

LAW DEPARTMENT

Budget Overview



AGENDA



- **Department Background**
 - *Mission & Focus*
 - *Structure*
 - *Our Team*
 - *Budget Summary*
 - *Municipal Law Departments Compared*

- **Examples of Department Matters**
 - *Examples of FY26 Matters*
 - *Federal Response*

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DEPARTMENT BACKGROUND

LAW DEPARTMENT



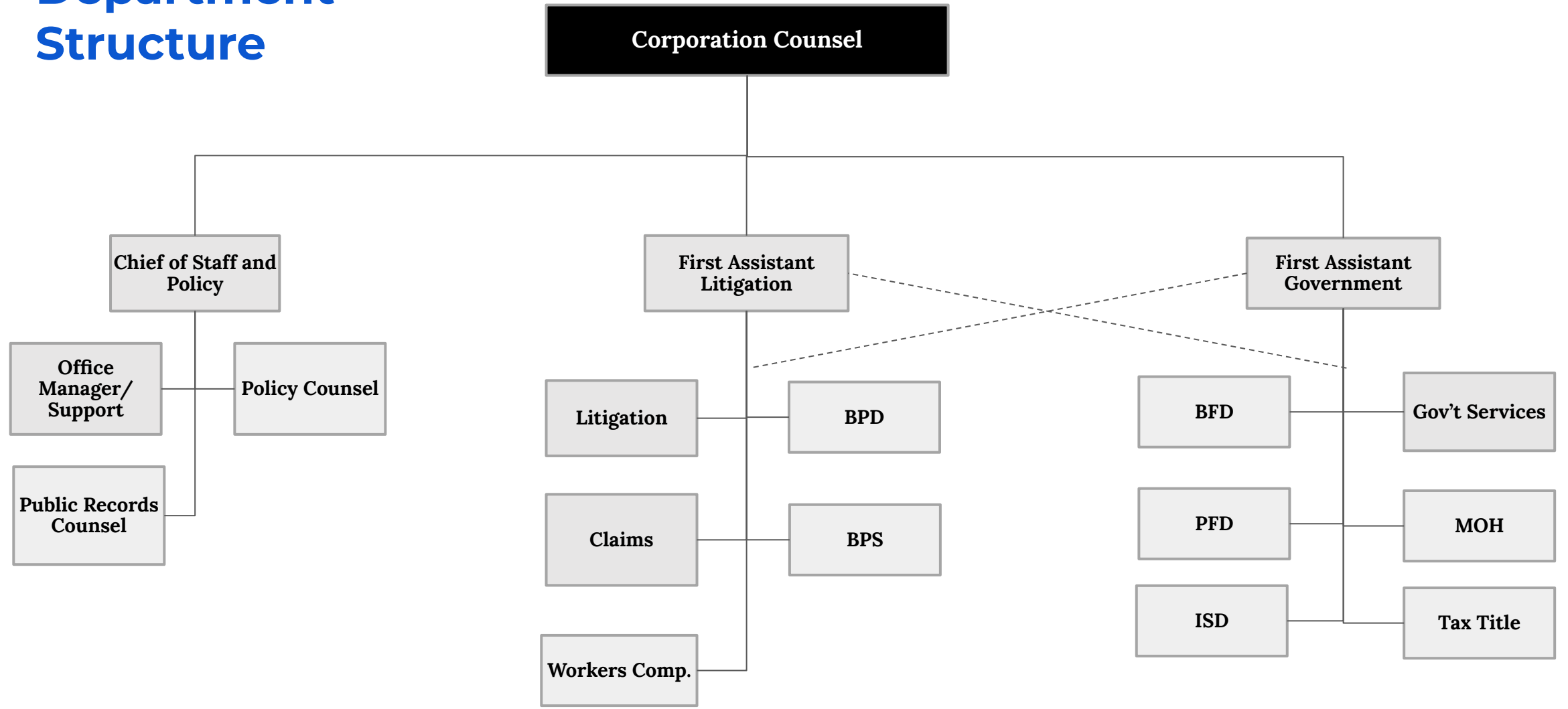


LAW DEPARTMENT

The Law Department serves the people of Boston by advising, defending, and collaborating with City departments in their service of Boston's communities.

- We **advise, draft, and review** MOUs, contracts, RFPs, policy statements, and other documents that advance the work of City departments and employees.
- We **defend** the City, its employees, and Boston's laws and policies.
- We **support delivery of constituent services** through advising, legal research, drafting, contracting, and litigation.

