



DEPARTMENT OF STATE OVERVIEW

DECEMBER 2008

Report No. 08-S08

Agency Responsibilities

The Department of State's mission is to facilitate public access to government and enhance the quality of life for Floridians and their communities by

- helping ensure the integrity of the business community;
- providing oversight to assure fair and accurate elections;
- preserving and promoting Florida's rich historical and cultural heritage, including serving as the official custodian of the State Seal;
- supporting local libraries; and
- gathering and providing public access to state records and information.

Agency Organization

The Department of State accomplishes its mission through five major programs.

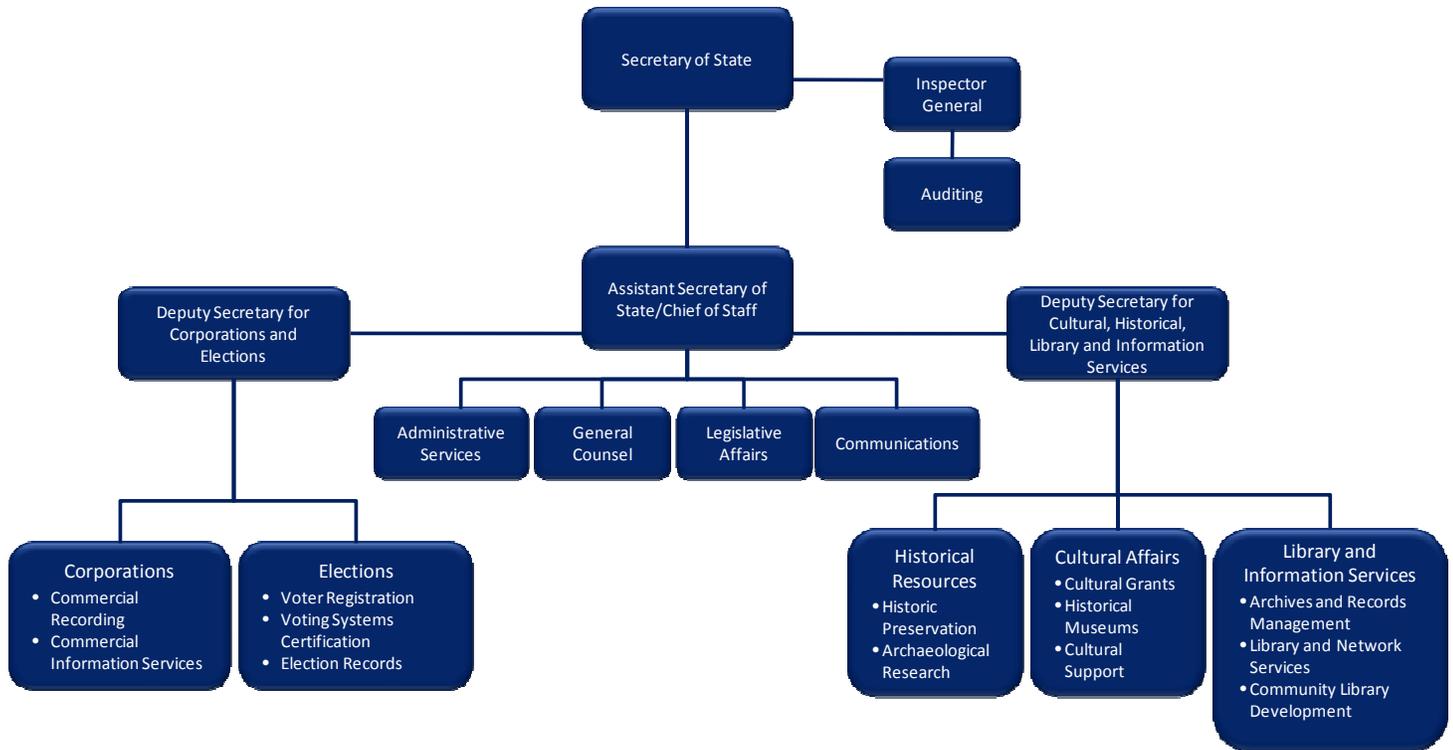
- **Corporations** maintains and makes available to the public information on corporations operating in Florida and financial transactions that take place in the state. This data includes corporate filings of business entities, trade and service marks, judgment liens, and fictitious name registrations.
- **Elections** helps assure uniform compliance with Florida's election laws and promotes public awareness and participation in the electoral process.
- **Cultural Affairs** promotes programs with cultural and artistic significance

that may also have a positive economic impact on the state and encourage cultural tourism. This includes administering cultural grants and the Museum of Florida History.

- **Historical Resources** sustains Florida's unique heritage by promoting programs with historical significance that also encourage public access and heritage tourism. This includes encouraging the preservation of historic buildings; collection, conservation and interpretation of archaeological objects and sites; and preservation of Florida's folklife heritage.
- **Library and Information Services** provides services to improve local libraries throughout the state, including administering grants and providing consultative and training services. It also maintains the state library and archives, which includes providing library services to state government and public access to state records, and provides records management services for state and local government.

For a chart of the department's organization, see Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 1
The Department of State's Organizational Structure



Source: Florida Department of State.

Agency Resources

As shown in Exhibit 2, the Legislature appropriated \$97 million and 462 positions to the department for Fiscal Year 2008-09; this represents a decrease in funding over the prior

fiscal year, when the Legislature appropriated additional funds for county voting equipment.

For more details on the department's resources for Fiscal Year 2008-09, see Exhibit 3.

Exhibit 2

Legislative Appropriations and Staffing for the Department of State

	FY 2006-07	FY 2007-08	FY 2008-09
General Revenue	\$88,565,774	\$93,525,464	\$65,083,548
Trust Funds	27,923,953	68,587,284	\$31,945,999
TOTAL	\$116,489,727	\$162,112,748	\$97,029,547
FTE	488.5	483.5	462
OPS	174	188	204

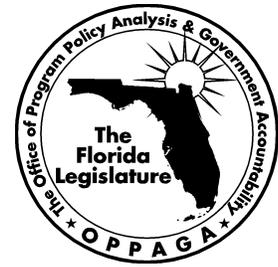
Source: Legislative Appropriations System/Planning and Budgeting Subsystem (LAS/PBS) and Florida Department of State.

Exhibit 3

Department of State Resources by Program for Fiscal Year 2008-09

Program	Federal Funds	State Trust Funds	General Revenue	Total	FTE Positions	OPS Positions
Administration/Executive Direction and Support Services	\$ 91,788	\$ 0	\$ 3,918,365	\$ 4,010,153	49	0
Corporations	0	0	11,588,117	11,588,117	141	37
Elections	10,865,668	0	5,006,661	15,872,329	69	90
Historical Resources	1,478,327	6,749,332	2,964,580	11,192,239	57	48
Cultural Affairs	840,942	1,254,004	8,086,033	10,180,979	44	18
Library and Information Services	8,337,429	2,328,509	33,519,792	44,185,730	102	11
Total	\$21,614,154	\$10,331,845	\$65,083,548	\$97,029,547	462	204

Source: Legislative Appropriations System/Planning and Budgeting Subsystem (LAS/PBS) and Florida Department of State.



The Florida Legislature

Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability

The Florida Government Accountability Act Sunset Reviews

The 2006 Legislature passed the Florida Government Accountability Act (Ch. 2006-146, *Laws of Florida*) to create a Sunset review process. The act

- establishes the process, criteria, and schedule for the Legislature to assess whether state agencies and advisory committees need to continue to exist;
- provides for the creation of a Legislative Sunset Advisory Committee and describes the membership and organization of the committee and committee duties; and
- requires reports and assistance from state agencies and the Legislature's Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA).

Using these reports and other information, the Sunset Advisory Committee is to produce a report that includes recommendations to abolish, continue, or reorganize an agency or advisory committee under review.

Second Year Schedule for Agency Reviews

Agencies to be reviewed by July 1, 2010:

- (a) Department of Children and Family Services
- (b) Department of Community Affairs
- (c) Department of Management Services
- (d) Department of State

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