

**State of Alaska  
FY2021 Governor's Operating Budget**

**Department of Law  
Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy  
Component Budget Summary**

**Component: Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy**

## **Contribution to Department's Mission**

The Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy (RAPA) Section exercises the Attorney General's responsibility to represent the public interest in utility and pipeline matters before the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA).

## **Core Services**

- RAPA advocates for the public interest in matters before the RCA, paying particular attention to the interests of consumers who would not otherwise have an effective voice regarding the rates and services of regulated utilities and pipelines operating in the state.
- RAPA's representation of the state before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in pipeline tariff proceedings has substantial financial impacts. For example, the state recently successfully contested the inclusion of approximately \$625 million in costs factored into Trans-Alaska Pipeline tariff rates. This decision will reduce tariff rates and increase production taxes and royalties paid to the state over the Trans-Alaska Pipeline's lifespan.

## **Major Component Accomplishments in 2019**

RAPA helps ensure that utility and pipeline carrier tariff rates and service practices are just and reasonable. Approximately \$17 million in quantifiable consumer benefits can be tracked to RAPA advocacy in FY2019. This is based on the difference between the amounts that utilities requested in their revenue requirement proposals and the amounts that the RCA ultimately awarded to them. To achieve these results in FY2019, the department spent about \$1.6 million in RCA regulatory cost charge receipts.

During FY2019, RAPA participated in over fifty dockets. RAPA's work includes filing testimony, participating in public hearings and mediations, filing comments in rulemakings, and completing stipulations to settle cases.

Highlights of selected FY2019 dockets where RAPA participated:

- Participation in the Cook Inlet Natural Gas Storage case to investigate that facility's request for pre-approval of cost recovery for a \$41 million "redundancy" project.
- RAPA petitioned the RCA to investigate the impacts of the federal 2017 Tax Cuts & Jobs Act on utilities' rates. This resulted in several dockets being opened to address the effects of the income tax reduction. For example, RAPA reached settlement with Alaska Electric Light & Power to implement the tax reduction by reducing its revenue requirement by \$423,000 resulting in a 3.68% rate reduction and refunds to customers. RAPA also addressed the tax cut impact in rate case dockets that were already pending, resulting in further reduction to utility revenue requirements and savings to ratepayers.
- Settlement of the rate cases for four affiliated TDX electric companies that reduced combined revenue requirements by \$1,946,626.

RAPA also investigates and participates in RCA "rulemaking" dockets that affect utility and pipeline carrier practices or services on a statewide basis. For instance, RAPA participated in a Green Energy Program docket and a Community Solar docket instituted by Chugach Electric Association. RAPA was also involved in a Homer Electric Association docket involving proposed changes to the utility's tariffed line extension policies.

## **Key Component Challenges**

RAPA is transitioning the oil pipeline tariff functions it assumed in 2016 from the former Oil, Gas and Mining section to the Natural Resources section. While the Natural Resources section will represent state interests in FERC matters, RAPA and the Natural Resources section will coordinate efforts to determine which section is best situated to

represent the public interest before the RCA, particularly when the RCA requests participation by the Attorney General under AS 42.04.070(c). Currently, RAPA only has two attorneys on staff to address these important matters.

During the upcoming fiscal year, RAPA will continue to represent the public interest on behalf of the Attorney General in proceedings before the RCA. RAPA will investigate public utility and pipeline carrier proposals that come before the RCA, file testimony, litigate cases, and defend RAPA positions before the RCA and on appeal as appropriate.

One significant ongoing challenge facing RAPA is attracting qualified non-attorney professional analysts/expert witnesses.

### **Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2021**

RAPA will turn over responsibility for FERC pipeline tariff matters to the Natural Resources section. Both sections will coordinate efforts to determine which section will participate in non-FERC pipeline matters before the RCA.

