

Rhode Island Ethics Commission

FY 2016 Revised
FY 2017 Recommended
Staff Presentation
March 22, 2016

Background

- Prescription and publication of rules and regulations associated with state Code of Ethics
- Jurisdiction over three branches of state government and municipal and local government bodies
- Maintains all required filings made by elected and appointed officials
 - Including Financial Disclosure Statements

Summary by Category

| <i>General Revenues</i> | FY 2016 Enacted | FY 2016 Revised | Change to Enacted |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | \$1,438,149 | \$1,410,533 | (\$27,616) |
| Contracted Services | 25,000 | 29,100 | 4,100 |
| Operations | 181,727 | 171,486 | (10,241) |
| Total | \$1,644,876 | \$1,611,119 | (\$33,757) |

Summary by Category

| <i>General Revenues</i> | FY 2016 Enacted | FY 2017 Governor | Change to Enacted |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | \$1,438,149 | \$1,452,796 | \$14,647 |
| Contracted Services | 25,000 | 27,000 | 2,000 |
| Operations | 181,727 | 173,587 | (8,140) |
| Total | \$1,644,876 | \$1,653,383 | \$8,507 |

Target Issues

- Budget Office provided a general revenue target of \$1.6 million
 - Current service adjustments of \$17,137
 - 7.5% target reduction of \$0.1 million
- Constrained request \$575 below the target
 - Achieved through operations reductions
 - Governor recommends \$107,996 more than target

Personnel

| Full-Time Positions | FTEs | Change to Enacted |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Enacted Authorized | 12.0 | - |
| FY 2016 Rev. Request | 12.0 | - |
| FY 2017 Request | 12.0 | - |
| FY 2017 Governor | 12.0 | - |
| FY 2015 Average Filled | 11.9 | (0.1) |
| Filled as of March 5th | 11.0 | (1.0) |

Personnel

FY 2016 Revised

- \$1,410,533 from general revenues
 - \$27,616 less than enacted
 - Recent retirement & statewide savings

FY 2017 Recommended

- \$1,452,796 from general revenues
 - \$14,647 more than enacted
 - Statewide benefit savings
 - Filling position at lower cost

Operations

FY 2016 Revised and FY 2017: \$0.2 million

- Office space lease
 - Enacted level is \$107,000
 - Governor recommends actual rent expenses of \$101,458 in revised and FY 2017
 - Cost may be closer to \$102,000 – recent escalator payment of \$1,516
- Other
 - Legal & other contracted services - \$29,100 in revised & \$27,000 in FY 2017
 - Operating - \$65,702 in revised & \$67,803 in FY 2017

Expenditure History

| Total | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Initial Request</i> | \$1,537,043 | \$1,686,950 | \$1,592,744 | \$1,590,919 |
| Enacted | 1,560,008 | 1,557,881 | 1,577,204 | \$1,581,205 |
| <i>Revised Request</i> | 1,525,580 | 1,553,890 | \$1,582,966 | \$1,623,695 |
| Final | 1,462,946 | 1,530,853 | \$1,575,940 | \$1,618,883 |
| Actual | 1,410,814 | 1,500,568 | \$1,541,741 | \$1,579,038 |
| Difference | \$ (52,132) | \$ (30,285) | \$ (34,199) | (\$39,845) |

Online Disclosure Filings

- Online financial disclosure filings began in 2012
 - Implemented for cost savings and greater efficiency

| <i>(Filings for prior year)</i> | CY 2012 | CY 2013 | CY 2014 | CY 2015 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Online Filings | 2,211 | 2,512 | 2,729 | 3,079 |
| Total Filings | 3,822 | 3,736 | 3,971 | 4,141 |
| % Filed Online | 57.8% | 67.2% | 68.7% | 74.4% |

Access to Public Records

- Public may request access to records
 - Financial statements, recusal forms, advisory opinions, request letters, and complaints

| <i>FY 2015 Timeliness</i> | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Total |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Requests | 70 | 49 | 30 | 57 | 206 |
| Responses within 24 hrs | 66 | 46 | 28 | 53 | 193 |
| % Responses within 24hrs | 94.0% | 94.0% | 93.0% | 93.0% | 94.0% |

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