

**Department of Law  
FY23 Mid-Year Status Report**

Item #	Approp / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Comment	LFD Questions	Agency Comments
1	Civil Division / Deputy Attorney General's Office	Additional Outside Counsel and Expertise to Support Statehood Defense (FY23-FY25)	\$2,500.0 Gen Fund (UGF) MultiYr	The Governor requested a total of \$4,000.0 for Law to contract with outside counsel to support efforts related to statehood defense, which is a term the administration uses to describe efforts to assert state rights over federal authority. The legislature provided \$2,000.0 for statehood defense and another \$500.0 for litigation relating to the Tongass National Forest. The funds may be expended between FY23 and FY25. This is in addition to a \$4,000.0 multi-year appropriation (FY21-FY25) that the legislature provided in the FY21 supplemental budget.	Of the total funds (including this additional, multi-year item) appropriated for statehood defense, how much has been expended/obligated at this time? Please provide an update on the cases/causes that this funding is being used to address.	The Department of Law has encumbered and expended \$2.5 million of the multi-year appropriations received for Statehood Defense, however, with the attached list of cases outstanding the Department of Law has obligated the full \$6.5 million through FY2025. The average case from start to finish takes three to five years and to see all of the cases through, the department will fully expend the remaining appropriations. It is likely the end of the appropriations will occur before the cases come to completion.