### **Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

AS 44.23.020(e)

Contact Information
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Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy Personal Services Information					
Authorized Positions			Personal Services Costs		
	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor			
Full-time	9	9	Annual Salaries		893,202
Part-time	0	0	COLA		6,583
Nonpermanent	0	0	Premium Pay		0
			Annual Benefits		473,170
			<i>Less 2.44% Vacancy Factor</i>		<i>(33,555)</i>
			Lump Sum Premium Pay		0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Total Personal Services</b>		<b>1,339,400</b>

Position Classification Summary					
Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Attorney V	1	0	0	0	1
Attorney VI	1	0	0	0	1
Law Office Assistant I	2	0	0	0	2
Public Aua I	4	0	0	0	4
Public Aua II	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

**Component Detail All Funds**  
**Department of Law**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)  
**RDU:** Civil Division (35)

Non-Formula Component

	FY2019 Actuals	FY2020 Conference Committee	FY2020 Authorized	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor	FY2020 Management Plan vs FY2021 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	1,218.7	1,344.2	1,344.2	1,331.1	1,339.4	8.3	0.6%
72000 Travel	15.7	6.9	6.9	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	352.4	1,469.3	1,469.3	1,469.3	1,469.3	0.0	0.0%
74000 Commodities	7.2	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	7.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,601.8</b>	<b>2,839.2</b>	<b>2,839.2</b>	<b>2,839.2</b>	<b>2,847.5</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>Fund Sources:</b>							
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	53.7	455.1	455.1	455.1	455.3	0.2	0.0%
1141 RCA Rcpts (DGF)	1,548.1	2,384.1	2,384.1	2,384.1	2,392.2	8.1	0.3%
<b>Unrestricted General (UGF)</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>455.1</b>	<b>455.1</b>	<b>455.1</b>	<b>455.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Designated General (DGF)</b>	<b>1,548.1</b>	<b>2,384.1</b>	<b>2,384.1</b>	<b>2,384.1</b>	<b>2,392.2</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Positions:</b>							
Permanent Full Time	10	9	9	9	9	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

**Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios with Descriptions**  
**Department of Law**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)  
**RDU:** Civil Division (35)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
***** Changes From FY2020 Conference Committee To FY2020 Authorized *****												
<b>FY2020 Conference Committee</b>												
ConfCom		2,839.2	1,344.2	6.9	1,469.3	18.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	9	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		455.1										
1141 RCA Rcpts		2,384.1										
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>2,839.2</b>	<b>1,344.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>1,469.3</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
***** Changes From FY2020 Authorized To FY2020 Management Plan *****												
<b>Align Authority with Anticipated Expenditures</b>												
LIT		0.0	-13.1	13.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Transfer authority from personal services to cover anticipated travel costs. The remaining personal services authority is sufficient to cover anticipated expenditures.												
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>2,839.2</b>	<b>1,331.1</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>1,469.3</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
***** Changes From FY2020 Management Plan To FY2021 Governor *****												
<b>FY2021 Salary and Health Insurance Increases</b>												
SalAdj		8.3	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		0.2										
1141 RCA Rcpts		8.1										
FY2021 GGU Salary Increases: \$6.5												
FY2021 increase to GGU Health Insurance from \$1530 to \$1555 per member per month: \$1.8												
<b>Totals</b>		<b>2,847.5</b>	<b>1,339.4</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>1,469.3</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Law**  
**Travel**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)

<b>Line Number</b>	<b>Line Name</b>		<b>FY2019 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2020 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2021 Governor</b>
2000	Travel		15.7	20.0	20.0
<b>Object Class</b>	<b>Servicing Agency</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>FY2019 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2020 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2021 Governor</b>
<b>2000 Travel Detail Totals</b>			<b>15.7</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>
2000	In-State Employee Travel	Travel for attorneys to interview witnesses and attend court proceedings, as well as for necessary training for both attorneys and paraprofessionals. Includes travel for management purposes.	0.0	3.2	3.2
2001	In-State Non-Employee Travel	Travel costs for witnesses to testify in court.	3.9	5.0	5.0
2002	Out of State Employee Travel	Travel costs and expenses for out-of-state travel for conferences, training, etc.	11.3	11.3	11.3
2006	Other Travel Costs	Travel cost transfers.	0.5	0.5	0.5

