

| Ombudsperson Structures/Duties |  |                    |   |
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| State                          | Structure  | Reporting          | Duties  |
| <b>Alaska</b>                  | Appointed by the Ombudsman Selection Committee, composed of 3 members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate and 3 members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house, one member of the minority party caucus in each house shall be appointed by the speaker of the house; subject to approval by 2/3 vote of Legislature in joint session and by the Governor. Governor can veto, but Legislature can override with same 2/3 vote. Serves for a 5 year term and may be reappointed for a maximum of 3 terms. Removal for neglect of duty, misconduct, or disability is accomplished by a 2/3 vote of the members of in each house.   | State legislature. | Accepts and investigates citizen complaints about state agencies and personnel to determine whether an agency act was unlawful, unreasonable, unfair, arbitrary, erroneous, or inefficient, and may seek appropriate remedy. May interview state employees, examine confidential state documents, inspect agency premises, hold private hearings, and issue subpoenas. May initiate investigations on own motion. Also a resource to the legislature and may issue investigative reports and submit recommendations for changes to state laws governing agencies and programs to the legislature. |
| <b>Arizona</b>                 | The Ombudsman-Citizens Aide is appointed by a selection committee comprised of 2 senate members appointed by the senate president, 2 members of the house from each political party appointed by the speaker of the house, 1 public member appointed by senate president representing a large business regulated by the state, 1 member appointed by the speaker of the house representing a small business that is regulated by the state, 3 members appointed by the governor that represent a consumer group not regulated by the state, state employees holding managerial positions, state employees not holding managerial positions. Nomination is by 2/3 vote of committee. Both houses must appoint with a 2/3 vote approval of bill. Bill can be vetoed by Mayor, but overruled by 3/4 vote of both houses. Serves for a 5 year term, not to exceed 3 terms. Can be removed by 2/3 vote of each house for cause. | State legislature. | Receives public complaints, investigates the administrative acts of state agencies, recommends fair and appropriate remedies. Functions as a neutral dispute resolver. Must receive an appropriate complaint to conduct an independent investigation. Makes recommendations to state administrators contained in formal reports to the legislature, governor and public. Submits annual reports on public access laws and office activities to the legislature, governor, and the public. Submits semi-annual reports to the legislature. May issue subpoenas.                                    |

| State         | Structure   | Reporting          | Duties   |
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| <b>Hawaii</b> | Appointed by a majority vote of each house in joint session. Serves for a period of six years, limited to 3 terms. The legislature can remove for cause by a 2/3 vote in joint session.   | State legislature. | May investigate any complaint it determines to be appropriate - limited to administrative acts of agencies that are contrary to law, are unreasonable/unfair, based on mistake of fact, based on improper/irrelevant grounds, unaccompanied by adequate statement of reasons, performed inefficiently, or are erroneous. May issue subpoenas and initiate investigations. Submits recommendations to the governor, legislature, and the public. An annual report is submitted to the legislature and public on annual office activities. |
| <b>Iowa</b>   | Citizen's Aide/Ombudsman is appointed by the legislative council with a constitutional majority vote of the senate and house of representatives to a 4 year term. May be removed by a majority of vote of the 2 houses of the general assembly. | State legislature. | Takes citizen complaints and facilitates communication between the citizens and government. Makes recommendations to improve administrative practices and procedures and investigates complaints about Iowa state and local government. Can initiate independent investigations. Publishes findings and recommendations following an investigation. May issue subpoenas. Issues annual reports to the general assembly and governor.   |

