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# District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability

[www.bega.dc.gov](http://www.bega.dc.gov)

Telephone: 202-481-3411

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Description	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Approved	FY 2014 Proposed	% Change from FY 2013
Operating Budget	\$87,334	\$1,039,000	\$1,315,283	26.6
FTEs	0.0	9.0	11.0	22.2

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The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) is responsible for overseeing both the Office of Government Ethics and the Office of Open Government. Oversight of the Office of Government Ethics includes administering and enforcing the District's Code of Conduct.

## Summary of Services

Specifically, BEGA is responsible for:

- Investigating alleged violations of the Code of Conduct, holding adversarial hearings and, where appropriate, issuing sanctions;
- Issuing Advisory Opinions, providing “safe-harbor” for good-faith reliance on these opinions;
- Conducting mandatory ethics training for District government employees;
- Receiving and reviewing public financial disclosure statements from public officials, except Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners;
- Receiving and reviewing confidential financial disclosure statements from Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners; and
- Receiving and auditing lobbyist registration forms and lobbyist activity reports.

The agency's FY 2014 proposed budget is presented in the following tables:

## FY 2014 Proposed Gross Funds Operating Budget, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-1 contains the proposed FY 2014 agency budget compared to the FY 2013 approved budget. It also provides FY 2011 and FY 2012 actual expenditures.

**Table AG0-1**

(dollars in thousands)

Appropriated Fund	Actual FY 2011	Actual FY 2012	Approved FY 2013	Proposed FY 2014	Change from FY 2013	Percent Change*
<b>General Fund</b>						
Local Funds	0	87	979	1,255	276	28.2
Special Purpose Revenue Funds	0	0	60	60	0	0.0
<b>Total for General Fund</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,315</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>26.6</b>
<b>Gross Funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,315</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>26.6</b>

\*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

Note: If applicable, for a breakdown of each Grant (Federal and Private), Special Purpose Revenue type and Intra-District agreement, please refer to Schedule 80 Agency Summary by Revenue Source in the FY 2014 Operating Appendices located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website.

## FY 2014 Proposed Full-Time Equivalents, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-2 contains the proposed FY 2014 FTE level compared to the FY 2013 approved FTE level by revenue type. It also provides FY 2011 and FY 2012 actual data

**Table AG0-2**

Appropriated Fund	Actual FY 2011	Actual FY 2012	Approved FY 2013	Proposed FY 2014	Change from FY 2013	Percent Change
<b>General Fund</b>						
Local Funds	0.0	0.0	9.0	11.0	2.0	22.2
<b>Total for General Fund</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>22.2</b>
<b>Total Proposed FTEs</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>22.2</b>

## FY 2014 Proposed Operating Budget, by Comptroller Source Group

Table AG0-3 contains the proposed FY 2014 budget at the Comptroller Source Group (object class) level compared to the FY 2013 approved budget. It also provides FY 2011 and FY 2012 actual expenditures.

**Table AG0-3**  
(dollars in thousands)

Comptroller Source Group	Actual FY 2011	Actual FY 2012	Approved FY 2013	Proposed FY 2014	Change from FY 2013	Percent Change*
11 - Regular Pay - Continuing Full Time	0	0	752	981	229	30.5
14 - Fringe Benefits - Current Personnel	0	0	148	201	54	36.3
<b>Subtotal Personal Services (PS)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>31.4</b>
20 - Supplies and Materials	0	2	2	2	0	0.0
32 - Rentals - Land and Structures	0	0	22	0	-22	-100.0
40 - Other Services and Charges	0	64	112	127	16	14.2
70 - Equipment and Equipment Rental	0	21	3	3	0	2.4
<b>Subtotal Nonpersonal Services (NPS)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-4.6</b>
<b>Gross Funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,315</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>26.6</b>

\*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

### Program Description

The District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability operates through the following 2 programs:

**Office of Open Government** – administers and enforces the Code of Conduct through the Ethics Board, monitors the District’s compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), assists the public and promotes effective use of the District’s FOIA, and resolves disputes between agencies and requesters regarding access to government records.