**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Law**  
**Services**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2019 Actuals	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor
3000	Services		352.4	1,469.3	1,469.3
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2019 Actuals	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor
<b>3000 Services Detail Totals</b>			<b>352.4</b>	<b>1,469.3</b>	<b>1,469.3</b>
3000	Education Services	Conferences, training and memberships.	16.5	16.5	16.5
3002	Legal and Judicial Services	Depositions, research costs, expert witness and consultant fees.	198.1	200.0	200.0
3003	Information Technology	Training, consulting and software licensing and maintenance. Annual maintenance fee for mission-critical information management systems.	3.7	3.7	3.7
3004	Telecommunications	Local telephone service, long distance charges and cellular phone services paid to third-party telephone utilities.	0.0	1.0	1.0
3006	Delivery Services	Freight, courier, postage, and transportation of trial exhibit materials.	0.0	1.0	1.0
3010	Equipment/Machinery	Office equipment rental - copier and postage meters.	0.0	1.0	1.0
3011	Other Services	Cost transfers and miscellaneous items within the services line (commissions, etc.).	49.7	1,161.7	1,161.7
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	Admin - Department-wide RSA Administration, Office of Information Technology computer services.	31.7	31.7	31.7
3018	Inter-Agency Information Technology Telecommunications	Admin - Department-wide RSA Administration, Office of Information Technology telecommunications services.	2.6	2.6	2.6
3022	Inter-Agency Human Resources	Law - Administrative Services (2164) RSA Law, Human Resources	7.5	7.5	7.5



**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Law**  
**Services**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2019 Actuals	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor
<b>3000 Services Detail Totals</b>			<b>352.4</b>	<b>1,469.3</b>	<b>1,469.3</b>
3023	Inter-Agency Building Leases	Admin - Department-wide position. Leased office space managed by General Services.	28.1	28.1	28.1
3026	Inter-Agency Insurance	Admin - Department-wide RSA Administration, Risk Management.	0.3	0.3	0.3
3027	Inter-Agency Financial	Admin - Department-wide RSA Administration, Finance Chargeback (IRIS).	0.6	0.6	0.6
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	Law - Administrative Services (2164) RSA Law, Information services, project and management support.	13.6	13.6	13.6

**Line Item Detail (1676)**

**Department of Law  
Commodities**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)

<b>Line Number</b>	<b>Line Name</b>		<b>FY2019 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2020 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2021 Governor</b>
4000	Commodities		7.2	18.8	18.8
<b>Object Class</b>	<b>Servicing Agency</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>FY2019 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2020 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2021 Governor</b>
<b>4000 Commodities Detail Totals</b>			<b>7.2</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>18.8</b>
4000	Business	Reference materials and subscriptions, including statutes, software applications, non-capital desktop refresh, and miscellaneous office supplies.	2.6	2.6	2.6
4022	Commodity Transfer	Commodity cost transfers.	4.6	16.2	16.2

**Line Item Detail (1676)**

**Department of Law  
Capital Outlay**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)

<b>Line Number</b>	<b>Line Name</b>		<b>FY2019 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2020 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2021 Governor</b>
5000	Capital Outlay		7.8	0.0	0.0
<b>Object Class</b>	<b>Servicing Agency</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>FY2019 Actuals</b>	<b>FY2020 Management Plan</b>	<b>FY2021 Governor</b>
<b>5000 Capital Outlay Detail Totals</b>			<b>7.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
5004	Equipment	Equipment purchases.	6.9	0.0	0.0
5009	Capital Outlay Transfer	Capital cost transfers.	0.9	0.0	0.0

**Revenue Detail (1681)**  
**Department of Law**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)

Revenue Type (OMB Fund Code)	Component	Comment	FY2019 Actuals	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor
Revenue Source					
<b>5141 RCA Rcpts (1141 RCA Rcpts)</b>			<b>1,548.1</b>	<b>2,384.1</b>	<b>2,392.2</b>
5402 Regulatory Commission of Alaska Receipts		Regulatory Commission of Alaska - Expert technical support of Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy non-attorney professionals who provide accounting, engineering, economic and policy analysis for all types of regulated utilities and preparation of written testimony for hearings.	1,548.1	2,384.1	2,392.2

