent taxes, establish mentoring programs on annexation, taxation, utility regulation and public finance.

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
Bd/Comm.mtgs attended	150	90	90
TPIA requests handled	1,523	1,467	1,491
Subpoeanas handled	1,696	1,516	1,500
Util.regulatory matters	80	41	60

Fund Name

General Fund

Business Area Name

Legal

Fund No./Bus Area No. :

1000 / 9000

Name: LGL - Criminal Prosecution Section -- 900004

Mission: To effectively represent the City of Houston as the State's attorney in all cases filed in the municipal courts.

Goal: Work directly with the Presiding Judge to solve problems and establish policy for the municipal courts. Assist citizens regarding the direct filing of non-traffic misdemeanors. Assist, educate and advise police officers, inspectors and other departments regarding statutory and code enforcement.

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
Cases filed	1,146,562	875,796	950,000
n-house meetings focused			
on section consistency	6	6	6
185			

Name: LGL - Labor, Emply. & Civil Rights Section -- 900005

Mission: This division was moved to Fund 1004 as part of the department's reorganization.

Goal: N/A

Performance	Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
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Name: LGL - Real Estate Section -- 900006

Mission: To support the City in the acquisition and disposition of property, economic development activities, regulation of development, environmental regulation and compliance, implementation of state and federal housing and community services programs.

Goal: Maximize revenue, minimize expense and risk in buying and selling land, expend Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and other grant funds, increase revenues through economic incentives and secure compliance with environmental and land development regulations.

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
Land use issues	254	161	200
Environmental issues	40	35	40
Title exams processed	207	271	250
General property matters	609	365	268
Ordinances/resolutions	199	195	200

Fund Name : Go

General Fund

Business Area Name

Legal

Fund No./Bus Area No. :

1000 / 9000

Name: LGL - Land Use (merged with Real Estate) -- 900007

Mission: This division was merged into the Real Estate Section - cost center 9000060001 as part of the department

reorganization.

Goal: N/A

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Name: LGL - Neighborhood Services Section -- 900008

Mission: Address quality-of-life issues and help improve neighborhoods.

Goal: Remove blighted structures, proactively file nuisance lawsuits, enforce sexually - oriented businesses regulations and liquor protests, respond to the Mayor and Council inquiries where judgments are obtained and enforce collection of penalties and attorney fees.

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
Admin.matters resolved	2,823	5,070	4,250
Lawsuits resolved	32	38	35
DR complaints resolved	762	992	885
Public meetings attended	238	333	290
Title reports provided	2,362	2,642	2,500

Name: LGL - Contracts Section -- 900009

Mission: To serve the contract and procurement related legal needs of City departments.

Goal: Speed up production of first draft of routine contracts to 2 weeks, develop form addendum for small computer software contracts and develop a system for tracking engineering contracts.

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
Contracts prepared	1,208	1,250	1,300
Contracts reviewed by paralegals	288	207	250
Other-grants, bond claims, opinions and ordinances	381	486	200

Fund Name

General Fund

Business Area Name

Legal

Fund No./Bus Area No. :

1000 / 9000

Name: LGL - PWE Legal Administration -- 900014

Mission: N/A

Goal: N/A

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Name: LGL - Governmental Regulations (merged) -- 900015

Mission: This section was merged into the General Counsel Section, Cost Center 9000030001.

Goal: N/A

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
*			

Name: LGL - Office of Inspector General -- 900016

Mission: Conduct investigations of alleged misconduct and violations by City employees (except HPD), elected officials, Mayoral appointees, vendors and contractors, serve as ombudsman for citizens who allege police misconduct.

Goal: To prevent or uncover evidence of fraud, corruption, waste, mismanagement, conflicts of interest, ethics violations, discrimination and violations of state or federal law, the City Charter, City Ordinances, City Council Code of Conduct, Executive Orders, Administrative Procedures or Mayor's Policies.

