

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
HEARINGS ACTIVITY REPORT (HARP)
September 1st, 2024 – February 28th, 2025

INTRODUCTION

The State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) serves as an independent, neutral forum providing fair and efficient hearings process and the opportunity for alternative dispute resolution proceedings, in accordance with Chapter 2003 of the Texas Government Code. This Hearings Activity Report (HARP) provides detailed information about SOAH's caseload, including SOAH's associated cost of service, during the designated reporting period. HARP is prepared and submitted in accordance with Rider 5 of SOAH's appropriation bill pattern.

Hearings Activity Report: By May 1st and November 1st of each fiscal year, SOAH shall submit to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor a report detailing hearings activity conducted during the prior two fiscal year quarters. The report shall indicate, in a format prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board, for each agency served by method of finance: the projected and actual person hours allocated to the agency's cases and the cost, both direct and indirect, of conducting the hearings. The report shall also indicate, in a format prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board, for each agency served: the projected and actual number of cases received, the number of cases disposed, and the median number of days between the date a case is received by SOAH and the date the case is finally disposed, and any other information requested by the Legislative Budget Board during the reporting period. (H.B. 1, General Appropriations Act, 2024-2025 Biennium, Eighty-eighth Legislature, Regular Session, Article 8.)

THE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

This volume of HARP covers the period September 1st, 2024, through February 28th, 2025.

HARP Part I – Cases summarizes information by agency for actual pending cases, cases received, cases disposed, and median days at SOAH. It also includes Fiscal Year 2025 second half projections.

HARP Part II – Hours and Expenses summarizes hours and costs by referring agency within each method of finance. It also contains the projected hours and costs for each agency for the second half of Fiscal Year 2025. These projections are based on amounts included in the Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) adjusted by the most current information available to SOAH. Please note for simplicity, Groundwater Conservation Districts are listed as agency code 900 and appeals of Appraisal Review Board (ARB) orders are listed as agency code 940.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY FOR THE CURRENT PERIOD

HARP Part I

ALR Cases:

ALR cases received moderately increased from the prior reporting period to 10,800. Cases disposed moderately decreased from the prior reporting period to 10,504 during this reporting period.

General Docket Cases:

General docket cases referred significantly increased from prior reporting period to 2,665 received. Cases disposed moderately increased from prior reporting period to 2,025.

HARP Part II

Hourly Cost:

ALR work was \$137.70 per ALJ billable hour and General Docket was \$146.87. General Revenue (GR) funded cases was at \$142.04 and Interagency Contracts (IAC) was at \$147.10. The overall rate for the current period is \$144.22, a decrease from the prior reporting period of \$158.25. The rate swing by agency in this reporting period ranged from as low as \$135.74 to as high as \$177.78 per hour.

The projected GR rate for the second half of Fiscal Year 2025 is \$175.51. The projected IAC rate for the second half of Fiscal Year 2025 is \$165.00. The projected overall rate for the second half of Fiscal Year 2025 is \$171.20.

Fluctuations in hourly rates are directly attributable to the salary and classification mix of ALJs assigned to cases as well as overall hours worked on cases. SOAH does not assign ALJs to cases by funding source but by subject matter, experience and expertise, and as

dictated by the workload. Because the funding source does not dictate the ALJ that works on a case, in any given period, or for any given agency, rebalancing the caseload impacts the allocation of costs and, thus, the hourly rate.

HARP PART I - CASES: DEFINITION OF TERMS

The table in this section lists each agency, identified by name and agency number, served during the reporting period, and provides a summary of the following measured events for those agencies, as applicable:

NUMBER OF CASES PENDING AT START OF REPORTING PERIOD - Active cases pending at the beginning of the reporting period that were carried forward from the end of the prior reporting period into the next.

NUMBER OF CASES RECEIVED - Only cases initially docketed at SOAH during the reporting period. Therefore, if casework time is shown but no cases were received during the reporting period, this indicates the time worked was on a case initiated in a prior reporting period.

NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED - Includes all matters resolved (*e.g.*, by proposal for decision, final order, settlement, or dismissal) during the reporting period irrespective of when the case was referred to SOAH. If the number of cases disposed exceeds the number of cases received, it indicates that some of the cases disposed during the reporting period were docketed at SOAH in a prior reporting period.

CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF CASES PENDING AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD - The number of active cases pending at the close of the reporting period that will be carried forward into the next reporting period.

MEDIAN DAYS AT SOAH - Approximates the median time from filing to final disposition that cases were pending on the SOAH docket.

HARP PART II - HOURS AND EXPENSES: DEFINITION OF TERMS

The table in this section lists by agency the total hours and costs, as described below, for the reporting period, sorted by method of finance.

HOURS - The total amount of actual case-related time.