**Inter-Agency Services (1682)**  
**Department of Law**

**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)

				FY2019 Actuals	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor
<b>Component Totals</b>				<b>84.4</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>84.4</b>
With Department of Administration				63.3	63.3	63.3
With Department of Law				21.1	21.1	21.1
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2019 Actuals	FY2020 Management Plan	FY2021 Governor	
3017	Inter-Agency Information Technology Non-Telecommunications	Admin - Department-wide	RSA Administration, Office of Information Technology computer services.	31.7	31.7	31.7
3018	Inter-Agency Information Technology Telecommunications	Admin - Department-wide	RSA Administration, Office of Information Technology telecommunications services.	2.6	2.6	2.6
3022	Inter-Agency Human Resources	Law - Administrative Services (2164)	RSA Law, Human Resources position.	7.5	7.5	7.5
3023	Inter-Agency Building Leases	Admin - Department-wide	Leased office space managed by General Services.	28.1	28.1	28.1
3026	Inter-Agency Insurance	Admin - Department-wide	RSA Administration, Risk Management.	0.3	0.3	0.3
3027	Inter-Agency Financial	Admin - Department-wide	RSA Administration, Finance Chargeback (IRIS).	0.6	0.6	0.6
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	Law - Administrative Services (2164)	RSA Law, Information services, project and management support.	13.6	13.6	13.6

**Personal Services Expenditure Detail**  
**Department of Law**

**Scenario:** FY2021 Governor (16414)  
**Component:** Regulatory Affairs Public Advocacy (2764)  
**RDU:** Civil Division (35)

PCN	Job Class Title	Time Status	Retire Code	Barg Unit	Location	Salary Sched	Range / Step	Comp Months	Split / Count	Annual Salaries	COLA	Premium Pay	Annual Benefits	Total Costs	UGF Amount		
03-0063	Law Office Assistant I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	11G / J	12.0		44,861	602	0	34,115	79,578	19,895		
03-0108	Attorney VI	FT	A	XE	Anchorage	N00	26O / P	12.0		144,565	0	0	67,594	212,159	0		
03-0411	Attorney V	FT	A	XE	Anchorage	N00	25F	12.0		114,420	0	0	57,772	172,192	86,096		
03-0424	Public Aua I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	22J / K	12.0		99,999	1,342	0	52,950	154,291	0		
08-6028	Public Aua I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	22M	12.0		108,600	1,457	0	55,888	165,945	0		
08-6045	Public Aua II	FT	A	SS	Anchorage	99	24O	12.0		143,592	0	0	67,465	211,057	0		
08-6071	Public Aua I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	99	22N	12.0		109,927	1,475	0	56,341	167,743	0		
08-6073	Public Aua I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	22A / B	12.0		79,238	1,063	0	45,858	126,159	0		
08-6079	Law Office Assistant I	FT	A	GP	Anchorage	200	11K	12.0		48,000	644	0	35,187	83,831	0		
<b>Total</b>													<b>Total Salary Costs:</b>	893,202			
<b>Positions</b>													<b>Total COLA:</b>	6,583			
<b>New</b>													<b>Total Premium Pay:</b>	0			
<b>Deleted</b>													<b>Total Benefits:</b>	473,170			
<b>Full Time Positions:</b>	9	0	0														
<b>Part Time Positions:</b>	0	0	0														
<b>Non Permanent Positions:</b>	0	0	0														
<b>Positions in Component:</b>	9	0	0														
<b>Total Component Months:</b>													108.0				
													<b>Total Pre-Vacancy:</b>	1,372,955			
													<b>Minus Vacancy Adjustment of 2.44%:</b>	(33,555)			
													<b>Total Post-Vacancy:</b>	1,339,400			
													<b>Plus Lump Sum Premium Pay:</b>	0			
													<b>Personal Services Line 100:</b>	1,339,400			

PCN Funding Sources:	Pre-Vacancy	Post-Vacancy	Percent
1004 General Fund Receipts	105,991	103,400	7.72%
1141 RCA Receipts	1,266,965	1,236,000	92.28%
<b>Total PCN Funding:</b>	<b>1,372,955</b>	<b>1,339,400</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Note: If a position is split, an asterisk (\*) will appear in the Split/Count column. If the split position is also counted in the component, two asterisks (\*\*) will appear in this column. [No valid job title] appearing in the Job Class Title indicates that the PCN has an invalid class code or invalid range for the class code effective date of this scenario.

# CIVIL DIVISION

## Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy

