

**DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**  
**PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY**

**ISSUE NUMBER:** GOS 158

**ISSUE CATEGORY:** Government Operations & Structure

**SOURCE:** Durene L. Brown,

**RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS:** §4-305 ([Office of Ombudsperson] Staff)

City Ombudsperson, Letter dated

December 15, 2010

**RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:**

**RELEVANT LAW(S):**

**ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT:**

Increase the number of Charter allowed staff from six to 10.

**RATIONALE: Budget Stability for the Office of the Ombudsman**

“The number of complaints received since October 2005 has ballooned to more than 150,000. During that time, the budget for the Office of the Ombudsman has fluctuated greatly, once supporting 11 total FTEs, and now, only supporting 7 FTEs. In 2005, the budget was \$818,000. The next year, a slight increase bumped the budget to \$1.2 million, and currently, the Ombudsman is appropriated at \$1.089 million.

“For the Fiscal Year 2010-2011, the budget for the Office of the Ombudsman represents only .037 percent of all City Funds and .083 percent of the General Fund. A budget breakdown is found in the chart below.

	<b>FY 2010-2011</b>		
	<b>CITY FUNDS</b>	<b>OMBUDSMAN</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
<b>ALL FUNDS</b>	\$2,910,303,305	\$1,089,133	0.37
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	\$1,307,091,125	\$1,089,133	0.083

*Source: Budget 2010-2011 Red Book*

Charter Commission intervention is needed to preserve budget stability for this independent agency that requires staffing and resources in order to meet and exceed Charter mandates related to the Office of the Ombudsman.”—*Durene L. Brown, Ombudsperson, Letter, dated December 15, 2010.*

**ANALYSIS:**

**DISPOSITION/COMMISSION ACTION:**

**NOTES:**