

DHS-DIRECTOR'S OFFICE/CHIEF COUNSEL (716)

FY2016

As Enacted by Act 928 of 2015

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The Director's Office is responsible for the overall coordination of the Department of Human Services and to ensure that state and federal policies are carried out. The Office of Chief Counsel operates within the Director's Office and is responsible for providing legal services to all Divisions, investigative services regarding employee misconduct and recipient fraud in program areas such as TANF, Medicaid, Food Stamps, and child nutrition, audit services for the Department's various programs, and an appeals and hearings function for grievances made by providers and clients.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total appropriation is \$13,645,745 in FY2016.

FUNDING SOURCES

The Director's Office/Office of Chief Counsel is funded from a mix of sources that include General Revenue, Federal, and Other funds. The appropriation is funded by general revenue (36%), federal funds (40%), and other funds (24%).

II) CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

- The **Director's Office/Office of Chief Council's Operations** appropriation, funded by General, Federal and Other Revenues is \$13,645,745, which includes the following changes:
 - **Personal Services Matching** and **Extra Help** line items increase of \$4,242 and \$50,029, respectively, for extra help positions for paralegal/legal service specialists.
 - **Conference Fees and Travel** increases \$25,000 to support continuing education for licensure of attorneys and auditors.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS (Total FY2015 Authorized Positions: 190)

Total Authorized Positions for FY2016: 190

Total Base Level Positions for FY2015: 190

Increase/(Decrease) over Base Level: 0

Extra Help Positions FY2016: 10 (Total FY2015 Extra Help: 10)

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- **PURCHASE OF EVIDENCE:** The Chief Counsel can transfer up to \$12,000 to a bank account to be used to purchase evidence in the course of fraud investigations within the Food Stamp program.