Performance Measures	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
nitial complaint intakes	N/A	N/A	200
Complaint investigations	N/A	N/A	150
Vritten investigative rpts	N/A	N/A	150

Division Summary

Fund Name

: General Fund

Business Area Name

: Legal

Fund No./Bus Area No. : 1000 / 9000

Division	FY20	10 Actual	FY201	1 Estimate	FY2012	2 Budget
Description	FTEs	Cost \$	FTEs	Cost \$	FTEs	Cost \$
LGL - Staff Administration Section 90000. This section is responsible for IT, payables, receivables, budget management, facility maintenance, conference rooms, HR assistance, courthouse deliveries, copy services, assignment matter set up, archiving, library organization and management feedback.	26.0	3,677,458	27.6	3,608,728	19.7	3,614,040
LGL - General Litigation Section 900002	2					
Commercial and construction litigation, hotel occupancy tax, franchise fee and other collections, contract disputes and litigation. This division was moved to Fund 1004 as part of the department's reorganization.	12.0	1,317,803	12.0	1,277,466	0.0	0
LGL - General Counsel Section 900003	3					
Prepare Code amendments and ordinances, research/prepare opinions, provide advice to City Committees, handle sign code issues, ad valorem taxation, public info. requests, financial disclosure statements, Department of Justice submissions, subpoenas, muni. finance, legislation, elections, redistricting, annexation, utility franchise/rate setting matters, counsel regulatory bids & commissions.	4.6	473,107	17.5	1,799,612	15.8	1,782,505
LGL - Municipal Prosecution Section 900004	1					
The Municipal Prosecution Section represents the State in municipal court. The section handles judge, jury and jail trials, appeals and administrative hearings. The section assists officers and inspectors with questions and training related to the operation of the courts, state law and municipal ordinances; interacts daily with citizens who have questions or cases that need to be resolved.	24.0	2,148,461	24.1	2,260,909	21.8	2,186,568
LGL - Labor, Emply. & Civil Rights Section 900008	5					
Represent City in personal hearings, arbitrations, legal appeals from adverse rulings and judgements. Act on EECO and Texas Commission on Human Rights matters. Review pension issues and FMLA/ADA accommodations. Provide legal opinions on personnel matters. This division was moved to Fund 1004 as part of the department's reorganization.	13.5	1,338,322	11.7	1,354,812	0.0	0
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Division Summary

Fund Name

: General Fund

Business Area Name : Legal

Fund No./Bus Area No. : 1000 / 9000

Division	FY20	10 Actual	FY201	1 Estimate	FY2012	Budget
Description	FTEs	Cost \$	FTEs	Cost \$	FTEs	Cost \$
LGL - Real Estate Section 900006				^		
Provide legal services/draft ordinances, contracts, opinions, title reports and other documents relating to buying/selling/leasing/abandoning real estate, eminent domain proceedings, environmental and land development regulation, economic incentives and federal/state grant programs	11.9	1,125,791	16.0	1,720,459	14.8	1,557,411
LGL - Land Use (merged with Real Estate) 900007						
Land use planning, pollution law enforcement, utility franchise issues and rate hearings before the Public Hearing Commission and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, tax abatement and special districts. This division was moved to Fund 1004 as part of the department's reorganization.	7.0	701,992	0.0	0	0.0	0
LGL - Neighborhood Services Section 900008						
Enforce deed restrictions, respond to citizen complaints and Council and Mayor inquiries, file lawsuits, provide title work for Neighorhood Protection and deed restriction matters, attend dangerous building hearings, investigate Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission complaints, enforce sexually - oriented business ordinances and statutes, attend public hearings.	25.3	2,137,534	23.4	2,036,029	18.8	1,875,919
LGL - Contracts Section 900009						
The section is responsible for preparing, reviewing, negotiating City contracts, drafting budget and appropriation ordinances and opinions, researching and issuing bid irregularity opinions, handle McGregor Act claims and grants greater than \$400,000.	11.0	979,337	11.4	1,060,379	8.9	823,452
LGL - PWE Legal Administration 900014			.*			
This cost center was created to capture the payroll costs of 12 personnel in the Real Estate, Contracts and Labor, Employment and Civil Rights Sections who provide services exclusively to PWE which reimburses the Legal Department for said costs.	11.9	1,073,788	12.0	1,062,064	12.0	1,106,549

Division Summary

Fund Name

General Fund

Business Area Name

: Legal

Fund No./Bus Area No. : 1000 / 9000

Division	FY20	10 Actual	FY201	1 Estimate	FY2012	Budget
Description	FTEs	Cost \$	FTEs	Cost \$	FTEs	Cost \$
LGL - Governmental Regulations (merged) 900015						
Handle ad valorem taxation, public information request, financial disclosure statements, Department of Justice submissions, subpoenas, municipal finance, legislation, elections, redistricting, annexation, utility franchise/rate setting matters, counsel regulatory boards and commissions. This division was moved to Fund 1004 as part of the department's reorganization.	13.8	1,336,897	0.0	0	0.0	C
LGL - Office of Inspector General 900016						
Investigate alleged violations by City employees (excluding employees of HPD), elected officials, Mayoral appointees, vendors and contractors of state or federal laws, City Charter provisions, City Ordinances, City Council Code of Conduct, Executive Orders, Administrative Procedures, ombudsman for citizens with allegations of police misconduct; consult with Independent Police Oversight Board.	0.0	0	6.6	621,973	7.0	772,620
		10.040.400		10 000 101		
Total	161.0	16,310,490	162.3	16,802,431	118.8	13,719,064
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Business Area Roster Summary