Department Structure



OUR TEAM

Staffing levels for legal divisions, assuming no vacancies



Team	FTE	Team	FTE
Government Services	13	Claims	3
Litigation	12	MOH	3
BPD	8	ISD	3
Central Support	7	Workers Comp	2
BPS	6	BFD	1
PFD	6	Public Records	1
Tax Title	5	Policy	1

BUDGET SUMMARY - FY27 Proposed Budget

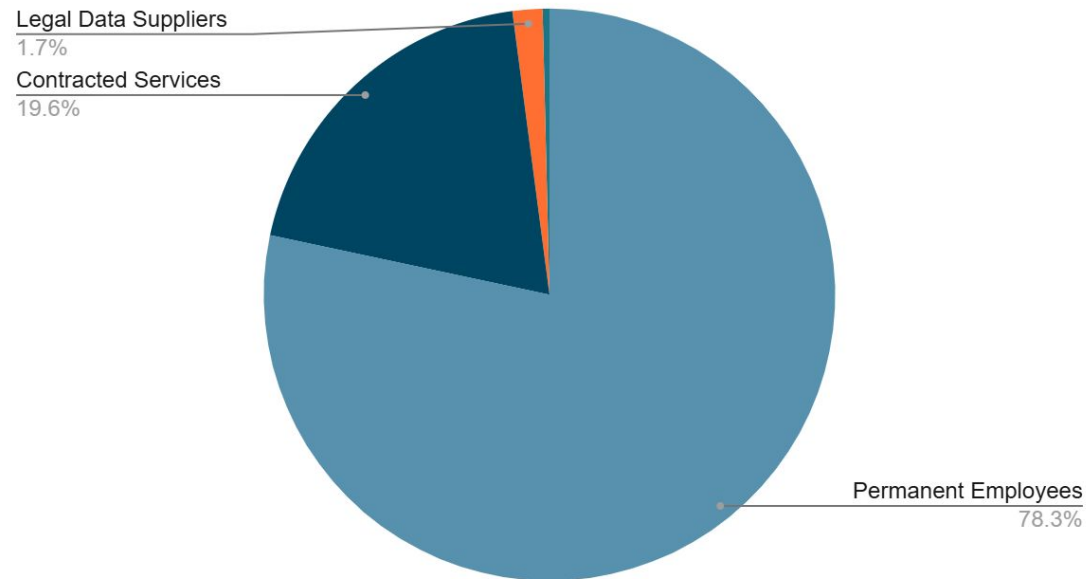


FY26 Appropriated Budget: \$11,072,503

FY27 Recommended Budget: \$10,912,862

Change FY26 to FY27: -\$159,640 (-1.4%)

FY27 Recommended



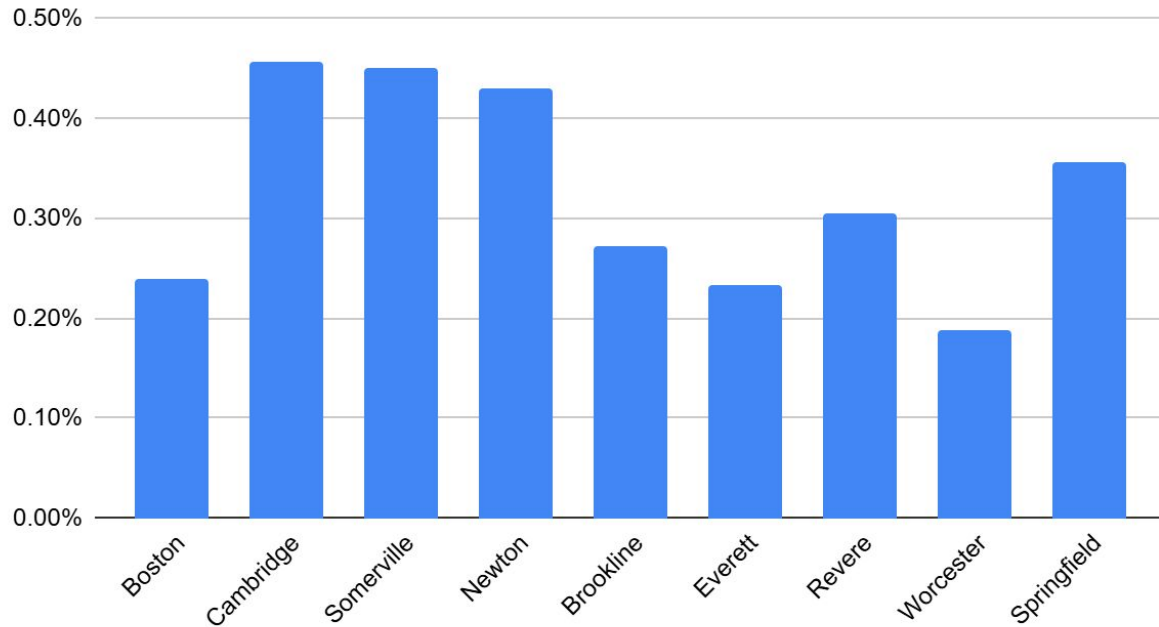
Outside counsel is sometimes contracted when a case or matter:

