

OASP - ELAWS (Employment Laws Assistance for Workers and Small Businesses)

Exhibit 300: Capital Asset Plan and Business Case Summary

Part I: Summary Information and Justification (All Capital Assets)

Section A: Overview (All Capital Assets)

Date of Submission	09/11/2006
Agency	Department of Labor
Bureau	DM - ASP
Name of this Capital Asset	OASP - ELAWS (Employment Laws Assistance for Workers and Small Businesses)
OMB Investment Type	01 - Major Investment
What kind of investment will this be in this Budget Mixed Life Cycle Year?	

Provide a brief summary and justification for this investment, including a brief description of how this closes in part or in whole an identified agency performance gap:

Elaws is the DOL's centralized Web content service for compliance assistance information on labor laws administered by DOL. It is accessible to all Internet users. DOL has developed two major categories of elaws expert systems: regulatory Advisors (provide information about a specific law/regulation; most Advisors imitate the interaction one might have with a DOL employment law expert), and electronic filing tools. Elaws currently supports a total of 33 expert systems, with additional tools in development. Elaws is identified as a major initiative in the DOL E-Government Strategic Plan, and it supports DOL's Agency Strategic Plan by backing each of the Department's four strategic goals: A Prepared Workforce, A Competitive Workforce, Safe and Secure Workplaces, and Strengthened Economic Protections. Further, elaws is central to the Secretary's Compliance Assistance Initiative, with the intent to develop Advisors for each major regulatory program in the Department. This project supports the PMA, specifically the focus on E-Government. It also directly supports the PPI Business Gateway. Before elaws, there was no automated, centralized Departmental compliance assistance tool. This presented a great gap to DOL, the largest regulatory agency in the Federal government. Employees and employers had few options to gain labor law compliance assistance, all of which were labor intensive for both the public and scarce DOL enforcement/investigator staffs. In response, OASP saw a significant need for a one-stop automated labor and employment law compliance tool, and elaws was developed in response to this very specific performance gap.

Based on DOL and the FEA Objectives, elaws leverages technologies to alleviate redundancy. Elaws' primary FEA BRM mapping is to the Public Affairs Line of Business. Elaws has successfully combined the intelligent capabilities with web and database technologies to provide cost effective and time efficient solutions over the Internet and DOL enterprise systems.

Elaws is identified in DOL's Target EA, and complies with the established standards. Elaws has been designated a universal function, and a Target EA and Transition/Sequencing Plan was developed and is updated regularly.

Did the Agency's Executive/Investment Committee Yes
approve this request?

If "yes," what was the date of this approval? 6/29/2006

Did the Project Manager review this Exhibit? Yes

Has the agency developed and/or promoted cost
effective, energy efficient and environmentally
sustainable techniques or practices for this project. No

Will this investment include electronic assets (including computers)?	Yes
Is this investment for new construction or major retrofit of a Federal building or facility? (answer applicable to non-IT assets only)	No
If "yes," is an ESPC or UESC being used to help fund this investment?	
If "yes," will this investment meet sustainable design principles?	
If "yes," is it designed to be 30% more energy efficient than relevant code?	
Does this investment directly support one of the PMA initiatives?	Yes
If "yes," check all of the PMA initiatives that apply:	Expanded E-Government
Is this investment for information technology?	Yes
	Elaws is a G2B and G2C service that illustrates how electronic government can be used to empower businesses and citizens, enabling them to interact efficiently/effectively with the Federal government.
Briefly describe how this asset directly supports the identified initiative(s)?	As a single source of information, elaws is a key, innovative compliance assistance tool directly aligned with the President's E-Gov strategy to make it easier for citizens to obtain service/interact with the Federal Government, improve efficiency/effectiveness, and improve citizen responsiveness.

For information technology investments only:

If the answer to Question, "Is this investment for information technology?" was "Yes," complete this sub-section. If the answer is "No," do not answer this sub-section.

What project management qualifications does the Project Manager have? (per CIO Council's PM Guidance): (1) Project manager has been validated as qualified for this investment

If this project produces information dissemination products for the public, are these products published to the Internet in conformance with OMB Memorandum 05-04 and included in your agency inventory, schedules and priorities? Yes

Are the records produced by this investment appropriately scheduled with the National Archives and Records Administration's approval? Yes

Section B: Summary of Spending (All Capital Assets)

Provide the total estimated life-cycle cost for this investment by completing the following table. All amounts represent budget authority in millions, and are rounded to three decimal places. Federal personnel costs should be included only in the row designated "Government FTE Cost," and should be excluded from the amounts shown for "Planning," "Full Acquisition," and "Operation/Maintenance." The "TOTAL" estimated annual cost of the investment is the sum of costs for "Planning," "Full Acquisition," and "Operation/Maintenance." For Federal buildings and facilities, life-cycle costs should include long

term energy, environmental, decommissioning, and/or restoration costs. The costs associated with the entire life-cycle of the investment should be included in this report.