Fund Name : General Fund

Business Area Name : Legal Fund No./Bus Area No. : 1000 / 9000

Job Description	Pay Grade	FY2011 Current Budget FTE	FY2012 Budget FTE	Change
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER	26	1.0	1.0	
ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	10	1.0	1.0	
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	17	5.0	4.0	(1.0)
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (EXE LEV)	17	3.0	2.0	(1.0)
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE	13	1.0	0.0	(1.0)
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR (EXE LEV)	24	1.0	1.0	(· · · · · ·)
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	20	2.0	1.0	(1.0)
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST (EXE LEV)	20	1.0	1.0	()
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR	22	3.0	3.0	
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR (EXE LEV)	22	1.0	0.0	(1.0)
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY I	21	26.0	16.0	(10.0)
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY II	24	15.0	15.0	(10.0)
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY III	27	8.0	6.0	(2.0)
CITY ATTORNEY	39	1.0	1.0	(2.0)
CLERK	5	4.0	2.0	(2.0)
COMMUNITY LIAISON	18	1.0	1.0	(2.0)
DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY	38	1.0		(1.0)
	34		0.0	(1.0)
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (EXE LEV)		0.0	1.0	1.0
DIVISION MANAGER	29	1.0	2.0	1.0
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ASSISTANT	15	2.0	1.0	(1.0)
FIRST ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY	37	1.0	2.0	1.0
LAN SPECIALIST	26	1.0	0.0	(1.0)
LEGAL ABSTRACTOR	10	1.0	0.0	(1.0)
LEGAL INVESTIGATOR	18	2.0	2.0	
MESSENGER	6	1.0	1.0	
PARALEGAL I	12	8.0	5.0	(3.0)
PARALEGAL II	14	5.0	2.0	(3.0)
PARALEGAL III	16	9.0	4.0	(5.0)
RECEPTIONIST	7	1.0	1.0	
RECORDS TECHNICIAN	9	1.0	1.0	
SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK	13	2.0	1.0	(1.0)
SENIOR ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY I	30	6.0	4.0	(2.0)
SENIOR ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY II	32	13.0	2.0	(11.0)
SENIOR ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY III	34	8.0	7.0	(1.0)
SENIOR ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY IV	35	3.0	2.0	(1.0)
SENIOR ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY, SECTION CHIEF	35	9.0	5.0	(4.0)
SENIOR LEGAL ABSTRACTOR	13	2.0	1.0	(1.0)
SENIOR LEGAL WORD PROCESSOR	13	4.0	2.0	(2.0)
SENIOR OFFICE ASSISTANT	12	1.0	1.0	
SENIOR PARALEGAL	19	14.0	12.0	(2.0)
SENIOR PUBLIC LOSS INVESTIGATOR	24	0.0	4.0	4.0
SENIOR STAFF ANALYST (EXE LEV)	28	1.0	1.0	14.0
SYSTEMS CONSULTANT	26	1.0	1.0	100 1
Total FTEs	20	172.0	120.0	(52.0)
Less adjustment for Civilian Vacancy Factor		2.2	1.2	(1.0)
Full-Time Equivalents		169.8	118.8	(51.0)

FISCAL YEAR 2012 BUDGET -

Business Area Revenue Summary

Fund Name

General Fund

Business Area Name

Fund No./Bus Area No. :

Legal 1000 / 9000

Commit Item Description	FY2011 Current Budget	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
9000010001 LGL - Staff Administration			
424070 Interfund Legal Services	1,234,498	1,225,469	1,110,724
426330 Miscellaneous Copies Fees	3,000	4,000	3,000
434305 Judgments & Claims	5,000	6,900	5,000
434510 Prior Year Revenue	0	665	0
452020 Recoveries & Refunds	5,000	10,000	5,000
452030 Miscellaneous Revenue	100	100	100
Total LGL - Staff Administration	1,247,598	1,247,134	1,123,824
Total Legal	1,247,598	1,247,134	1,123,824

Business Area Expenditure Summary

Fund Name

: General Fund : Legal

Business Area Name

Fund No./Bus. Area No. : 1000 / 9000

Commi	t Description	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Current Budget	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
	Salary Base Pay - Civilian	11,151,681	11,439,082	11,545,837	
	Bilingual Pay - Civilian	5,464	6,342	6,342	8,613,055 6,319
	Temporary Employees	1,323	0,542	0,542	0,519
	Pension - Civilian	1,652,033	1,818,939	1,801,859	1,550,349
	Termination Pay - Civilian	369,728	280,455	299,152	192,842
	Vehicle Allowance - Civilian	4,216	4,200	4,200	4,200
	FICA - Civilian	799,069	860,480	838,934	616,588
	Health Ins-Act Civilian	905,768	1,038,504	984,158	806,447
	Basic Life Insurance - Active Civilian	6,562	7,470	7,470	5,119
	Long Term Disability-Civilian	12,950	14,434	14,434	10,099
503090	Workers Compensation-Civilian-Admin	29,065	37,128	37,120	23,760
	Workers Compensation-Civilian-Claim	0	1,500	1,500	1,500
504030	Unemployment Claims - Administration	6,084	6,944	18,000	173,438
Total	Personnel Services	14,943,943	15,515,478	15,559,006	12,003,716
511020	Construction Materials	1,261	0	0	0
	Computer Supplies	77,438	59,000	70,000	59,000
	Paper & Printing Supplies	17,428	17,626	17,200	16,000
	Publications & Printed Materials	253,748	190,000	177,700	190,000
	Postage	25,858	27,000	19,000	23,000
	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	79,195	69,000	59,000	60,000
511110		1,661	2,600	2,700	2,600
	Miscellaneous Parts & Supplies	2,884	3,626	9,200	3,300
Total	Supplies	459,473	368,852	354,800	353,900
520108	Information Resource Services	888	700	800	700
520109	Medical Dental & Laboratory Services	527	800	. 600	800
520110	Management Consulting Services	1,716	0	15,000	500,000
520112	Banking Services	732	300	300	300
	Miscellaneous Support Services	260,769	279,934	227,525	250,479
	Computer Equipment/Software Maintenance	790	22,000	22,000	22,000
	IT Application Svcs	4,345	3,075	4,000	4,861
	Office Equipment Services	0	0	100	0
	Vehicle & Motor Equipment Services	5,405	2,700	3,670	3,600
	Mail/Delivery Services	2,286	2,700	800	1,500
	Print Shop Services	7,872	5,600	6,859	7,000
	Printing & Reproduction Services	23,624	35,000	35,000	35,000
	Insurance Fees	1,768	2,372	2,613	3,327
	Membership & Professional Fees	30,797	34,300	32,100	28,800
	Education & Training	35,430	46,100	20,640	21,300
	Travel - Training Related	10,187	12,300	13,900	8,250
	Travel - Non-Training Related	9,179	13,200	5,000 1,000	7,100
	Building Maintenance Services	0 19,482	0 28,041	28,041	41,281
	Data Services Voice Services	57,502	80,853	80,853	45,663
	Voice Services Voice Equipment	0	9,002	9,002	1,720
	Voice Labor	395	525	525	360
	GIS Revolving Fund Services	0	6,530	6,530	6,480
	Office Equipment Rental	1,467	1,800	2,000	1,800
	Other Rental	1,198	1,300	1,300	1,300
	Parking Space Rental	102,357	108,002	117,000	117,000
	Legal Services	265,346	168,000	186,000	189,611
	Legal Svcs - Atty Fee	100	0	0	0
	Legal Svcs -Claims	1,000	0	0	0

- FISCAL YEAR 2012 BUDGET -

Business Area Expenditure Summary

Fund Name

: General Fund

Business Area Name

: Legal

Fund No./Bus. Area No.

: 1000 / 9000

Commit Item	Description	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Current Budget	FY2011 Estimate	FY2012 Budget
521950	Legal Svcs -Doc Rec	140	0	0	0
522420	Petty Cash/Change Special Fund	1,563	1,200	1,500	1,500
522430	Miscellaneous Other Services & Charges	4,761	3,900	16,100	8,900
522722	KRONOS Service Chargeback	0	0	0	5,716
522735	Interfund Communication Equipment Repair	0	100	100	100
522780	Interfund Photo Copy Services	46,864	45,000	45,000	45,000
Total	Other Services and Charges	898,490	915,334	885,858	1,361,448
532120	Transfer to Fleet/Eq	8,584	2,767	2,767	0
Total	Debt Service and Other Uses	8,584	2,767	2,767	0
Gra	nd Total Expenditures	16,310,490	16,802,431	16,802,431	13,719,064