**Board of Ethics** – receives, investigates, assesses and adjudicates violations of the Code of Conduct; provides mandatory ethics training; issues rules and regulations governing the ethical conduct of employees and public officials; and provides for an anonymous and confidential receipt of information related to violations of the Code of Conduct or other information with regard to its administration or enforcement.

### Program Structure Change

The District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability has no program structure changes in the FY 2014 proposed budget.

## FY 2014 Proposed Operating Budget and FTEs, by Program and Activity

Table AG0-4 contains the proposed FY 2014 budget by program and activity compared to the FY 2013 approved budget. It also provides the FY 2012 actual data.

**Table AG0-4**

(dollars in thousands)

Program/Activity	Dollars in Thousands				Full-Time Equivalents			
	Actual FY 2012	Approved FY 2013	Proposed FY 2014	Change from FY 2013	Actual FY 2012	Approved FY 2013	Proposed FY 2014	Change from FY 2013
<b>(1000) Office of Open Government</b>								
(1100) Office of Open Government	87	835	304	-531	0.0	8.0	2.0	-6.0
<b>Subtotal (1000) Office of Open Government</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>-531</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-6.0</b>
<b>(2000) Board of Ethics</b>								
(2010) Board of Ethics	0	204	1,011	807	0.0	1.0	9.0	8.0
<b>Subtotal (2000) Board of Ethics</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>
<b>Total Proposed Operating Budget</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,315</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

Note: For more detailed information regarding the proposed funding for the activities within this agency's programs, please see **Schedule 30-PBB Program Summary by Activity** in the **FY 2014 Operating Appendices** located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website.

### FY 2014 Proposed Budget Changes

The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability's (BEGA) proposed FY 2014 gross budget is \$1,315,283, which represents a 26.6 percent increase over its FY 2013 approved gross budget of \$1,039,000. The budget is comprised of \$1,255,283 in Local funds and \$60,000 in Special Purpose Revenue funds.

### Current Services Funding Level

The Current Services Funding Level (CSFL) is a Local funds ONLY representation of the true cost of operating District agencies, before consideration of policy decisions. The CSFL reflects changes from the FY 2013 approved budget across multiple programs, and it estimates how much it would cost an agency to continue its current programs and operations into the following fiscal year. The initial adjustments in the budget proposal represent changes that should be compared to the FY 2014 CSFL budget and not necessarily changes made to the FY 2013 Local funds budget. The FY 2014 CSFL adjustments to the FY 2013 Local funds budget are described in table 5 of this agency's budget chapter. Please see the CSFL Development section within Volume 1: Executive Summary for more information regarding the methodology used and components that comprise the CSFL.

BEGA's FY 2014 CSFL budget is \$986,568, which represents a \$7,568, or 0.8 percent, increase over the FY 2013 approved Local funds budget of \$979,000.

### **Major CSFL Cost Drivers**

The FY 2014 CSFL calculated for BEGA included an adjustment entry that is not described in detail on table 5. The adjustment was made for an increase of \$6,200 in personal services to account for the Fringe Benefit growth rate adjustment of 4.2 percent year-over-year, and \$1,368 in nonpersonal services based on the Consumer Price Index factor of 2.4 percent. During the development of the CSFL, some adjustments such as these were categorized as "other adjustments".

### **Agency Budget Submission**

**Increase:** Newly established in Fiscal Year 2012, BEGA reorganized certain functions within its proposed fiscal year 2014 budget. The agency moved \$620,664 and 7.0 FTEs to the Board of Ethics program from the Office of Open Government program. This change will allow the agency to fulfill certain legislative requirements such as the reporting of ethics violations and the updating of the District's ethics code. A total increase of \$14,575 primarily reflects higher office support costs. Across all BEGA programs, salary steps and Fringe Benefit costs increased by a total of \$7,801.