**Table 1: SUMMARY OF SPENDING FOR PROJECT PHASES
(REPORTED IN MILLIONS)**
(Estimates for BY+1 and beyond are for planning purposes only and do not represent budget decisions)

	PY - 1 and Earlier	PY 2006	CY 2007	BY 2008
Total Budgetary Resources	4.32	0.751	0.7	0.7

Note: For the cross-agency investments, this table should include all funding (both managing partner and partner agencies). Government FTE Costs should not be included as part of the TOTAL represented.

Section C: Acquisition/Contract Strategy (All Capital Assets)

Sensitive Data

*** SENSITIVE DATA: This information was omitted completely ***

Section D: Performance Information (All Capital Assets)

Sensitive Data

*** SENSITIVE DATA: This information was omitted completely ***

Section E: Security and Privacy (IT Capital Assets Only)

Sensitive Data

*** SENSITIVE DATA: This information was omitted completely ***

Section F: Enterprise Architecture (EA) (IT Capital Assets Only)

In order to successfully address this area of the business case and capital asset plan you must ensure the investment is included in the agency's EA and Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC) process, and is mapped to and supports the FEA. You must also ensure the business case demonstrates the relationship between the investment and the business, performance, data, services, application, and technology layers of the agency's EA.

Is this investment included in your agency's target enterprise architecture? Yes

If "no," please explain why this investment is not included in your agency's target enterprise architecture?

Is this investment included in the agency's EA Transition Strategy? Yes

Will the application leverage existing components and/or applications across the Government (i.e., FirstGov, Pay.Gov, etc)?

Yes

If "yes," please describe.

Elaws components are made up of proven technologies that are in use throughout the government, and no customizations are required. The service also provides users with direct links to other Federal agencies. Further, elaws supports interoperability models for e-Gov initiatives at the user, data, and application levels.

SUPPORT FOR PPI BUSINESS GATEWAY

Elaws directly supports the SBA's Presidential Initiative Business Gateway, a G2B effort. DOL is a partner agency with Business Gateway, and the elaws Federal Program Director (also Director of DOL's Office of Compliance Assistance) is a DOL representative on the Business Gateway subcommittee.

Elaws directly supports Business Gateway's mission by:

- Saving American businesses time and money by offering web-based avenues to find, understand, and comply with labor laws and workplace regulations.
- Providing automated tools and electronic filing options to achieve a more efficient government and comply with the PMA, Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA), Small Business Paperwork Relief Act (SBPRA), Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), Clinger-Cohen Act, and Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA).

Business Gateway utilizes elaws as a primary portal and source for Federal employment laws and compliance assistance information. It provides direct and prominent links to elaws Advisors and e-filing tools on the Business Gateway website. In fact, one of the elaws Advisors (FirstStep) is the first link of the Business Gateway government-wide employment law page. Further, the SBA directly refers many small businesses to the elaws service, significantly impacting visits to the website via these referrals.

Looking to the future, elaws directly supports Business Gateway's top priorities to provide compliance assistance in plain, easy-to-understand language (a main goal for elaws since its inception), as well as help businesses comply with laws and regulations by providing online filing tools and direct e-filing capabilities.

Does this investment provide the public with access to a government automated information system?	Yes
If "yes," does customer access require specific software (e.g., a specific web browser version)?	No
If "yes," provide the specific product name(s) and version number(s) of the required software and the date when the public will be able to access this investment by any software (i.e. to ensure equitable and timely access of government information and services).	

Part II: Planning, Acquisition and Performance Information
Part II should be completed only for investments identified as "Planning" or "Full Acquisition" or "Mixed Life-Cycle" investments in response to Part I, Section A above.

Section A: Alternatives Analysis (All Capital Assets)

In selecting the best capital asset, you should identify and consider at least three viable alternatives, in addition to the current baseline, i.e., the status quo. Use OMB Circular A-94 for all investments, and the

Clinger Cohen Act of 1996 for IT investments, to determine the criteria you should use in your Benefit/Cost Analysis.

Did you conduct an alternatives analysis for this project? Yes

Section B: Risk Management (All Capital Assets)

You should have performed a risk assessment during the early planning and initial concept phase of this investment's life-cycle, developed a risk-adjusted life-cycle cost estimate and a plan to eliminate, mitigate or manage risk, and be actively managing risk throughout the investment's life-cycle.

Does the investment have a Risk Management Plan? Yes

What is the date of the risk management plan? 6/15/2006

Section C: Cost and Schedule Performance (All Capital Assets)

Sensitive Data

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