DIRECT SALARIES - Actual salary cost of all hours related to the respective agency or docket during the reporting period.

COURT COST - Total direct court costs (interpreters, court reporters, and transcripts) associated with conducting the hearing and performing other work on a particular case.

TRAVEL COST - Total direct travel costs (transportation, lodging, and meals) associated with conducting the hearing and performing other work on a particular case.

TOTAL DIRECT - Sum of Total Salaries, Court Cost, and Travel Cost.

TOTAL INDIRECT - The costs associated with supporting the hearings activity and allocated to each case on a pro rata basis. These costs include personnel and operating costs for the Clerk's Office, Legal Services, Hearings support staff, and Hearings management. Includes all non-case related ALJ costs and all leave time taken.

TOTAL ADMIN - Reflects the total administrative costs allocated to each case on a pro rata basis. These costs include personnel and operating costs for Executive Management, Finance, General Counsel, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Records.

PROJECTED HOURS - Projected hours for the related agency during the specified time frame.

PROJECTED COST - Projected cost attributable to the related agency during the specified time frame.

State Office of Administrative Hearings

Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part I - Cases

Date Range: 09/01/2024 to 02/28/2025

Agency Number	Agency Name	Number of Cases Pending Start of Reporting Period	Number of Cases Received	Number of Cases Disposed	Cumulative Number of Cases Pending at End of Reporting Period	Median Days at SOAH	Projections		
							Projected Cases Received	Projected Cases Disposed	Projected Median Days at SOAH
302	Office of the Texas Attorney General	199	435	471	163	0	444	449	5
304	Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts	122	150	141	131	149	150	143	149
307	Texas Secretary of State	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	15
312	Texas State Securities Board	6	2	2	6	438	2	2	247
323	Teacher Retirement System of Texas	1	0	1	0	237	0	0	118
327	Employees Retirement System of Texas	10	2	8	4	279	5	4	190
329	Texas Real Estate Commission - Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board	11	13	11	13	73	13	14	37
338	Texas State Pension Review Board	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
362	Texas Lottery Commission	31	127	127	31	42	109	109	30
405	Texas Department of Public Safety	4,448	10,752	10,493	4,707	39	10,775	10,764	63
407	Texas Commission on Law Enforcement	223	38	90	171	562	51	148	328
450	Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
452	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation	50	61	51	60	286	56	36	160
453	Texas Workers Compensation Commission	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
454	Texas Department of Insurance	1,614	991	93	2,512	3,241	720	64	1,634
456	Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners	3	1	4	0	96	3	6	108
458	Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission	10	25	20	15	23	16	14	298
459	Texas Board of Architectural Examiners	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
460	Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveying	1	0	1	0	394	0	0	197
473	Public Utility Commission of Texas	115	89	72	132	133	88	73	455
476	Texas Racing Commission	1	0	1	0	180	0	0	90
503	Texas Medical Board	56	20	33	43	189	35	27	122
504	Texas State Board of Dental Examiners	5	30	13	22	103	19	11	69
507	Texas Board of Nursing	213	151	178	186	419	160	163	245
508	Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners	2	1	1	2	160	1	0	80
510	Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council	4	2	3	3	168	4	5	112

State Office of Administrative Hearings Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part I - Cases

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Agency Number	Agency Name	Number of Cases Pending Start of Reporting Period	Number of Cases Received	Number of Cases Disposed	Cumulative Number of Cases Pending at End of Reporting Period	Median Days at SOAH	Projections		
							Projected Cases Received	Projected Cases Disposed	Projected Median Days at SOAH
513	Texas Funeral Service Commission	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	88
514	Texas Optometry Board	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
515	Texas State Board of Pharmacy	7	11	7	11	552	8	6	410
529	Texas Health and Human Services Commission	416	175	201	390	710	174	197	568
530	Department of Family and Protective Services	111	0	76	35	331	32	81	219
533	Executive Council of Physical and Occupational Therapy Examiners	1	0	1	0	308	0	1	276
537	Texas Department of State Health Services	69	34	38	65	180	34	37	157
554	Texas Animal Health Commission	4	17	9	12	77	8	6	146
578	Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners	14	7	13	8	196	8	8	242
582	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	82	54	49	87	335	52	47	321
601	Texas Department of Transportation	6	2	0	8	0	2	1	47
608	Texas Department of Motor Vehicles	84	87	109	62	165	87	84	95
701	Texas Education Agency	166	158	182	142	33	173	188	55
710	Texas A & M University System	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
729	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	0
781	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
802	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
900	Groundwater Conservation District	6	6	3	9	56	6	2	42
940	Appraisal Review Board	32	41	45	28	40	33	36	138
955	Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District	1	0	1	0	477	0	0	238
968	Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District	1	0	1	0	562	0	0	281
Total for 47 Agencies:		8,133	13,489	12,549	9,073	N/A	13,270	12,726	N/A

