

U.S. Department of Justice FY 2024 Budget Request

Ensuring Economic Opportunity and Fairness(Amounts in \$000s)

Component / Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	\$000s
Antitrust Division (ATR)			
Increased and Expanded Antitrust Enforcement	363	166	\$66,279
Subtotal, ATR	363	166	\$66,279
Civil Division (CIV)			
Camp Lejeune PACT Act Litigation	67	48	\$20,879
Subtotal, CIV	67	48	\$20,879
Tax Division			
Increased Tax Enforcement	10	10	\$1,303
Subtotal, TAX	10	10	\$1,303
U.S. Trustees (USTP)			
Debtor Audits	0	0	\$2,000
Subtotal, USTP	0	0	\$2,000
Total Resources	440	224	\$90,461

The FY 2024 President's Budget for the Department requests \$90.5 million and 440 positions (224 attorneys) dedicated to promoting economic opportunity and making the economy fairer for all Americans through efforts to reinvigorate antitrust enforcement and combat fraud and protect consumers. This request will allow the Department to promote economic competition through enforcing and providing guidance on antitrust laws, protect the Government against fraud, investigate and prosecute white collar crime, oversee the administration of bankruptcy cases, and enforce the Nation's tax laws fully, fairly, and consistently.

Antitrust Division (ATR): \$66.3 million and 363 positions (166 attorneys) Increased and Expanded Antitrust Enforcement

Long-evolving trends such as the expanding globalization of markets, increasing economic consolidation across industries, and rapid technological change have fundamentally changed the marketplace. These factors, added to the existing number and intricacy of investigations, significantly affect the ATR's overall workload. Many current and recent matters demonstrate the large, complex, and international nature of the casework encountered by the ATR. For instance, the ATR will continue with its major investigations of the conduct of market-leading online platforms, including a complaint filed against Google in October 2020 alleging monopolistic behavior in general internet search and search advertising markets, scheduled for trial in September 2023. Further, the ATR will continue to uncover and prosecute cartels and other criminal activity across the spectrum of the Nation's economy, from safeguarding competition for American workers, which leads to competitive wages, benefits, and standards of employment, to rooting out collusion in critical markets from food and farmland to health care, and vital supply chain industries. As a result, the ATR is requesting increased and expanded antitrust enforcement to promote economic competition through enforcing and providing guidance on antitrust laws and principles. Current services are \$258.5 million and 1,022 positions (490 attorneys).

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<u>Civil Division (CIV): \$20.9 million and 67 positions (48 attorneys)</u> Camp Lejeune PACT Act Litigation

The "Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022" or the "Honoring our PACT Act of 2022" (the PACT Act) was signed into law on August 10, 2022. Section 804 of the PACT Act, the "Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022," aims to compensate service members and others who were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, between 1953 and 1987 and developed cancer or other disease that was at least "as likely as not" caused by the exposure. The Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry estimates that as many as one million people were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune. The PACT Act is leading to an influx of Federal-court litigation that will be extremely resource-intensive for the Department to properly represent the United States in each case. *Current services are \$14.0 million and 36 positions (27 attorneys)*.

<u>Tax Division (TAX): \$1.3 million and 10 positions (10 attorneys)</u> Increased Tax Enforcement

As the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) ramps up efforts to combat sophisticated tax evasion, TAX expects a proportional increase in work referred to it by the IRS. The IRS' expanded enforcement efforts will focus on high net-worth individuals, large pass-throughs, corporate compliance, employment tax field examinations, and non-filers with virtual currency, among others. Another area of focus involves unscrupulous tax preparers who prey on vulnerable taxpayers and those who do not speak English. The IRS' investments on these areas will only succeed if TAX has sufficient resources to litigate when these matters reach Federal district court. *Current services are \$129.0 million and 523 positions (405 attorneys)*.

U.S. Trustees (USTP): \$2.0 million and no positions Debtor Audits

The USTP is requesting funds for congressionally-mandated audits of individual chapter 7 and 13 bankruptcy cases that are statutorily required by the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005. These audits are an important element of the USTP's efforts to promote the integrity of the bankruptcy system and are not supported by current appropriations. *There are no current services for this initiative*.