

**PUBLIC HEARING ON
THE FISCAL YEAR 2008 BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF
THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (OCFO)**

**Before the
Committee on Finance and Revenue
Council of the District of Columbia**

The Honorable Jack Evans, Chairman

**April 4, 2007, 11:00 a.m.
Council Chamber, John A. Wilson Building**



**Testimony of
Anthony F. Pompa
Deputy Chief Financial Officer
Office of Financial Operations and Systems**

**Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer
Government of the District of Columbia**

Good morning, Chairman Evans and members of the committee. My name is Anthony Pompa. I am the Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the Office of Financial Operations and Systems (OFOS), and I am pleased to present the following testimony about the FY 2008 budget request for OFOS and related matters for the record.

FY 2008 Budget Request

For FY 2008, OFOS is requesting a total budget of 125 FTEs and \$13.6 million. The overall FY 2008 budget has an increase of \$556,000 due to an increase in special purpose revenue funds and intra-district funds. This level of funding supports two major departments within OFOS: the controller's office and the Office of Pay and Retirement Services.

FY 2007 Accomplishments

As provided in my testimony at the February 28, 2007, oversight hearing, we continue to make improvements in overall operations in FY 2007. The monthly closings continue, with the March interim closing currently in progress and another planned for June 2007. Furthermore, we are continually improving and automating the interim closing each time it is conducted and have many requirements submitted electronically by agency financial staff.

The Accounting Systems Managers (ASMs) continue to provide and apply their expertise at agency and central finance offices. This year, they are continuing to train agency personnel both on-site and in the classroom during formal training

sessions. This includes all training for PASS, the PeopleSoft procurement system under the Administrative Systems Modernization Program (ASMP) initiative.

OFOS Programs

We continue to routinely produce the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). We are also publishing the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR), which is a layman's guide to the District's financial position that does not include the more technical aspects of the CAFR.

In FY 2008, we will continue to provide general SOAR training for employees, as well as targeted training to assist agencies with their specific accounting requirements. Specialized training is being conducted, and other training tailored to meet agencies' requirements is planned.

Under the director of the ASM division, OFOS continue to shoulder the responsibility for functional SOAR training, as well as SOAR help desk operations and security for all financial systems applications. This structure enhances OFOS' ability to readily identify new training requirements based on feedback from the ASMs at the agency level. They also address and resolve PeopleSoft- and PASS-related processing and help desk concerns.

The Financial Control and Reporting Division (FCRD) of OFOS continues to ensure that the data submitted by and financial activities of all District agencies are competently summarized and presented in accordance with the pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). This will strengthen the routine preparation of the CAFR and ensure continued clean opinions. FCRD continues to update and document District-wide accounting and financial policies

and procedures. Additionally, this division has assumed the responsibility for reviewing all payment requests via direct vouchers and makes recommendations for resolution in accordance with OCFO Financial Management and Control Order No. 05-002. We have instituted a reporting mechanism to provide indicators of how well agencies are meeting their obligations under the District's Quick Payment Act, enabling my office to alert the appropriate associate chief financial officer and agency fiscal staff on the indicators of timelessness.

In FY 2008, this office will continue to support the efforts of the District's ASMP initiative by providing expert knowledge in payroll processing and accounts payable operations and by approving all ASMP interfaces with SOAR.

The Office of Pay and Retirement Services (OPRS) continues to provide excellent service to active and retired District employees, as well as annuitants of several federal agencies. While OPRS is currently operating a legacy Modified Uniform Personnel and Payroll System (MUPPS), it is working in tandem with the OCFO's chief information officer and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer to prepare for the introduction of the ASMP PeopleSoft payroll system.

OPRS, under the OCFO, retains the authority and responsibility, as outlined in the Revitalization Act, for generating monthly annuity checks to law enforcement police and their survivors (including the U.S. Park Services, U.S. Secret Service, and White House Police). This office also conducts salary history verification for District employees retiring under the federal Civil Service Retirement System, which includes those hired before January 1, 1980. Our main goal is to continue paying employees and annuitants timely and accurately.

This concludes my formal testimony for the record. I will be happy to answer any questions you or other members may have.