State Office of Administrative Hearings
Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part II - Hours and Expenses
Date Range: 09/01/2024 to 02/28/2025

Agy #	Agency Name	Hours	Direct Salaries	Court Cost	Travel Cost	Total Direct	Total Indirect	Total Admin	Case Total	Projections	
										03/01/2025 - 8/31/2025	
										Total Hours	Case Total
General Revenue											
307	Secretary of State	33	\$ 1,774	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,774	\$ 2,187	\$ 702	\$ 4,663	19	\$ 3,290.95
312	State Securities Board	6	\$ 323	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 323	\$ 399	\$ 127	\$ 849	7	\$ 1,206.68
323	Teacher Retirement System of Texas	7	\$ 466	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 466	\$ 575	\$ 148	\$ 1,189	14	\$ 2,391.42
327	Employees Retirement System of Texas	272	\$ 16,632	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,632	\$ 20,502	\$ 5,743	\$ 42,877	170	\$ 29,837.95
338	State Pension Review Board	1	\$ 45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 55	\$ 16	\$ 115	0	\$ 65.82
362	Texas Lottery Commission	190	\$ 10,830	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,830	\$ 13,350	\$ 4,007	\$ 28,186	175	\$ 30,781.35
405	Department of Public Safety	1,111	\$ 57,423	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,423	\$ 70,788	\$ 23,453	\$ 151,664	935	\$ 164,108.71
405	Department of Public Safety-ALR	11,554	\$ 600,783	\$ 3,644	\$ -	\$ 604,428	\$ 740,611	\$ 243,952	\$ 1,588,990	11,824	\$ 2,075,317.02
407	Texas Commission on Law Enforcement	1,315	\$ 72,049	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 72,049	\$ 88,817	\$ 27,771	\$ 188,637	2,191	\$ 384,580.43
452	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation	687	\$ 35,832	\$ 1,436	\$ -	\$ 37,269	\$ 44,172	\$ 14,506	\$ 95,947	537	\$ 94,296.69
454	Texas Department of Insurance	814	\$ 46,423	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,423	\$ 57,227	\$ 17,182	\$ 120,833	725	\$ 127,184.25
456	Board of Plumbing Examiners	127	\$ 7,779	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,779	\$ 9,589	\$ 2,671	\$ 20,039	111	\$ 19,438.55
458	Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission	288	\$ 15,012	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,012	\$ 18,506	\$ 6,081	\$ 39,599	188	\$ 32,909.50
473	Public Utility Commission of Texas	1,374	\$ 80,448	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,448	\$ 99,171	\$ 29,017	\$ 208,636	2,110	\$ 370,341.59
476	Texas Racing Commission	48	\$ 2,587	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,587	\$ 3,189	\$ 1,014	\$ 6,789	31	\$ 5,506.86
481	Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ 43.88
503	Texas Medical Board	1,114	\$ 63,485	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63,485	\$ 78,261	\$ 23,522	\$ 165,268	1,038	\$ 182,099.24
504	State Board of Dental Examiners	295	\$ 17,185	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,185	\$ 21,185	\$ 6,224	\$ 44,593	218	\$ 38,262.78
507	Texas Board of Nursing	2,101	\$ 121,010	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 121,010	\$ 149,174	\$ 44,357	\$ 314,541	2,027	\$ 355,751.71
508	Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners	49	\$ 3,440	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,440	\$ 4,241	\$ 1,035	\$ 8,716	30	\$ 5,265.52
510	Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council	49	\$ 2,763	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,763	\$ 3,406	\$ 1,035	\$ 7,203	141	\$ 24,660.19
513	Texas Funeral Service Commission	9	\$ 494	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 494	\$ 608	\$ 195	\$ 1,297	13	\$ 2,215.91
514	Texas Optometry Board	27	\$ 1,657	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,657	\$ 2,043	\$ 570	\$ 4,270	14	\$ 2,413.36
515	Texas State Board of Pharmacy	162	\$ 9,021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,021	\$ 11,120	\$ 3,426	\$ 23,566	151	\$ 26,525.06
533	Executive Council of Physical and Occupational Therapy Examiners	81	\$ 4,405	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,405	\$ 5,430	\$ 1,710	\$ 11,545	50	\$ 8,731.99
551	Department of Agriculture	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	1	\$ 175.52
578	State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners	52	\$ 3,045	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,045	\$ 3,753	\$ 1,087	\$ 7,885	49	\$ 8,666.17
601	Texas Department of Transportation	118	\$ 7,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,629	\$ 2,492	\$ 18,121	86	\$ 15,160.31
781	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	48	\$ 3,038	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,038	\$ 3,745	\$ 1,014	\$ 7,797	28	\$ 4,936.43
802	Parks and Wildlife Department	4	\$ 190	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 190	\$ 235	\$ 74	\$ 499	4	\$ 658.19
General Revenue Total		21,934	\$ 1,185,136	\$ 5,080	\$ -	\$ 1,190,217	\$ 1,460,967	\$ 463,130	\$ 3,114,314	22,886	\$ 4,016,824
Interagency Contracts											
302	Attorney General	487	\$ 25,727	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,727	\$ 31,715	\$ 10,283	\$ 67,726	473	\$ 78,106.88
304	Comptroller of Public Accounts	2,101	\$ 134,047	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 134,047	\$ 165,246	\$ 44,357	\$ 343,650	2,166	\$ 357,410.63
305	General Land Office	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2	\$ 371.25
329	Texas Real Estate Commission	119	\$ 6,776	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,776	\$ 8,353	\$ 2,518	\$ 17,646	173	\$ 28,524.38
450	Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2	\$ 288.75
451	Texas Department of Banking	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	27	\$ 4,393.13
454	Texas Department of Insurance - Workers Compensation	129	\$ 7,832	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,832	\$ 9,655	\$ 2,719	\$ 20,206	159	\$ 26,214.38
459	Texas Board of Architectural Examiners	1	\$ 67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67	\$ 82	\$ 26	\$ 175	1	\$ 103.13
460	Texas Board of Professional Engineers	67	\$ 3,645	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,645	\$ 4,494	\$ 1,404	\$ 9,543	43	\$ 7,033.13
466	Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	1	\$ 123.75
469	Credit Union Department	10	\$ 609	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 609	\$ 750	\$ 216	\$ 1,575	88	\$ 14,520.00
473	Public Utility Commission of Texas	2,263	\$ 127,241	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 127,241	\$ 156,855	\$ 47,783	\$ 331,879	1,835	\$ 302,836.88
529	Health and Human Services Commission	2,394	\$ 122,852	\$ 270	\$ -	\$ 123,122	\$ 151,444	\$ 50,549	\$ 325,115	2,698	\$ 445,231.88
530	Department of Family and Protective Services	1,670	\$ 86,438	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 86,838	\$ 106,556	\$ 35,267	\$ 228,662	1,507	\$ 248,655.00
537	Department of State Health Services	404	\$ 23,629	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,629	\$ 29,129	\$ 8,530	\$ 61,288	302	\$ 49,747.50

