



U.S. Trustees (USTP)

FY 2015 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2014 Enacted:	\$224.4 million (1,314 positions; 436 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$4.5 million
Program Changes:	-\$3.0 million
FY 2015 Budget Request:	\$225.9 million (1,314 positions; 436 attorneys)
Change From FY 2014 Enacted:	+\$1.5 million (+0.7%)

Mission:

USTP's mission is to promote the integrity and efficiency of the bankruptcy system for the benefit of all stakeholders – debtors, creditors, and the public.

Organization:

The USTP is managed by an Executive Office in Washington, DC, which is headed by a Director, a career appointee in the Senior Executive Service, who provides comprehensive policy and management direction to the U.S. Trustees and their staffs. The USTP operates in 88 judicial districts through a system of 21 regions, each region headed by a U.S. Trustee, and 92 district offices in 46 states. The USTP does not operate in the judicial districts of Alabama and North Carolina. U.S. Trustees are appointed by the Attorney General to five-year terms.

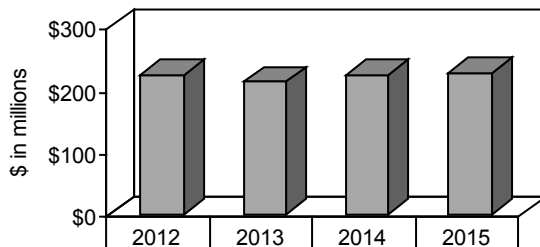
Resources:

The FY 2015 budget request for USTP totals \$225.9 million, which is a 0.7% increase over the FY 2014 Enacted.

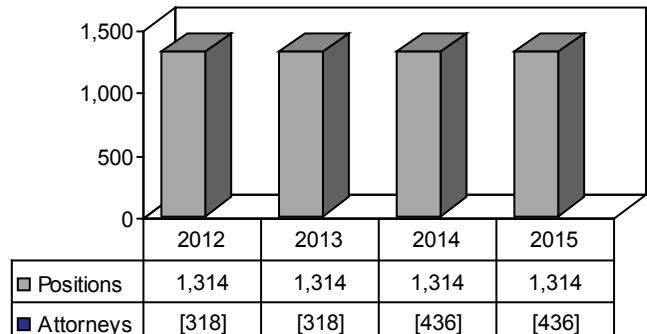
Personnel:

USTP's direct positions for FY 2015 total 1,314 positions and is the same as FY 2014 Enacted. However, between January 2011 and December 2013, the number of USTP's onboard staff declined by 117.

Funding (FY 2012 - 2015)



Personnel (FY 2012 - 2015)



* FY 2014 and FY 2015 Fee Collections are estimates. Beginning in FY 2014 there is an ongoing effort to reclassify the U.S. Trustees and Assistant U.S. Trustees to the Attorney series (905).

FY 2015 Strategy:

The United States Trustee Program (“USTP” or “Program”) is a litigating component of the Department of Justice whose mission is to promote the integrity and efficiency of the nation’s bankruptcy system for the benefit of all stakeholders – debtors, creditors, and the public. In FY 2015, the USTP projects one million bankruptcy filings. USTP operations are funded from offsetting collections deposited in the United States Trustee System Fund.

One of the basic principles of our nation’s bankruptcy system is that the honest but unfortunate debtor deserves a fresh start. Those who prey upon debtors for their own financial gain undermine that basic principle. Thus, protecting consumer debtors and being able to quickly mobilize to address increasingly complex abuse of the bankruptcy system is an important objective of the Program’s enforcement efforts.

By statute, the Program has standing to participate in every bankruptcy case filed within its jurisdiction. The Program oversees the administration of all bankruptcy cases filed by individual and business debtors in every federal judicial district except for those in Alabama and North Carolina. To ensure the integrity of the bankruptcy system, the Program employs a broad range of enforcement and oversight activities. These activities include conducting tens of thousands of civil enforcement actions each year; protecting consumer debtors from being victims of unscrupulous creditors, bankruptcy petition preparers or attorneys; providing oversight of chapter 11 cases; supervising private trustees who administer chapter 7, 12, and 13 bankruptcy cases; and participating in appeals to the district courts, circuit courts of appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

The USTP has two main strategies: (1) to address fraud and abuse of the system by debtors, financial institutions and other creditors, and third parties such as attorneys and non-attorney petition preparers; and (2) to ensure accountability by management of chapter 11 corporate debtors by ensuring that entrenched management does not cut off the rights of other parties, by opposing insider bonuses that do not satisfy strict statutory standards, and by ensuring that attorneys and other professional firms adhere to statutory requirements pertaining to disclosure and conflicts of interest.

The USTP is instrumental in helping to combat mortgage fraud and creditor abuse activities that could otherwise result in significant adverse consequences to the nation’s financial systems.

FY 2015 Program Changes:

Program Offset - Miscellaneous Program and Administrative Reductions: -\$3.0 million and 0 positions
Reductions to existing operations and services necessary to pay for increases in existing costs, including pay raises, FERS contributions, and GSA rent, among others. Program and administrative reductions to be identified once funds are appropriated.

U.S. Trustees
(Dollars in Thousands)

	U.S. Trustees		
	Pos	Est. FTE	Amount
2013 Appropriation	[1,314]	1,169	223,258
2013 Rescissions (1.877 % & 0.2%)	0	0	-288
2013 Sequester Cut	0	0	-11,231
2013 Enacted with Rescissions and Sequester	[1,314]	1,169	211,739
2014 Enacted	[1,314]	1,174	224,400
2015 Request	[1,314]	1,174	225,908
Change 2015 from 2014 Enacted	0	0	1,508
Technical Adjustments			
Total Technical Adjustments	0	0	0
Base Adjustments			
Pay & Benefits	0	0	3,483
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	627
Other Adjustments	0	0	400
Total Base Adjustments	0	0	4,510
2015 Current Services	[1,314]	1,174	228,910
Program Changes			
Increases:			
Subtotal, Program Increases	0	0	0
Decreases:			
Program Offset - Miscellaneous Program and Administrative Reductions	0	0	-3,002
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	-3,002
Total Program Changes	0	0	-3,002
2015 Request	[1,314]	1,174	225,908

U.S. Trustees
(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2014 Enacted			2015 Current Services		
	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount
Administration of Cases	1,314	1,174	224,400	1,314	1,174	228,910
Total	1,314	1,174	224,400	1,314	1,174	228,910
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	1,314	1,174	224,400	1,314	1,174	228,910

Comparison by activity and program	2015 Total Program Changes			2015 Request		
	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount
Administration of Cases	0	0	-3,002	1,314	1,174	225,908
Total	0	0	-3,002	1,314	1,174	225,908
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	-3,002	1,314	1,174	225,908