

# **GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES**Office of Pardon Attorney (OPA)

# FY 2023 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2022 President's Budget: \$16.4 million (80 positions; 46 attorneys)

Current Services Adjustments: +\$6.0 million

Program Changes: +\$0

FY 2023 Budget Request: \$22.5 million (80 positions; 46 attorneys)

Change From FY 2022 President's +\$6.0 million (+36.8%)

Budget:

#### Mission:

The Office of the Pardon Attorney (OPA), in consultation with the Attorney General and/or the Deputy Attorney General, assists the President in the exercise of his executive clemency power as authorized under Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution. Under the Constitution, the President's clemency power extends only to Federal offenses against the United States. Requests for executive clemency for Federal offenses are thereby directed to the Pardon Attorney for investigation and review. The Pardon Attorney prepares the Department's recommendation to the President for final disposition of each petition for executive clemency. Executive clemency may take several forms including pardon (after completion of sentence), commutation (reduction) of sentence, remission of fine or restitution, and reprieve of the death penalty.

### Resources:

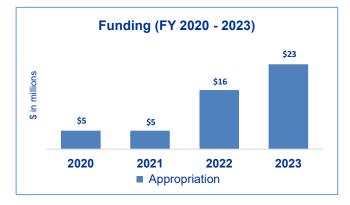
The FY 2023 budget request for the OPA totals \$22.5 million, which is a 36.8 percent increase over the FY 2022 President's Budget and 309.7 percent increase over the FY 2022 Enacted.

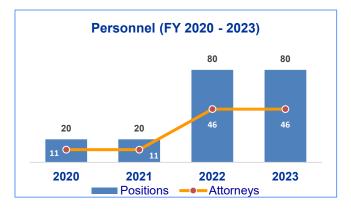
## Organization:

The OPA is headed by the Pardon Attorney who is a key career Senior Executive Service employee appointed and designated authority to carry out the mission of the office by the Attorney General. The OPA is located in Washington, DC

#### Personnel:

The OPA's direct requested positions for FY 2023 total 80 positions and are the same as FY 2022 President's Budget.





#### FY 2023 Strategy:

In FY 2023, the OPA will continue to assist the President in the exercise of his clemency power. The OPA will continue to accept for processing all forms of clemency and evaluate the merits of each petition based on the totality of the circumstances in the case. The OPA will respond to inquiries concerning clemency petitions or proactively make certain information available on their website concerning the clemency process for applicants, their representatives, members of the public, members of Congress, and various Federal, State, and local officials and agencies; prepare all necessary documents to effect the President's decision to grant or deny clemency; and notify each clemency applicant of the President's decision concerning his/her clemency request. The OPA will also provide general advice to the White House concerning clemency procedures and the historical background of clemency matters.

At the end of FY 2021, the OPA had a caseload of approximately 17,000 petitioners awaiting a response from the President on their clemency request. Because the majority of those cases must be processed to completion and they are at various stages in the clemency process, the OPA's FY 2023 budget request level is crucial to handle the unprecedented increase in workload over the past decade.

#### FY 2023 Program Changes:

The budget proposal includes funds for current services; no program changes are requested.

# Office of Pardon Attorney

(Dollars in Thousands)

|  | Offic | Office of Pardon Attorney |        |  |  |
|--|-------|---------------------------|--------|--|--|
|  | Pos   | FTE                       | Amount |  |  |
| 2021 Appropriation                       | 20    | 20                        | 4,810  |  |  |
| 2022 Continuing Resolution               | 20    | 20                        | 4,810  |  |  |
| Expected Change from FY 2022 CR          | 60    | 30                        | 11,613 |  |  |
| 2022 President's Budget                  | 80    | 50                        | 16,423 |  |  |
| 2023 Request                             | 80    | 60                        | 22,462 |  |  |
| Change 2023 from 2022 President's Budget | 0     | 10                        | 6,039  |  |  |
| Technical Adjustments                    |       |                           |        |  |  |
| Total Technical Adjustments              | 0     | 0                         | 0      |  |  |
| Base Adjustments                         |       |                           |        |  |  |
| Pay & Benefits                           | 0     | 10                        | 3,988  |  |  |
| Domestic Rent & Facilities               | 0     | 0                         | 549    |  |  |
| Non-Personnel Related Annualizations     | 0     | 0                         | 1,502  |  |  |
| Total Base Adjustments                   | 0     | 10                        | 6,039  |  |  |
| 2023 Current Services                    | 80    | 60                        | 22,462 |  |  |
| Program Changes                          |       |                           |        |  |  |
| Increases:                               |       |                           |        |  |  |
| Subtotal, Program Increases              | 0     | 0                         | 0      |  |  |
| Decreases:                               |       |                           |        |  |  |
| Subtotal, Program Decreases              | 0     | 0                         | 0      |  |  |
| Total Program Changes                    | 0     | 0                         | 0      |  |  |
| 2023 Request                             | 80    | 60                        | 22,462 |  |  |

# Office of Pardon Attorney (Dollars in Thousands)

|                                    | 2022 President's Budget |     |        | 2023 Current Services |     |        |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|--------|-----------------------|-----|--------|
| Comparison by activity and program | Pos.                    | FTE | Amount | Pos.                  | FTE | Amount |
|                                    |                         |     |        |                       |     |        |
| Office of the Pardon Attorney      | 80                      | 50  | 16,423 | 80                    | 60  | 22,462 |
| Total                              | 80                      | 50  | 16,423 | 80                    | 60  | 22,462 |

|                                    | 2023 Total Program Changes |     |        | 2023 Request |     |        |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----|--------|--------------|-----|--------|
| Comparison by activity and program | Pos.                       | FTE | Amount | Pos.         | FTE | Amount |
|                                    |                            |     |        |              |     |        |
| Office of the Pardon Attorney      | 0                          | 0   | 0      | 80           | 60  | 22,462 |
| Total                              | 0                          | 0   | 0      | 80           | 60  | 22,462 |