**State Office of Administrative Hearings
Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part II - Hours and Expenses
Date Range: 09/01/2024 to 02/28/2025**

Agy #	Agency Name	Hours	Direct Salaries	Court Cost	Travel Cost	Total Direct	Total Indirect	Total Admin	Case Total	Projections 03/01/2025 - 8/31/2025	
										Total Hours	Case Total
554	Texas Animal Health Commission	62	\$ 3,481	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,481	\$ 4,291	\$ 1,314	\$ 9,087	68	\$ 11,240.63
582	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	1,942	\$ 112,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112,505	\$ 138,690	\$ 41,011	\$ 292,206	1,941	\$ 320,326.88
608	Texas Department of Motor Vehicles	364	\$ 20,240	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 21,240	\$ 24,951	\$ 7,675	\$ 53,867	335	\$ 55,336.88
696	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ 41.25
701	Texas Education Agency	597	\$ 33,056	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,056	\$ 40,750	\$ 12,600	\$ 86,407	634	\$ 104,630.63
701	Texas Education Agency - IDEA	3,251	\$ 182,593	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 182,593	\$ 225,091	\$ 68,645	\$ 476,329	3,465	\$ 571,663.13
710	Texas A&M University System	3	\$ 203	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 203	\$ 250	\$ 69	\$ 521	2	\$ 330.00
729	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	3	\$ 159	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 159	\$ 196	\$ 53	\$ 408	1	\$ 206.25
900	Groundwater Conservation Districts	538	\$ 32,878	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,878	\$ 40,530	\$ 11,349	\$ 84,757	576	\$ 94,957.50
940	Appraisal Review Boards	224	\$ 14,068	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,068	\$ 17,342	\$ 4,735	\$ 36,144	112	\$ 18,500.63
Interagency Contracts Total		16,629	\$ 938,047	\$ 1,670	\$ -	\$ 939,717	\$ 1,156,370	\$ 351,104	\$ 2,447,192	15,923	\$ 2,627,336
Agency Total		38,563	\$ 2,123,183	\$ 6,750	\$ -	\$ 2,129,934	\$ 2,617,337	\$ 814,234	\$ 5,561,506	38,809	\$ 6,644,160