**Decrease:** As part of a reorganization of agency functions, the agency moved \$620,664 and 7.0 FTEs from the Office of Open Government program to the Board of Ethics program. A reduction of \$22,376 reflects the elimination of BEGA's Rental costs from the agency's budget. This decrease is a result of the District's policy to allow the Department of General Services to administer certain agency Fixed Costs. In the fiscal year 2013 budget, BEGA's Fixed Costs were included in its budget to ensure that funds would be available if the agency were to be fully functional that year.

### **Mayor's Proposed Budget**

**Cost-of-Living Adjustment:** This agency received a proposed cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in Local funds, which will be applied centrally from the Workforce Investments account. For more information about the COLA, please see the Workforce Investments chapter contained in Volume 3 (Agency Budget Chapters – Part II) of the FY 2014 Proposed Budget and Financial Plan.

**Increase:** The Local funds budget reflects an increase of \$172,500 and 1.0 FTE to cover the cost of an additional Attorney to review and enforce laws or infractions involving the Hatch Act, which prohibits government employees from engaging in partisan political activity.

### **District's Proposed Budget**

**Cost Increase:** The BEGA budget reflects an increase of \$96,400 and 1.0 FTE for a position to help reduce the workload associated with Freedom of Information Act requests and provide operational support in the Office of Open Government.

## FY 2013 Approved Budget to FY 2014 Proposed Budget, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-5 itemizes the changes by revenue type between the FY 2013 approved budget and the FY 2014 proposed budget.

**Table AG0-5**  
(dollars in thousands)

	PROGRAM	BUDGET	FTE
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2013 Approved Budget and FTE</b>		<b>979</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Other CSFL Adjustments	Multiple Programs	8	0.0
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2014 Current Services Funding Level Budget (CSFL)</b>		<b>987</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Increase: Movement of positions to Ethics program from Open Government program	Board of Ethics	621	7.0
Increase: Office support costs	Office of Open Government	15	0.0
Increase: Salary, step and Fringe Benefits adjustments	Multiple Programs	8	0.0
Decrease: Movement of positions from Open Government program to Ethics program	Office of Open Government	-621	-7.0
Decrease: Rental costs administered by the Department of General Services	Office of Open Government	-22	0.0
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2014 Agency Budget Submission</b>		<b>987</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Increase: Staff Attorney for Hatch Act Enforcement	Board of Ethics	172	1.0
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2014 Mayor's Proposed Budget</b>		<b>1,159</b>	<b>10.0</b>
Increase: Position to support operations	Office of Open Government	96	1.0
<b>LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2014 District's Proposed Budget</b>		<b>1,255</b>	<b>11.0</b>
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2013 Approved Budget and FTE</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>0.0</b>
No Changes		0	0.0
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2014 Agency Budget Submission</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>0.0</b>
No Changes		0	0.0
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2014 Mayor's Proposed Budget</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>0.0</b>
No Changes		0	0.0
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2014 District's Proposed Budget</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Gross for AG0 - District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability</b>		<b>1,315</b>	<b>11.0</b>

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

## Agency Performance Plan

The agency's performance plan has the following objectives for FY 2014:

**Objective 1:** The Office of Government Ethics (One City Action Plan Action 3.8.3).

**Objective 2:** Office of Open Government.

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Measure	FY 2011 Actual <sup>1</sup>	FY 2012 Target <sup>1</sup>	FY 2012 Actual <sup>1</sup>	FY 2013 Projection	FY 2014 Projection	FY 2015 Projection
Office of Government Ethics - Produce and publish online quarterly reports	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	4	4	4
Produce and publish BEGA Best Practices Report, due December 31st	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	1	1	1
BEGA shall hold monthly open/public board meetings	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	12	12	12

#### Performance Plan Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup>Agency was created in FY 2013.