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| City                           | Structure   | Reporting   | Duties  |
| <b>New York</b>                | Elected Citywide Official   | Independent - Presides at Council meetings and is an ex officio member of all Council committees. | On the request of a resident, taxpayer, community board, council member or borough president, or on his or her own motion, the Public Advocate may inquire into any alleged failure of a city officer or agency to comply with any provision of the Charter. The Public Advocate answers complaints about people's problems with City government, investigates ineffective agencies and programs, proposes solutions that make government more efficient, and helps communities gain better access to government. The office does not have the power of subpoena and powers are granted through the Charter §24. The Public Advocate is responsible for reporting the failure of any City agency or official to comply with the Charter. Has the right to introduce and co-sponsor legislation. |
| <b>Portland</b>                | Under the Office of the elected City Auditor and independent from the Mayor and Council (selected and removed by the Auditor).  | Elected Auditor and City Council.   | Conducts independent, impartial investigations of administrative acts of city agencies and recommend appropriate changes. The office assists the public with complaints and concerns about City agencies to safeguard the rights of the people. The office may also initiate investigations into administrative acts on its own initiative, but does not have the power of subpoena and does not have jurisdiction over elected officials. Also functions as an alternative dispute resolution system. The Ombudsman may from time to time and shall annually report his or her activities to the Auditor and City Council, or any of its committees, to the public and, in the Ombudsman's discretion, to agencies.  |
| <b>Anchorage</b>               | Appointed by a majority voted of the Council after nomination by a selection committee made up of Council members. Term of office is 2 years. Can be removed by a majority vote of Council. | City Council.   | May investigate a complaint that resulted from the action or lack of action by an employee, agency, or a contractor of the Municipality or School District. Is granted the power of subpoena. May initiate independent investigations. The Ombudsman may not investigate acts of the Council, Mayor or the School Board. Does not have power to enforce compliance with recommendations. The Ombudsman shall submit a report of the office's activities at least once a year to the Council.  |

# Attachment 1

| City           | Structure  | Reporting          | Duties   |
|----------------|--|--------------------|--|
| <b>Boise</b>   | Appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. Removal is accomplished by a resolution passed by a majority of the full Council upon recommendation of the Mayor or by a vote of no less than 5 out of the 6 members of the full Council | Council and Mayor. | Investigates citizen complaints with regard to all law enforcement and police activities or personnel operating under the authority of the City of Boise. Reviews internal investigations made by the City Police or other Departments and takes appeals on such investigations. Conducts alternative dispute resolution to resolve citizen complaints. Does not have direct power of subpoena, but could request City Council to subpoena on behalf of the Ombuds. The Municipal Code states that employees must comply with the office under pain of dismissal. Can conduct independent administrative investigations only in the instance of a critical incident where a City employee of the Police or Air Peace Officers division is involved as a principal, victim, witness or custodial officer, where death or bodily injury results. Must file semi-annual public reports with the City Clerk for transmittal to the Mayor and City Council which statistically analyzes the number of complaints by category, their disposition, actions taken, trends and patterns, and recommendations. |
| <b>Detroit</b> | Appointed by 2/3 majority of City Council for a non-renewable term of 10 years. Can be removed for cause by 2/3 of the Council.  | Council.           | May investigate any official act of any agency except elective officers which aggrieves any person. (Responds primarily to citizen complaints against city government departments and agencies.) The office has the power of subpoena, but may not initiate an investigation on its own motion. May make periodic, public reports to the City Council of action taken.   |

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| County                         | Structure   | Reporting  | Duties   |
| <b>Los Angeles</b>             | Appointed by the Board of Supervisors and Sheriff (appointive county officer).  | Legislative Branch (Board of Supervisors) and Sheriff. | Takes citizen complaints involving the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department or Office of Public Safety when dissatisfaction is raised out of the results of a subsequent investigation. May inquire if complaints are being investigated in a timely fashion and communicates progress of investigation to complainant. Not empowered to initiate or conduct investigations or interview witnesses. Complaints of dissatisfaction are referred to a panel of judges authorized by the Board to review the records.                    |
| <b>King, OR</b>                | The Director of the Office of Citizen Complaints/Ombudsman is appointed by a majority of the members of the county council for a five year term, unless removed by a 2/3 vote of the council for cause. | Legislative branch.                                    | Manages citizen complaints concerning King County government agencies and investigates allegations regarding the Employee Code of Ethics, and reports of improper government action and retaliation filed under the Whistleblower Protection Act. Complaints are investigated and reports are published with recommendations for changes as a result of investigation findings. Can initiate own investigations and issue subpoenas. Tri-annual reports are given to the county council to update the council of the office's functions. |
| <b>Dayton, OH</b>              | Appointed by the Legislature and retained through a contractual agreement. Removed by 2/3 vote of the Board of Trustees.  | Legislative branch (Board of Trustees).                | Receives and investigates citizen complaints against administrative acts of government, except elected officials. The office has two divisions: one to investigate citizen complaints, the other to work with vulnerable residents in nursing homes and citizens receiving in-home care. The office does not initiate its own investigations. Prepares an annual report to the Board regarding annual activities.  |