



**LANSING'S
TIME IS NOW**

Law Department

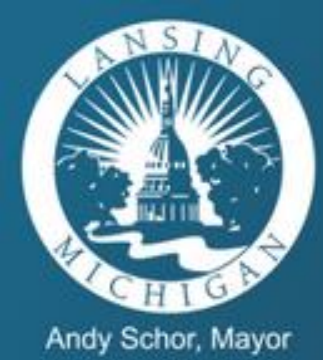
FY'20 Budget Presentation
April 15, 2019



INTRODUCTION

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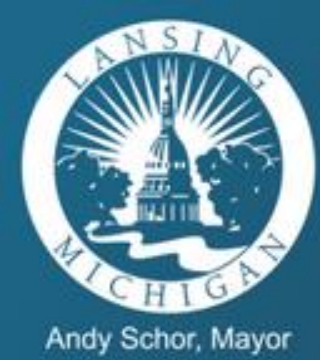
- ❖ Under the Charter, the City Attorney is responsible to both the Mayor and City Council to see that the legal affairs of the City are properly managed.
- ❖ The City Attorney is the prosecutor for the people of the City for all cases under the Charter and ordinances of the City.
- ❖ Advises officers and agencies of the City on matters relating to their official duties.



INTRODUCTION CONT.

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- ❖ The Office (OCA) serves the citizens of the City of Lansing through its representation of the City and its elected officials, offices, boards and commissions in civil and criminal court, and in administrative and quasi-judicial proceedings as either Plaintiff counsel or Defense counsel.
- ❖ The OCA provides legal services, advice and counsel by addressing legal challenges facing the City in a professional, ethical and cost effective manner.



WHO WE ARE

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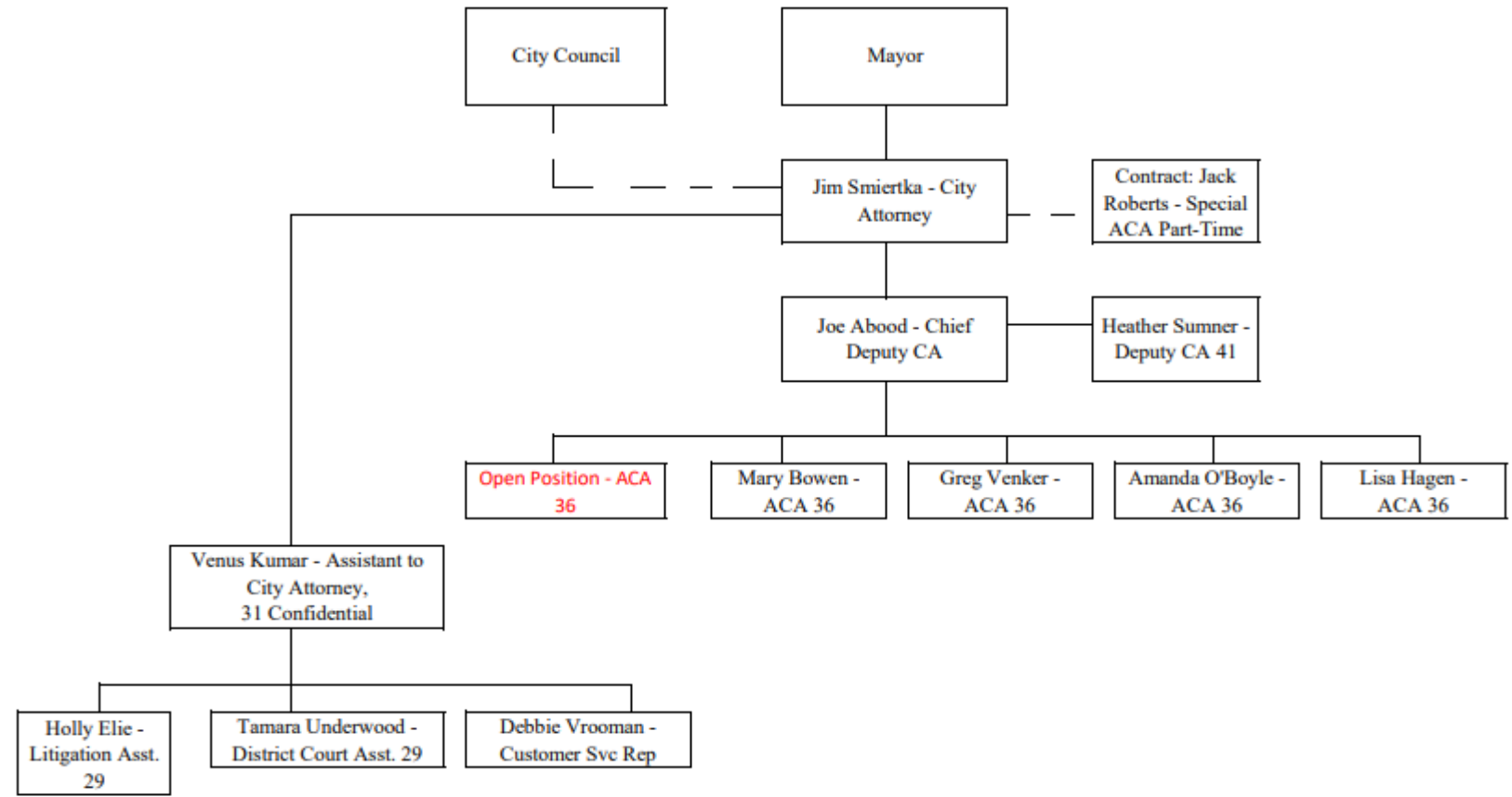
- ❖ The City Attorney has a staff of 6 Attorneys, an Office Manager, a District Court Assistant, a Litigation Assistant and a Customer Service Representative.
- ❖ The Law Department also engages, on average, 4 part-time interns throughout the year.



