

# Budget Brief – Judicial Conduct Commission

NUMBER CFAS-06-12

## 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 eighty-five percent of all claims, resolves ten percent by stipulation, and conducts formal hearings for five percent of all claims.

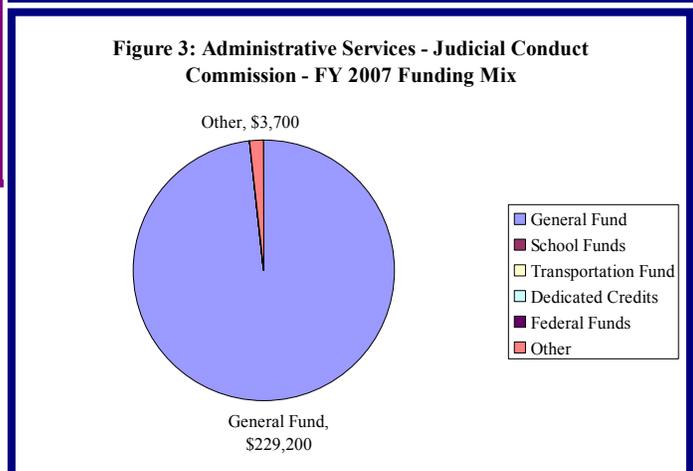
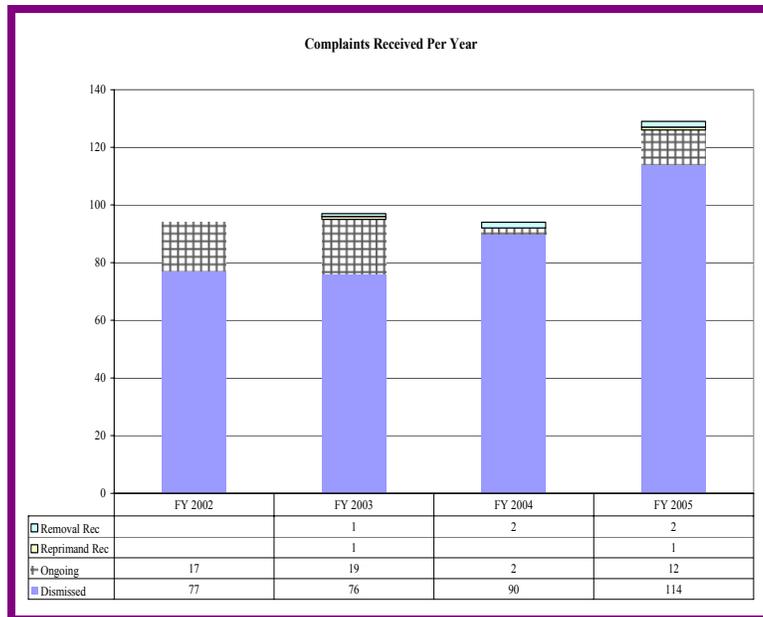
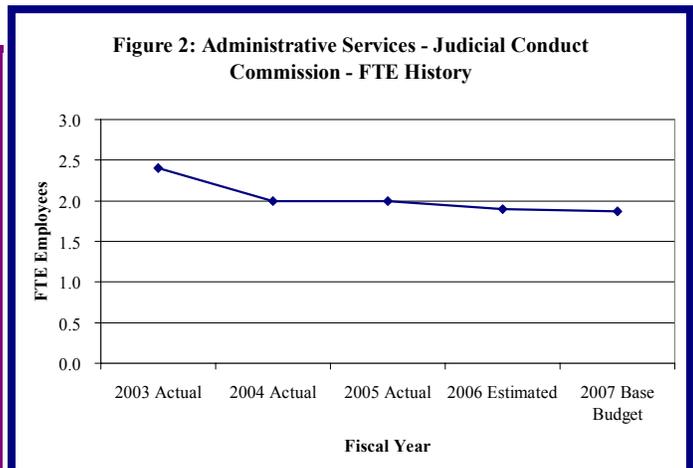
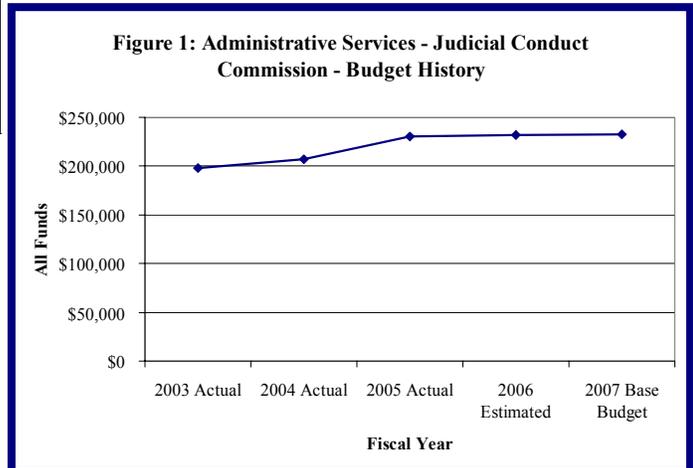
Judicial Conduct Commission Membership			
Legislators	Judges	Attorneys	Public
Sen. Gene Davis	Hon. Russell Bench	Ruth Lybbert, Chair	Rod Orton, Vice-Chair
Sen. Michael Waddoups	Hon. Darwin Hansen	Ronald Russell	Joe Judd
Rep. Neal Hendrickson			Flora Ogan
Rep. Gordon Snow			

## ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Analyst recommends the Legislature appropriate the Judicial Conduct Commission’s base budget in FY 2007.

## ACCOUNTABILITY DETAIL

The commission is required to file an annual report to the Legislature. The following data come from their FY 2005 report.



**BUDGET DETAIL**

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

***Budget Recommendation***

The Analyst recommends a total FY 2007 appropriation of \$232,900, with \$229,200 from the General Fund and \$3,700 from carry-forward balances.

***Intent Language***

The Analyst recommends the Legislature continue using the following intent language which was approved in House Bill 1, 2005 General Session:

*It is the intent of the Legislature that funds for the Judicial Conduct Commission shall not lapse and that those funds shall be used to hire temporary contractors on as as-needed basis.*

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

This section is a summary of what actions might be taken if the Legislature wishes to adopt the recommendations of this brief. The Analyst recommends the Legislature consider adopting:

1. A total appropriation of \$232,900 for the Judicial Conduct Commission.
2. Intent language making this appropriation nonlapsing for temporary contractors as needed.

**BUDGET DETAIL TABLE**

<b>Administrative Services - Judicial Conduct Commission</b>						
	<b>FY 2005</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>		<b>FY 2006</b>		<b>FY 2007*</b>
<b>Sources of Finance</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>	<b>Changes</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Changes</b>	<b>Base Budget</b>
General Fund	223,200	229,200	0	229,200	0	229,200
General Fund, One-time	1,000	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Nonlapsing	48,000	38,000	3,600	41,600	(2,500)	39,100
Closing Nonlapsing	(41,600)	(35,500)	(3,600)	(39,100)	3,700	(35,400)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$230,600</b>	<b>\$231,700</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$231,700</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$232,900</b>
<b>Programs</b>						
Judicial Conduct Commission	230,600	231,700	0	231,700	1,200	232,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$230,600</b>	<b>\$231,700</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$231,700</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$232,900</b>
<b>Categories of Expenditure</b>						
Personal Services	168,000	181,000	(1,400)	179,600	100	179,700
In-State Travel	6,200	6,300	0	6,300	0	6,300
Out of State Travel	5,600	2,800	0	2,800	2,500	5,300
Current Expense	44,900	34,800	3,400	38,200	(1,400)	36,800
DP Current Expense	5,900	6,800	(2,000)	4,800	0	4,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$230,600</b>	<b>\$231,700</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$231,700</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$232,900</b>
<b>Other Data</b>						
Budgeted FTE	2.0	1.9	0.0	1.9	(0.0)	1.9
Actual FTE	2	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.