

Budget Brief – Judicial Conduct Commission

NUMBER CFGO-08-12

SUMMARY

The Judicial Conduct Commission is a quasi-independent agency that investigates and resolves complaints against Utah judges. The executive director manages claims, assigns investigators, and recommends prosecution of judges when necessary. The commission dismisses approximately ninety percent of all claims, resolves five percent by stipulation, and conducts formal hearings for five percent of all claims.

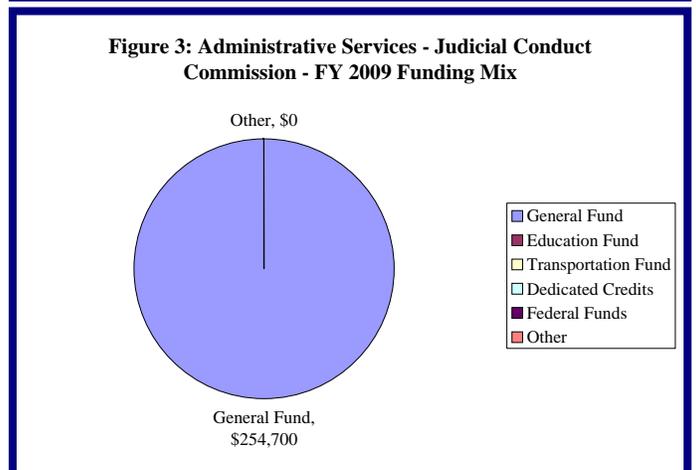
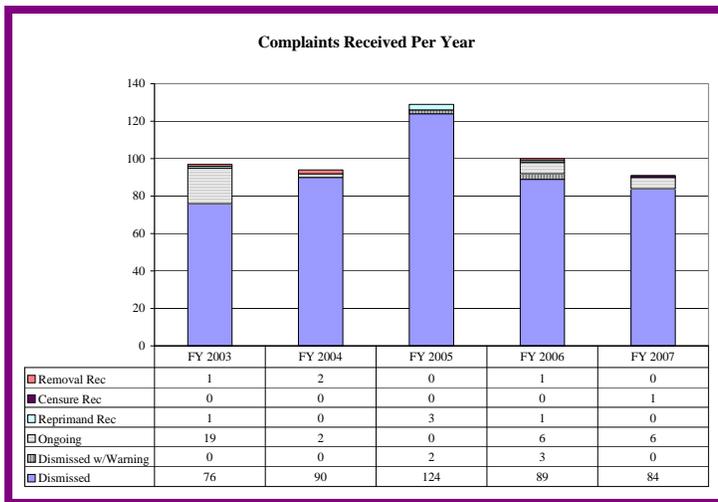
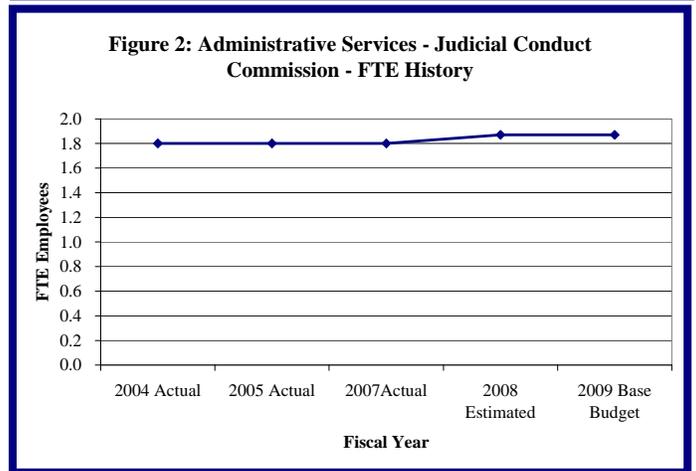
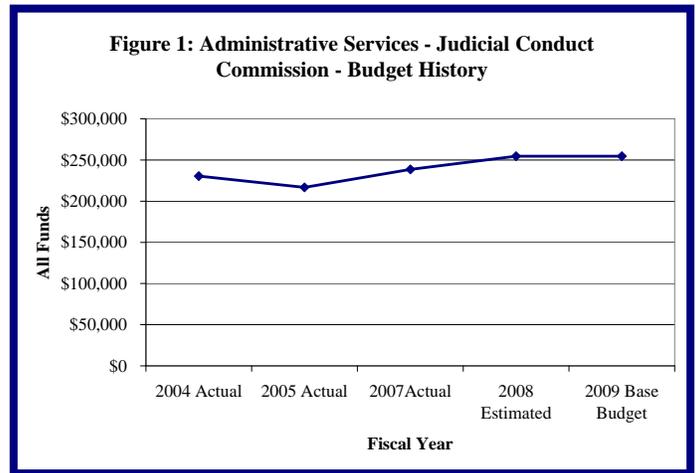
Judicial Conduct Commission Membership			
Legislators	Judges	Attorneys	Public
Sen. Gene Davis	Hon. Russell Bench	Ruth Lybbert, Chair	Rod Orton, Vice-Chair
Sen. Gregory Bell	Hon. Darwin Hansen	Ronald Russell	Elaine Englehardt, PhD
Rep. Neal Hendrickson			Flora Ogan
Rep. Douglas Aagard			

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Analyst recommends the Legislature appropriate the Judicial Conduct Commission’s base budget in FY 2009.

ACCOUNTABILITY DETAIL

The commission is required to file an annual report to the Legislature. The following data comes from their FY 2007 report.



BUDGET DETAIL

Current Expense in this budget is used to hire outside investigators and temporary employees based on case load.

Intent Language

The Analyst recommends the Legislature adopt the following supplemental intent language for Fiscal Year 2008:

Under terms of UCA 63-38-8.1(3), the Legislature intends that funds provided by Item 42, Chapter 1, Laws of Utah 2007 shall not lapse and that those funds shall be used to hire temporary contractors on as as-needed basis.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Analyst recommends the Legislature consider adopting:

1. A total FY 2008 base appropriation of \$254,700 for the Judicial Conduct Commission.
2. Intent language making this appropriation nonlapsing for temporary contractors as needed.

BUDGET DETAIL TABLE

Administrative Services - Judicial Conduct Commission						
	FY 2007	FY 2008		FY 2008		FY 2009*
Sources of Finance	Actual	Appropriated	Changes	Revised	Changes	Base Budget
General Fund	244,500	254,700	0	254,700	0	254,700
General Fund, One-time	(600)	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Nonlapsing	54,000	50,300	8,900	59,200	0	59,200
Closing Nonlapsing	(59,200)	(57,500)	(1,700)	(59,200)	0	(59,200)
Total	\$238,700	\$247,500	\$7,200	\$254,700	\$0	\$254,700
Programs						
Judicial Conduct Commission	238,700	247,500	7,200	254,700	0	254,700
Total	\$238,700	\$247,500	\$7,200	\$254,700	\$0	\$254,700
Categories of Expenditure						
Personal Services	184,600	202,400	(100)	202,300	0	202,300
In-State Travel	3,100	5,000	(1,900)	3,100	0	3,100
Out of State Travel	6,600	4,000	2,600	6,600	0	6,600
Current Expense	33,400	30,200	6,400	36,600	0	36,600
DP Current Expense	11,000	5,900	200	6,100	0	6,100
Total	\$238,700	\$247,500	\$7,200	\$254,700	\$0	\$254,700
Other Data						
Budgeted FTE	1.9	1.9	0.0	1.9	0.0	1.9
Actual FTE	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.