ORGANIZATION CHART

LANSING'S TIME IS NOW

Office of the City Attorney - Organization Chart
April 9, 2019





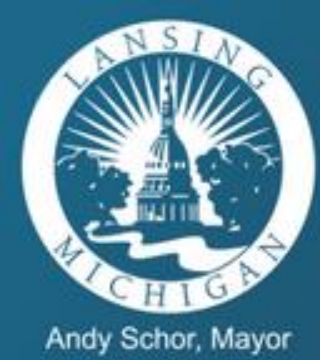
FUNCTIONAL OPERATIONS OF THE LAW DEPARTMENT

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Andy Schor, Mayor

- ❖ The Mayor and Executive Branch of Government
- ❖ The President and Members of City Council
- ❖ City Departments
- ❖ Boards, Commissions and Authorities
- ❖ Civil and Administrative Law Litigation; Federal and State
- ❖ Property Damage, Personal Injury and Special Assessment Claims
- ❖ Contract and Resolution Drafting, Review, and Approval
- ❖ Development Projects and Real Estate Transactions
- ❖ Neighborhood Complaints not handled by other departments
- ❖ FOIA Requests and/or Subpoenas including body cam and motor vehicle recorder video review
- ❖ Lansing Police Department, Criminal Enforcement Advice and Assistance, and LPD Administrative Matters
- ❖ Courts, Cops and Counselors
- ❖ Legal Opinions (Formal and Informal) and Ordinance Drafting
- ❖ Ordinance Prosecution (District Court Cases) and Complaint/Warrant authorization
- ❖ Labor, Employment, and Worker's Compensation Matters
- ❖ Collections & Bankruptcy as well as Tax Appeals
- ❖ Everything Marijuana





FY 2019 STATISTICS TO DATE

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- ❖ 422 Contracts and 220 resolutions passed through OCA, both paper and through Laserfiche
- ❖ 22 open Civil Litigation cases spanning District, Circuit, and Federal Courts
- ❖ 3 of the 22 cases are with the Michigan Court of Appeals
- ❖ 1 open case with the Michigan Tax Tribunal
- ❖ 14 Marihuana open and closed litigation cases
- ❖ Approximately 3,583 ordinance, traffic and income tax cases were prosecuted in 4 courtrooms during the current fiscal year



FY 2019 STATISTICS TO DATE

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- ❖ Processed approximately 47 neighborhood complaints
- ❖ Claims processed through the OCA include:
 - ✓ 131 Special Assessments
 - ✓ 59 Property Damage
 - ✓ 5 Personal Injury
- ❖ Income Tax Court Cases
 - ✓ 2015 = 120
 - ✓ 2016 = 810
 - ✓ 2017 = 1,914
 - ✓ 2018 = 3,000
 - ✓ 2019 = 1,038

I have a
flat tire!!!



❖ As the FOIA Coordinator, the OCA has processed 7,132 FOIA, 32 Subpoena and 1,417 Video requests



Andy Schor, Mayor

NEW INITIATIVES

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FOIA

OCA, LPD and IT are working together to develop software to convert the existing paper FOIA system into an electronic system, making the FOIA process more efficient, faster, and easier to use for citizens and city employees alike.

Code Compliance Tickets

OCA developed and implemented a process to bring enforcement action in District Court to seek court-ordered compliance for zoning, building, and code violations.

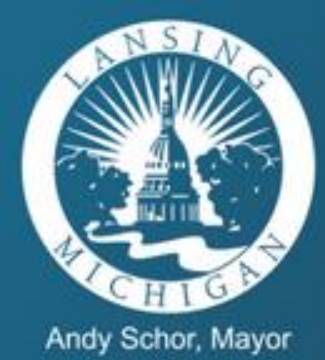
Marijuana

OCA is working closely with all City departments and providing legal guidance throughout the implementation of Chapter 1300. Marijuana matters and related litigation are absorbing a significant amount of staff time.

Other

Streamlining effort with the District Court for Income Tax prosecution.

Coordinating an effort with other departments and the Clerk related to processing and redaction of body cam, motor vehicle recorders, and LPD detention camera videos.



QUESTIONS

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