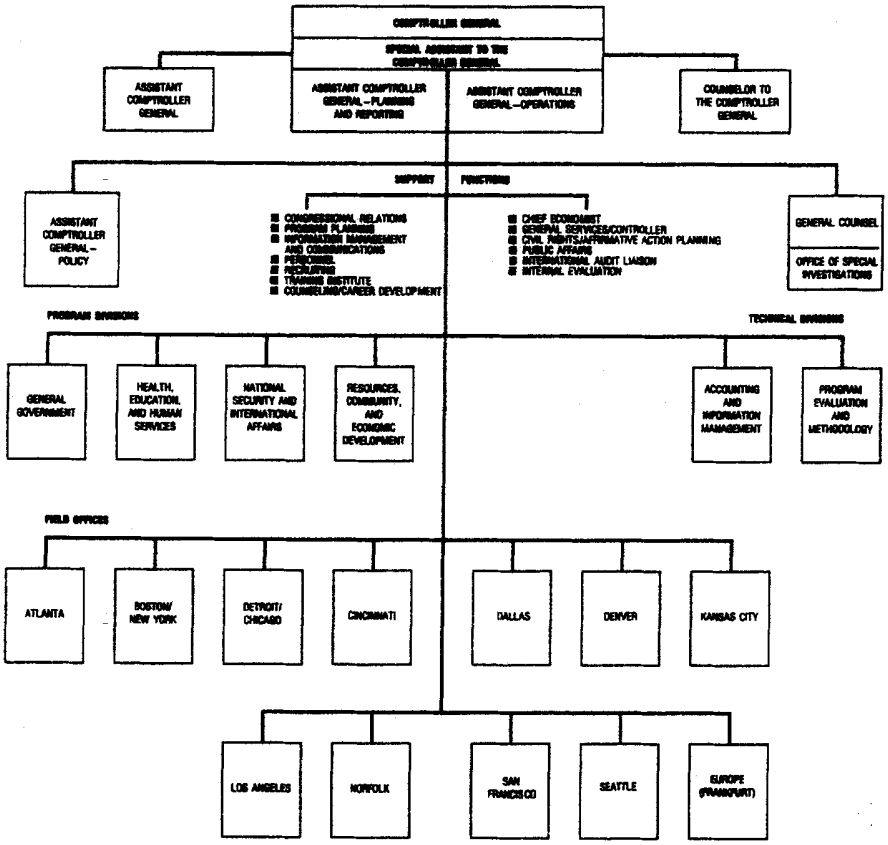
AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

441 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20548
Phone, 202–512–3000

Comptroller General of the United States	CHARLES A. BOWSHER
Deputy Comptroller General of the United States	(VACANCY)
Special Assistant to the Comptroller General	JAMES F. HINCHMAN
Assistant Comptroller General for Planning and Reporting	J. DEXTER PEACH
Assistant Comptroller General for Operations	JAMES L. HOWARD
Assistant Comptroller General for Policy	BRIAN P. CROWLEY
Assistant Comptroller General for Quality Management	RICHARD L. FOGEL
Assistant Comptroller General, General Government Division	JOHNNY C. FINCH
Assistant Comptroller General, Health, Education, and Human Services Division	JANET L. SHIKLES
Assistant Comptroller General, Office of Information Management and Communications	F. KEVIN BOLAND
Assistant Comptroller General, National Security and International Affairs Division	HENRY L. HINTON, JR.
Assistant Comptroller General, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division	KEITH O. FULTZ
Assistant Comptroller General, Accounting and Information Management Division	GENE L. DODARO
Assistant Comptroller General, Program Evaluation and Methodology Division	TERRY E. HEDRICK
General Counsel	ROBERT P. MURPHY
Support Functions:	
Director, Office of the Chief Economist	JAMES R. WHITE
Director, Civil Rights Office/Office of Affirmative Action Plans	NILDA I. APONTE
Director, Office of Congressional Relations	M. THOMAS HAGENSTAD
Director, Office of Counseling and Career Development	HOWARD N. JOHNSON
Director, General Services and Controller	JOSEPH L. DWYER, JR.
Director, Office of Internal Evaluation	FRANCES GARCIA
Director, Office of International Audit Organization Liaison	PETER V. ALIFERIS
Director, Personnel	PATRICIA M. RODGERS
Director, Office of Program Planning	PAUL L. JONES
Director, Office of Public Affairs	CLEVE E. CORLETT
Director, Office of Recruitment	FRANCES GARCIA
Director, Office of Special Investigations	RICHARD STIENER
Director, Training Institute	ANNE K. KLEIN
Chair, Personnel Appeals Board	NANCY A. MCBRIDE

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE



The General Accounting Office is the investigative arm of the Congress and is charged with examining all matters relating to the receipt and disbursement of public funds.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) was established by the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921 (31 U.S.C. 702), to independently audit Government agencies. Over the years, the Congress has expanded GAO's audit authority, added new responsibilities and duties, and strengthened GAO's ability to perform independently.

