

Judiciary - Supreme Court

Arizona Constitution Article VI
A.R.S. § 12-101

Chief Justice: The Honorable Charles E. Jones

JLBC Analyst: Kim Hohman

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Estimate	FY 2005 Approved
OPERATING BUDGET			
<i>Full Time Equivalent Positions</i>	233.1	233.1	233.1 ^{1/}
Personal Services	6,204,400	5,696,900	5,805,300
Employee Related Expenditures	1,148,400	1,377,000	1,386,100
Professional and Outside Services	303,200	451,700	451,700
Travel - In State	42,200	68,000	68,000
Travel - Out of State	16,100	25,300	25,300
Other Operating Expenditures	5,987,600	5,857,700	6,318,900
Equipment	56,500	38,000	38,000
OPERATING SUBTOTAL	13,758,400	13,514,600	14,093,300^{2/3/}
SPECIAL LINE ITEMS			
State Aid	3,784,000	4,955,900	4,960,900
Rural State Aid to Courts	418,500	418,500	418,500 ^{4/}
County Reimbursements	237,700	246,000	246,000
Automation	10,265,300	14,490,000	14,522,900 ^{3/}
Foster Care Review Board	2,001,500	2,104,700	2,136,900
Court Appointed Special Advocate	2,245,300	2,652,700	2,704,600
Model Court	465,100	514,300	514,300
Domestic Relations	636,600	709,200	713,900
Judicial Nominations & Performance Review	326,800	281,700	284,300
Commission on Judicial Conduct	345,100	344,300	348,600
AGENCY TOTAL	34,484,300	40,231,900	40,944,200^{5/6/7/8/}
FUND SOURCES			
General Fund	15,296,500	11,612,600	12,210,700
<u>Other Appropriated Funds</u>			
Confidential Intermediary and Fiduciary Fund	363,700	428,300	433,600
Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund	2,245,300	3,402,700	3,454,600
Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	2,161,500	3,031,100	3,035,800 ^{9/}
Defensive Driving School Fund	4,128,800	5,225,300	5,270,700 ^{10/}
Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund	8,678,000	14,691,800	14,698,400 ^{11/}
State Aid to the Courts Fund	1,610,500	1,840,100	1,840,400
SUBTOTAL - Other Appropriated Funds	19,187,800	28,619,300	28,733,500
SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds	34,484,300	40,231,900	40,944,200
Other Non-Appropriated Funds	10,587,800	13,328,900	12,110,600
TOTAL - ALL SOURCES	45,072,100	53,560,800	53,054,800

1/ Includes 51.5 GF and 56.8 OF FTE Positions funded from Special Line Items in FY 2005.

2/ Included in the appropriation for the Supreme Court Program is \$1,000 for the purchase of mementos and items for visiting officials. (General Appropriation Act footnote)

3/ The Administrative Office of the Courts shall not transfer monies between the Supreme Court operating budget and the Automation line item without review by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. (General Appropriation Act footnote)

4/ Notwithstanding any other law, the amount appropriated for Rural State Aid to Courts shall be allocated to counties with populations of less than 500,000 persons. (General Appropriation Act footnote)

5/ By November 1, 2004, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on the total receipts and expenditures in each account of the Adult Probation Services Fund established by A.R.S. § 12-267 and the Juvenile Probation Fund established by A.R.S. § 12-268. The report shall present the information by county and include the amount of Personal Services expended from each revenue source of each account. (General Appropriation Act footnote)

AGENCY DESCRIPTION — The Supreme Court consists of 5 Supreme Court Justices, judicial support staff and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). The Supreme Court, as the state’s highest court, has the responsibility to review appeals and to provide rules of procedure for all the courts in Arizona. Under the direction of the Chief Justice, the AOC provides administrative supervision over the Arizona court system.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 2003 Appropriation	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Appropriation	FY 2005 Appropriation
• Annual % increase in court revenues	5.0	9.1	7.0	8.0
• % of courts with automated accounting and case management systems	81	100	82	--
• New Supreme Court case filings	1,402	1,190	1,250	1,250
• Supreme Court cases pending at end of year	580	402	400	400
• Average calendar days to issue an opinion	NA	NA	NA	Baseline
• % of agency staff turnover	15.4	13.5	15.0	13.4
• Administration as a % of total cost	3.9	4.6	3.9	4.3
• Customer satisfaction rating for defensive driving schools (Scale 1-8)	6.0	7.7	7.5	7.8

Comments: The agency did not submit information for any measure labeled as “NA.”

