

Table of Contents
Office of Appellate Counsel and Training

<i>Agency Profile</i>	1
Agency Expenditure Overview	2
Agency Financing by Fund	3
Agency Change Summary	4

AT A GLANCE

- The Office of Appellate Counsel and Training was created in 2023
- The office is responsible for providing appellate representation, support, and training for juvenile protection matters in state or Tribal jurisdictions

PURPOSE

The Office of Appellate Counsel and Training was created during the 2023 legislative session of the Minnesota State Legislature. The authorizing legislation created a State Board of Appellate Counsel and Training consisting of seven members, with four members appointed by the Governor and three members appointed by the Minnesota Supreme Court. Once constituted, the board is required to appoint a head appellate counsel once every four years. The head appellate counsel shall oversee the administration of the office and hiring of additional staff.

As recorded in Minnesota Statute 260C.419 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/260C.419>), the office is tasked with providing the following services:

- Establishing and maintaining a system for providing appellate representation to parents in juvenile protection matters, as provided in section 260C.163, subdivision 3 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/260C.163#stat.260C.163.3>), paragraph (c), and in Tribal court jurisdictions
- Providing training to all parent attorneys practicing in the state on topics relevant to their practice and establishing practice standards and training requirements for parent attorneys practicing in the state
- Collaborating with the Minnesota Department of Human Services to coordinate and secure federal Title IV-E support for counties and Tribes interested in accessing federal funding.

BUDGET

As a newly established office, the Office of Appellate Counsel and Training does not have historical spending. The office does have a general fund appropriation of \$659,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$1.56 million in fiscal year 2025 and beyond. Currently, the only funds available to the agency are general fund appropriations. However, the office has statutory authority to assess and collect payments or reimbursements for any services rendered and deposit payments received in a separate account established in the special revenue fund.

STRATEGIES

Strategies for the new office will be determined by the new board overseeing the work of the office.

RESULTS

The results for the new office will be determined by the new board overseeing the work of the office.

Minnesota Laws 2023, Chapter 52 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2023/0/Session+Law/Chapter/52/>) established the Office Appellate Counsel and Training. Minnesota Statute 260C.419 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/260C.419>) provides further details regarding the office's structure and activities.

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Actual FY24	Estimate FY25	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
					FY26	FY27	FY26	FY27

Expenditures by Fund

1000 - General				2,219	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560
Total				2,219	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560
Biennial Change				2,219		901		901
Biennial % Change								
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								0

Expenditures by Program

Appellate Counsel & Trg Office				2,219	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560
Total				2,219	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560

Expenditures by Category

Operating Expenses				2,219	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560
Total				2,219	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY26	FY27
1000 - General								
Balance Forward In				659				
Direct Appropriation			659	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560
Balance Forward Out			659					
Expenditures				2,219	1,560	1,560	1,560	1,560
Biennial Change in Expenditures				2,219		901		901
Biennial % Change in Expenditures								
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								0

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	Biennium 2026-27
Direct				
Fund: 1000 - General				
FY2025 Appropriations	1,560	1,560	1,560	3,120
Forecast Base	1,560	1,560	1,560	3,120
Total Governor's Recommendations	1,560	1,560	1,560	3,120