

PUBLIC HEARING ON
THE FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET OF THE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

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

The Honorable Jack Evans, Chairman

April 5, 2006, 11:00 a.m.
John A. Wilson Building
Council Chamber



Testimony of
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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 2007 budget request for OFOS and related matters for the record.

FY 2007 Budget Request

For FY 2007, OFOS is requesting a total budget of 124 FTEs, no change from FY 2006, and \$13 million. Our overall fiscal year 2007 budget has an increase of \$392,000, due to fixed cost increases, step increases, and payroll and PASS support. This level of funding supports two major departments within OFOS: the controller's office and the Office of Pay and Retirement Services.

FY 2006 Accomplishments

As I provided in my testimony at the February 27, 2006, oversight hearing, we continue to make improvements in overall operations in FY 2006. The monthly closings continue, while the March interim closing is currently in progress and is planned for June 2006. 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 the agency and central finance offices. This year, they are continually training 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 Services Modernization Program (ASMP) initiative. OFOS assisted the D.C. Public Schools (DCPS), in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), in successfully implementing PASS at DCPS in March 2006.

OFOS Programs

We continue to routinely and timely 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 without the more technical aspects of the CAFR.

In FY 2007, 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 PASS-related processing and help desk concerns.

The Financial Control & Reporting Division (FCRD) of OFOS continues to ensure that the data submitted by and financial activities of all the District agencies are competently summarized and presented in accordance with the pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standard Board (GASB). This will strengthen the

routine preparation of the CAFR and ensure continued unqualified opinions. Further, the 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 to the deputy CFO for OFOS for resolution in accordance with the OCFO Financial Management and Control Order No. 05-002. Additionally, 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 staff on the indicators of timelessness.

In FY 2007, this office will continue to support the efforts of the ASMP, by providing expert knowledge in payroll processing and accounts payable operations, and approving all ASMP interfaces into 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 Office of the Chief Information Officer and OCTO in planning for the PeopleSoft payroll introduction in the future.

OPRS retains the authority and responsibility, as outlined in the Revitalization Act, for generating monthly annuity checks to law enforcement police and their survivors (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, who were 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 the other members may have.