The Office is under the control and direction of the Comptroller General of the United States, who is appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate for a term of 15 years.

Activities

Audits and Evaluations Supporting the Congress is GAO's fundamental responsibility. In meeting this objective, GAO performs a variety of services, the most prominent of which are audits and evaluations of Government programs and activities. The majority of these reviews are made in response to specific congressional requests. The Office is required to perform work requested by committee chairpersons and, as a matter of policy, assigns equal status to requests from Ranking Minority Members. GAO also responds to individual Member requests, as possible. Other assignments are initiated pursuant to standing commitments to congressional committees, and some reviews are specifically required by law. Finally, some assignments are independently undertaken in accordance with GAO's basic legislative responsibilities.

The ability to review practically any Government function requires a multidisciplined staff able to conduct assignments wherever needed. GAO's staff has expertise in a variety of disciplines—accounting, law, public and business administration, economics, the social and physical sciences, and others.

The Office is organized so that staff members concentrate on specific subject areas, enabling them to develop a detailed level of knowledge. When an assignment requires specialized experience not available within GAO, outside experts assist the permanent staff. GAO's staff goes wherever necessary on assignments, working onsite to gather data, test transactions, and observe firsthand how Government programs and activities are carried out.

Accounting and Information Management Policy The Office ensures that the Congress has available for its use current, accurate, and complete financial management data. To do this, GAO:

—prescribes accounting principles and standards for the executive branch;

—advises other Federal agencies on fiscal and related policies and procedures; and

—prescribes standards for auditing and evaluating Government programs.

In addition, the Comptroller General, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget develop standardized information and data processing systems. This includes standard terminology, definitions, classifications, and codes for fiscal, budgetary, and program-related data and information.

Legal Services The Office provides various legal services to the Congress. In response to inquiries from committees and Members, the Comptroller General provides advice on legal issues involving Government programs and activities. GAO is also available to assist in drafting legislation and reviewing legislative proposals before the Congress. In addition, GAO reviews and reports to the Congress on proposed rescissions and deferrals of Government funds.

Other legal services include resolving bid protests that challenge Government contract awards, assisting Government agencies in interpreting the laws governing the expenditure of public funds, and adjudicating claims for and against the Government.

In addition, GAO's staff of trained investigators conducts special

investigations and assists auditors and evaluators when they encounter possible criminal and civil misconduct. When warranted, GAO refers the results of its investigations to the Department of Justice and other law enforcement authorities.

Reporting Authorities The Office offers a range of products to communicate the results of its work. The type of product depends on the assignment's objectives and the needs of the intended user. Product types include testimony, oral briefings, and written reports. Virtually all of GAO's reports are available to the public.

A list of GAO reports issued or released during the previous month is furnished monthly to the Congress, its Members, and committees. Copies of GAO reports are also furnished to interested congressional parties; Federal, State, local, and foreign governments; members of the press; college faculty, students, and libraries; and nonprofit organizations.

Copies of unclassified reports are available from the U.S. General Accounting Office, P.O. Box 6015, Gaithersburg, MD 20884–6015. Phone, 202–512–6000. The first copy of each report is free; additional copies are $2 each. There is a 25-percent discount on orders of 100 or more copies mailed to a single address. Orders must be prepaid by cash, check, or money order addressed to the Superintendent of Documents.

For further information, contact the Office of Public Affairs, General Accounting Office, 441 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20548. Phone, 202–512–4800.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

North Capitol and H Streets NW., Washington, DC 20401
Phone, 202–512–0000

Public Printer	MICHAEL F. DIMARIO
Deputy Public Printer	JAMES N. JOYNER
Director, Equal Employment Opportunity	CLAUDETTE BOULDIN
Director, Labor and Employee Relations	NEAL FINE
Director, Materials Management	THOMAS L. HUGHES
Manager, Printing Procurement Department	MEREDITH L. ARNESON
Manager, Quality Control and Technical Department	GEORGE J. COLLINS
Administrative Law Judge	STUART M. FOSS
General Counsel	ANTHONY J. ZAGAMI
Inspector General	LEWIS L. SMALL
Director, Office of Budget	WILLIAM M. GUY
Director, Office of Congressional, Legislative, and Public Affairs	FRANCIS W. BIDEN
Director, Policy Coordination Staff	VINCENT F. ARENDES
Director, Office of Administration	(VACANCY)
Comptroller	ROBERT B. HOLSTEIN
Director, Engineering Service	JOSEPH A. PALANK
Director, Information Resources Management	PATRICIA R. GARDNER
Director, Occupational Health and Environmental Services	WILLIAM T. HARRIS
Director, Office of Administrative Support	RAYMOND J. GARVEY