Operating Budget

The budget provides \$14,093,300 for the operating budget in FY 2005. This amount consists of \$8,213,500 from the General Fund, \$433,600 from the Confidential Intermediary and Fiduciary Fund, \$633,900 from the Defensive Driving School Fund, and \$4,812,300 from the Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund (JCEF). These amounts include an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments. *(Please see the Statewide Adjustments section at the end of this Appropriations Report for details.)*

Lease Costs

The budget includes a General Fund increase of \$461,200 to shift surplus Juvenile Probation monies to the Supreme Court operating budget. The approved amount will fund increased lease costs in FY 2005. Since this is a transfer

between budget units within the Judiciary, there is no net impact to the state General Fund. *(See Superior Court narrative for more information.)*

Special Line Items

State Aid

The budget provides \$4,960,900 for State Aid in FY 2005. This amount consists of \$84,700 from the General Fund, \$1,840,400 from the State Aid to the Courts Fund, and \$3,035,800 from the Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund (CJEF). These amounts include an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments.

This line item provides state aid to counties for the payment of judges pro tempore salaries and for projects designed to improve the processing of criminal cases in the Superior Court and Justice Courts. The State Aid to the

- 6/ By September 1, 2004, the Supreme Court shall report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on current and future automation projects coordinated by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The report shall include a list of court automation projects that receive state monies and shall include projects occurring in the current fiscal year, as well as projects planned for the next two fiscal years. The report shall provide a description of each project as well as the funding source, estimated cost for each fiscal year, number of FTE Positions, the entities involved, and the goals and anticipated results for each automation project. The report shall be submitted in one summary document. (General Appropriation Act footnote)
- 7/ By September 1, 2004, the Supreme Court shall report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on the total receipts and expenditures for the Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund. The report shall include a list of all FTE Positions funded from the Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund and a brief job description for each position. The report shall identify total prior fiscal year expenditures and shall identify the amount spent on direct grants to courts and the amount spent by the Administrative Office of the Courts on administrative expenses or for other purposes. (General Appropriation Act footnote)
- 8/ General Appropriation Act funds are appropriated as an Operating Lump Sum with Special Line Items by Agency.
- 9/ All Case Processing Assistance Fund receipts received by the Administrative Office of the Courts in excess of \$3,035,800 in FY 2005 are appropriated to the Supreme Court. Before the expenditure of any Case Processing Assistance Fund receipts in excess of \$3,035,800 in FY 2005, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall submit the intended use of the monies for review by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. (General Appropriation Act footnote, as adjusted for statewide allocations)
- 10/ All Defensive Driving School Fund receipts received by the Administrative Office of the Courts in excess of \$5,270,700 in FY 2005 are appropriated to the Supreme Court. Before the expenditure of any Defensive Driving School Fund receipts in excess of \$5,270,700 in FY 2005, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall submit the intended use of the monies for review by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. (General Appropriation Act footnote, as adjusted for statewide allocations)
- 11/ All Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund receipts received by the Administrative Office of the Courts in excess of \$14,698,400 in FY 2005 are appropriated to the Supreme Court. Before the expenditure of Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund receipts in excess of \$14,698,400 in FY 2005, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall submit the intended use of the monies for review by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. (General Appropriation Act footnote, as adjusted for statewide allocations)

Courts Fund receives: 1) General Fund monies, 2) 40.97% of a 7% penalty assessment on fines, penalties, and forfeitures imposed by the courts for criminal and civil motor vehicle violations, and 3) a portion of the monies collected by the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals.

The Administrative Office of the Courts distributes the monies appropriated from court fines and collections to the Superior Court and the Justice Courts based on a composite index formula using Superior Court felony filings and county population. Monies appropriated from the State Aid to the Courts Fund in the State Aid line item are distributed to all counties. General Fund monies deposited in the State Aid to the Courts Fund are appropriated in the Rural State Aid to the Courts line item. General Fund monies used for pro tem judges are appropriated in the State Aid line item. The line item includes 3.2 FTE Positions, of which 3 are funded from CJEF and 0.2 are funded from the State Aid to the Courts Fund.

Rural State Aid to Courts

The budget provides \$418,500 from the General Fund for Rural State Aid to Courts in FY 2005. This amount is unchanged from FY 2004.

This line item provides funding for projects designed to improve the processing of criminal cases in the Superior Court and Justice Courts. The General Fund monies are allocated in counties with populations of less than 500,000 persons. These monies are deposited in the State Aid to the Courts Fund.

County Reimbursements

The budget provides \$246,000 from the General Fund for County Reimbursements in FY 2005. This amount is unchanged from FY 2004.

This line item provides reimbursement to counties for grand jury expenses and for state-funded representation of indigent defendants in first-time capital post conviction relief proceedings.

Automation

The budget provides \$14,522,900 for Automation in FY 2005. This amount consists of \$4,636,800 from the Defensive Driving School Fund and \$9,886,100 from the Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund. The Defensive Driving School Fund amount includes an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments. The JCEF amount is unchanged from FY 2004.

This line item provides funding for court automation projects throughout the state. The line item includes 20.6 FTE Positions funded from the Defensive Driving School Fund.

Foster Care Review Board

The budget provides \$2,136,900 for the Foster Care Review Board in FY 2005. This amount consists of \$1,901,200 from the General Fund and \$235,700 from the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Fund. The General Fund amount includes an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments. The CASA Fund amount is unchanged from FY 2004.

This line item coordinates local volunteer review boards for foster care children in out-of-home placement. It also coordinates the activities of a state advisory board that oversees the activities of the 89 local review boards and makes recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for improving the state's foster care system. The line item includes 38 FTE Positions funded from the General Fund.

Court Appointed Special Advocate

The budget provides \$2,704,600 from the CASA Fund for Court Appointed Special Advocate in FY 2005. This amount includes an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments.

This line item administers and monitors a community-based volunteer advocacy program for abused and neglected children in the Juvenile Court System. Local volunteers are trained and then appointed to individual dependency cases by presiding juvenile judges to function as independent advocates for children who are wards of the state. In FY 2003, approximately 1,200 individuals volunteered for this program. This line item is funded from the CASA Fund, which consists of 30% of State Lottery unclaimed prize money. The line item includes 33 FTE Positions.

Model Court

The budget provides \$514,300 from the CASA Fund for Model Court in FY 2005. This amount is unchanged from FY 2004.

This program is responsible for overseeing and recommending changes to laws governing reduced dependency case time lines and processing of cases for children in the state's foster care system. Monies in this line item represent a pass-thru to counties to improve processing of dependency cases.

Domestic Relations

The budget provides \$713,900 from the General Fund for Domestic Relations in FY 2005. This amount includes an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments.

This line item provides coordination and technical support for groups formed to develop and review policies and programs related to domestic relations and child support. The line item includes 5.5 FTE Positions.

Judicial Nominations and Performance Review

The budget provides \$284,300 from the General Fund for Judicial Nominations and Performance Review in FY 2005. This amount includes an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments.

This line item provides a mechanism for nominating individuals for appointment to the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and the Superior Court in Maricopa and Pima Counties, as well as evaluating the performance of all merit retention justices and judges. The results of the performance evaluations are provided to the voters before each retention election. The line item includes 3 FTE Positions.

Commission on Judicial Conduct

The budget provides \$348,600 from the General Fund for Commission on Judicial Conduct in FY 2005. This amount includes an increase for statewide salary and other adjustments.

This line item functions as an internal audit body of the Judicial Branch by investigating and resolving all complaints of judicial misconduct. The line item includes 5 FTE Positions.

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