- Poses a potential for conflicts of interest
- Requires specialized legal expertise
- Requires resources beyond what the Department has in-house

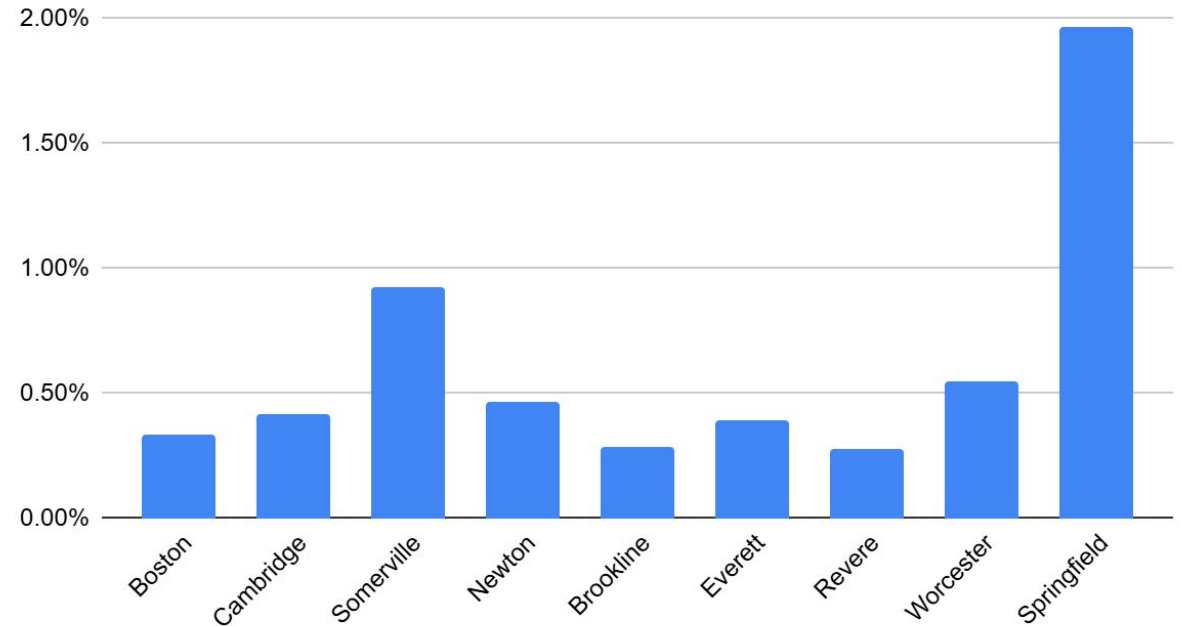
MA MUNICIPAL LAW DEPTS. COMPARED



Law Dept Budget as % of City Budget



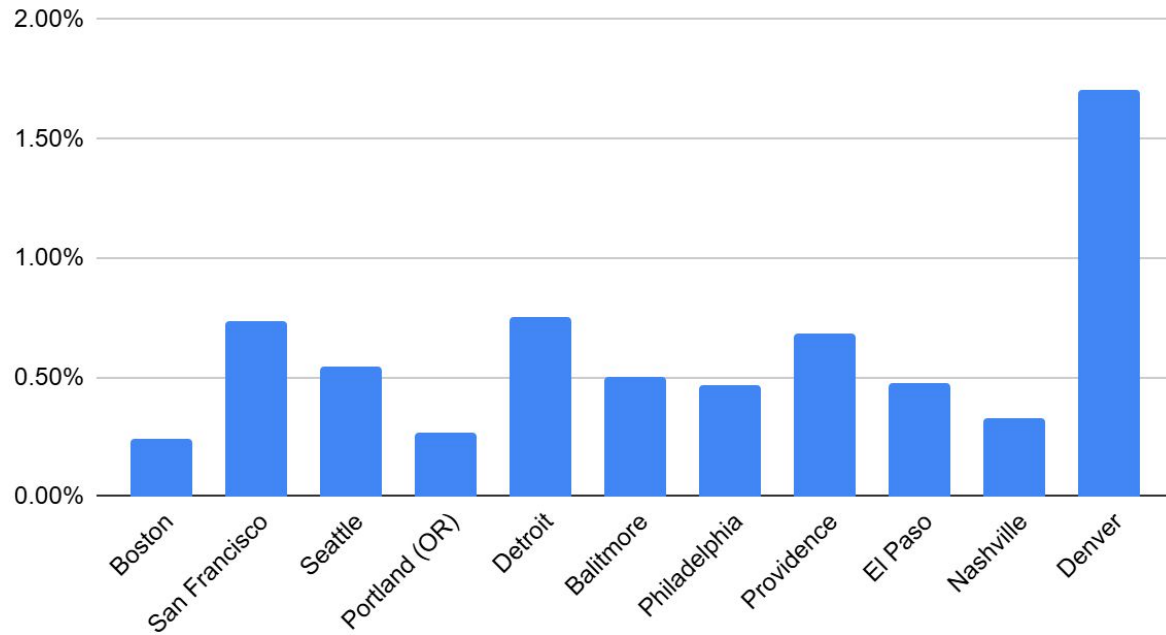
Law Dept Employees as % of City Employees



