

## 2013 Program Report Card: Ethics Education (Connecticut Office of State Ethics)

*Quality of Life Result:* Connecticut residents will have ethical government at the state level.

*Contribution to the Result:* Educate public officials, state employees, lobbyists and other groups about the Code of Ethics to increase awareness of the ethics laws and increase compliance with those laws.

Program Expenditures	State Funding	Federal Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
Actual FY 12	\$85,000	0	0	\$85,000
Estimated FY 13	\$85,000	0	0	\$85,000

*Partners:* State agency ethics liaisons/compliance officers, Office of Legislative Management, Connecticut Humanities Council, media contacts.

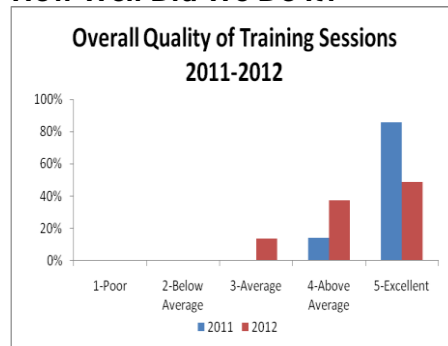
### How Much Did We Do?



**Story behind the baseline:** In-person trainings are dependent upon staff. In 2012, the OSE began to see recovery in the area of training from the understaffing and vacancy in the education manager position along with limited resources as a result of the 2011 consolidation. Increasing the number of in-person trainings was the final step in a year long process to update educational materials for state employees and public officials, and creating new Guides to the Code of Ethics for Client and Communicator Lobbyists to streamline and make more efficient the financial reporting that lobbyists must complete annually, quarterly and monthly.

**Trend:** ▲

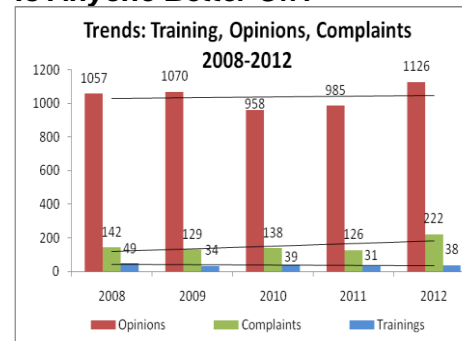
### How Well Did We Do It?



**Story behind the baseline:** In 2012, the OSE returned to using paper evaluations at the end of trainings after experiencing limited success in seeking online evaluations from attendees for the previous two years. As a result, the number of evaluations increased significantly (in 2012, n=579, a 54% response rate; in 2011, n<20, a 2% response rate). The larger, more robust data set resulted in lower overall ratings from the previous year, as expected from a larger sample. All but 14% of respondents rated the trainings above average or excellent in 2012. An analysis of the data from 2012 is providing guidance for improving trainings in 2013.

**Trend:** ◀▶

### Is Anyone Better Off?



**Story behind the baseline:** Research indicates that knowledge of ethics rules results in more requests for advice and more complaints filed. Requests for advice and complaints are proxies for more compliance and more ethical government. After several years of fewer in-person trainings which resulted in fewer complaints and fewer requests for advice, the trend is moving upward slightly. As indicated in the OSE 2013 Report Card: Legal Compliance, Advice, the number of requests increased by 14% over the previous year. Thus, compliance with the Code of Ethics and the level of ethical government are now at higher levels.

**Trend:** ▲

### Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:

The OSE will continue to foster strong relationships with ethics liaisons. In addition to monthly emails, the OSE will initiate a systematic outreach program to offer in-person training to each state agency. Previously, training was provided at the request of the agency, which has resulted in some agencies having regularly scheduled training while others have not had training for a decade or more. This will allow the OSE to meet its mandate to provide yearly training to all state employees, pursuant to 1-81(a)(5). (Note: The OSE also provides online training, streaming videos and DVDs to agency ethics liaisons along with other tools for educating state employees, including monthly liaison updates, access to PowerPoint training presentations, educational posters, and plain language guides). Since training drives compliance through requests for advice and filing of complaints, more training sessions are expected to result in greater compliance.

**Data Development Agenda:** The OSE will undertake a needs assessment survey of ethics liaisons and compliance officers to improve our outreach efforts.