

Response to Questions on the FY 2012 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Cook

Question: Please state the amount of fees paid to outside law firms in the last three years by Fairfax County Public Schools, broken down by category of representation (i.e., contract negotiation, litigation defense, litigation prosecution, financial advice and counsel, etc.)

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools:

FCPS' legal staff consisted of two attorneys in FY 2009. For FY 2010 and FY 2011, FCPS has employed three attorneys in-house to provide legal services relating to employees and students. In addition, the division utilizes outside counsel in specialized fields as necessary.

The FY 2011 Program Budget for Division Counsel is \$3.4 million and includes \$2.5 million for legal fees, and approximately \$0.8 million to fund salaries and benefits. The FY 2011 annual cost for outside attorneys' fees is projected at approximately \$1.9 million with the remainder of the legal fees budget allocated to fund other expenditures, for example court reporting fees and arbitrators fees. Fees paid to outside attorneys totaled \$2.2 million in FY 2010, and \$1.9 million in FY 2009.

Because fee records are not maintained in the precise categories listed in the BOS question, the data is provided in the available categories (by FCPS department) and by advice/litigation in the attached chart.

For additional information on Divisionwide Legal in the FY 2011 Program Budget, please access page 239 via <http://www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/documents/approved/2011/FY2011ProgramBudget.pdf>