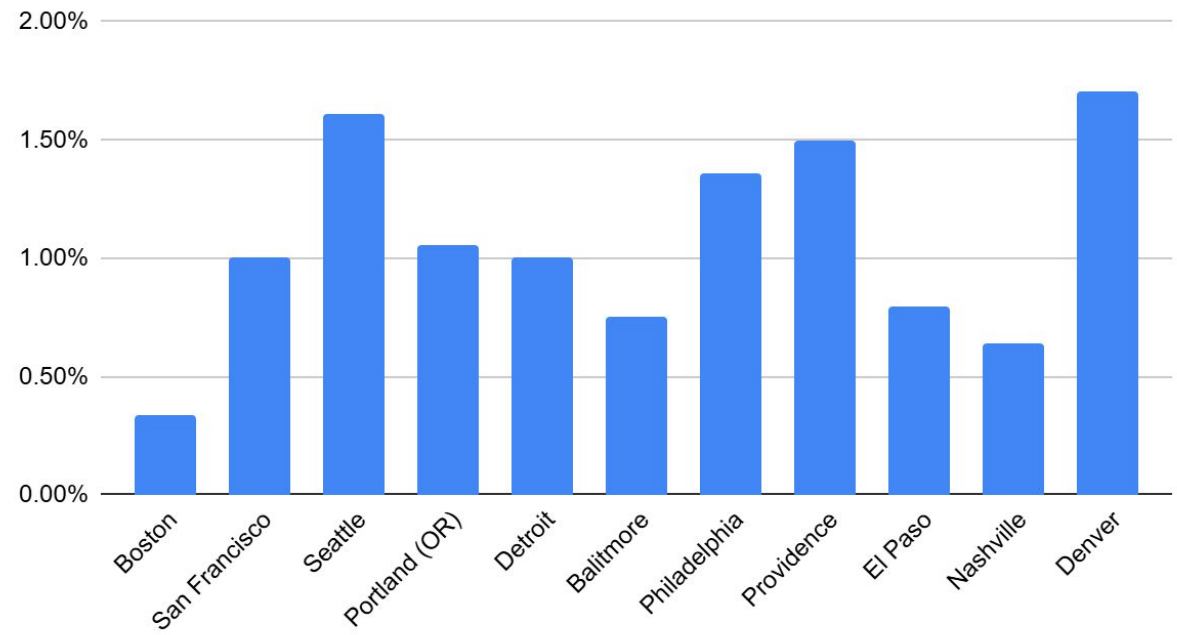
NATIONAL MUNICIPAL LAW DEPTS. COMPARED



Law Dept Budget as % of City Budget



Law Dept Employees as % of City Employees



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FY26 Highlights

LAW DEPARTMENT



FY26 HIGHLIGHTS

The Law Department's work is incredibly varied. For example, in FY26 the Department:

- Advised 78 City departments, reviewing hundreds of ordinances, orders, contracts, grant agreements, MOUs, MOAs, real estate transactions, and other legal matters.
 - Including: Joslin Park/Dana-Farber, 2024 election reforms, launching EnergySaver, building Chinatown Library.
- Successfully defended the City's exam school policy, BPHC/City COVID policy, and several claims for upwards of \$20 million.
- Collected \$7,183,348 in unpaid taxes.
- Recovered \$650,000+ in funds for injured police officers and firefighters.
- Drafted the contract for appointment of new Fire Commissioner.
- Issued guidance to school personnel on how to handle immigration enforcement.
- Assisted in construction matters including Court Street, Irving School, Carter School, BCYF North End Community Center, and the EMS Seaport Station.
- Negotiated lease of City Hall Plaza for FIFA FanFest.

FEDERAL RESPONSE

- **Advised** departments on responses to federal funding cuts, concerns over immigration enforcement, threats to DEI and climate policies, and more.
- **Defended the Boston Trust Act** from the meritless attack by the U.S. Department of Justice.
- **Led and joined amicus briefs** with cities around the country challenging federal cuts to TPS, CHNV parole, birthright citizenship, and NIH funding, among others.
- Managed **sham investigations**, including from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.
- **Successfully sued the Trump Administration** to preserve over \$100 million in City money for housing, port security, and more, by challenging unlawful grant conditions, fighting to preserve public service loan forgiveness for City workers, and defending climate rules.
- Drafted **Mayor's Executive Order** to *Protect Bostonians From Unconstitutional and Violent Federal Operations*.

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THANK YOU

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