



# Office of Civil Justice, HRA

## Fiscal 2021 Preliminary Budget Fact Sheet

**\$177.2  
Million**

FY21  
Preliminary  
Budget

**-\$18.4  
Million**

Since  
FY20  
Adoption

**56**

Positions

**77**

Contracts  
with Legal  
Services  
Providers

**Over  
100,000**

New Yorkers  
used legal  
services in  
FY19

### Overview



OCJ contracts with providers to give low-income New Yorkers access to legal services in three categories

1. Anti-Eviction Services
2. Immigration Defense
3. Anti-Harassment Services



OCJ will fully implement Universal Access to Counsel in New York City by 2022, when every tenant facing eviction will have access to legal services.

Tenants at or below 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines will have full representation in Housing Court.

### Evictions Drop as More New Yorkers Use Services



**40%** decline in evictions since 2013.  
Evictions dropped **15%** in FY19 alone.



**32%** of tenants facing eviction in NYC had legal representation in FY19 compared to just **1%** in FY13.

### New Developments for OCJ



Access to Counsel expanded by **5** new zip codes to **25** total zip codes across the City.



Since July 2019, seniors facing NYCHA administrative proceedings have access to free on-site legal services.



Every eviction petition notice includes information about access to legal services and a telephone hotline.



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### City Council Initiatives

In Fiscal Year 2020 the City Council, added **\$34 million** to OCJ's budget, funded **8** Legal Services Initiatives, and increased contributions **36%** percent since FY19.

Legal Services Initiatives	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020
Immigrant Opportunities Initiative	\$2,576	\$2,576
Legal Services for Low Income New Yorkers	\$5,050	\$5,550
Legal Services for the Working Poor	\$3,205	\$3,205
Legal Services for Veterans <a href="#">Click to add text</a>	\$450	\$600
Low Wage Worker Support	\$500	\$500
New York Immigrant Family Unity Project	\$10,000	\$16,600
Supportive Alternatives to Violent Encounters (SAVE)	\$850	\$850
Unaccompanied Minors Children and Families	\$2,282	\$3,981
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,913</b>	<b>\$33,862</b>

Dollars in Thousands