

Judiciary - Supreme Court

	FY 2014 ACTUAL	FY 2015 ESTIMATE	FY 2016 APPROVED
OPERATING BUDGET			
<i>Full Time Equivalent Positions</i>	172.0	175.0	175.0 ^{1/}
Personal Services	5,741,900	5,987,800	5,987,800
Employee Related Expenditures	2,138,600	2,267,200	2,131,300
Professional and Outside Services	183,400	396,000	396,000
Travel - In State	87,300	77,600	77,600
Travel - Out of State	29,400	39,800	39,800
Other Operating Expenditures	4,928,500	5,272,100	4,345,300
Equipment	17,400	24,200	24,200
OPERATING SUBTOTAL	13,126,500	14,064,700	13,002,000 ^{2/}
SPECIAL LINE ITEMS			
State Aid	4,653,700	5,949,400	5,648,400
County Reimbursements	187,900	187,900	187,900 ^{3/}
Automation	9,388,000	11,345,000	20,013,100 ^{4/5/}
Case and Cash Management System	2,501,700	3,326,500	0
Foster Care Review Board	3,617,000	3,617,900	3,212,300
Court Appointed Special Advocate	2,652,700	3,043,100	2,862,500
Model Court	447,400	447,600	437,600
Domestic Relations	634,100	655,600	621,000
Judicial Nominations and Performance Review	427,600	428,500	413,500
Commission on Judicial Conduct	522,000	522,500	505,000
AGENCY TOTAL	38,158,600	43,588,700	46,903,300 ^{6/}
FUND SOURCES			
General Fund	15,901,900	16,012,900	17,951,100
<u>Other Appropriated Funds</u>			
Confidential Intermediary and Fiduciary Fund	320,600	488,200	488,400
Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund	2,550,700	2,941,100	2,942,800
Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	2,315,600	3,004,800	4,363,800
Defensive Driving School Fund	3,498,400	4,194,700	4,197,300
Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund	11,233,300	14,002,400	14,014,900
State Aid to the Courts Fund	2,338,100	2,944,600	2,945,000
SUBTOTAL - Other Appropriated Funds	22,256,700	27,575,800	28,952,200
SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds	38,158,600	43,588,700	46,903,300
Other Non-Appropriated Funds	16,960,700	21,427,600	21,427,600
TOTAL - ALL SOURCES	55,119,300	65,016,300	68,330,900

^{1/} Includes 52.5 GF and 21.8 OF FTE Positions funded from Special Line Items in FY 2016.

^{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/} Of the \$187,900 appropriated for County Reimbursements, State Grand Jury is limited to \$97,900 and Capital Postconviction Relief is limited to \$90,000 (General Appropriation Act footnote)

^{4/} On or before September 1, 2015, 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 receiving or anticipated to receive state monies in the current or next 2 fiscal years as well as a description of each project, the number of FTE Positions, the entities involved and the goals and anticipated results for each automation project. The report shall be submitted in 1 summary document. The report shall indicate each project's total multiyear cost by fund source and budget line item, including any prior year, current year and future year expenditures. (General Appropriation Act footnote)

^{5/} Automation expenses of the Supreme Court shall be funded only from the Automation line item. Monies in the operating lump sum appropriation or other line items intended for automation purposes shall be transferred to the Automation Line Item before expenditure. (General Appropriation Act footnote as amended by Laws 2015, Chapter 276)

^{6/} General Appropriation Act funds are appropriated as an Operating Lump Sum with Special Line Items by Agency.

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.

Operating Budget

The budget includes \$13,002,000 and 100.7 FTE Positions in FY 2016 for the operating budget. These amounts consist of:

	FY 2016
General Fund	\$9,181,300
Confidential Intermediary and Fiduciary Fund	488,400
Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund (CJEF)	5,600
Defensive Driving School Fund	705,000
Judicial Collection Enhancement Fund (JCEF)	2,621,700

These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Automation Centralization

The budget includes a decrease of \$(845,400) in FY 2016 to shift all automation costs incurred by the Supreme Court into the Automation line item. This amount consists of:

General Fund	(631,400)
JCEF	(214,000)

(Please see the Automation line item for more information.)

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(140,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the operating budget appropriation. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included no reductions to this line other than statewide adjustments. Laws 2015, Chapter 276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of the \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to the Automation line item in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(140,000) reduction is part of that shift. *(Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)*

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes a decrease of \$(77,300) in FY 2016 for statewide adjustments. This amount consists of:

General Fund	(98,200)
Confidential Intermediary and Fiduciary Fund	200
CJEF	5,600
Defensive Driving School Fund	2,600
JCEF	12,500

(Please see the Agency Detail and Allocations section.)

State Aid

The budget includes \$5,648,400 and 3.3 FTE Positions in FY 2016 for State Aid. These amounts consist of:

CJEF	2,703,400
State Aid to the Courts Fund	2,945,000

These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Automation Centralization

The budget includes a decrease of \$(301,400) from CJEF in FY 2016 to shift all automation costs incurred by the Supreme Court into the Automation line item. *(Please see the Automation line item for more information.)*

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes an increase of \$400 from the State Aid to the Courts Fund in FY 2016 for statewide adjustments.

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

The AOC 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.

County Reimbursements

The budget includes \$187,900 from the General Fund in FY 2016 for County Reimbursements. This amount is unchanged from FY 2015.

The County Reimbursements 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.

The FY 2015 Criminal Justice Budget Reconciliation Bill (Laws 2014, Chapter 12) permanently eliminated the statutory requirement that the state reimburse counties for 50% of grand jury and state-funded representation of indigent defendants in first-time capital post conviction relief proceedings. Instead, reimbursement was limited to the amount appropriated for those purposes. This provision had previously been suspended annually.

Automation

The budget includes \$20,013,100 and 13 FTE Positions in FY 2016 for Automation. These amounts consist of:

General Fund	3,392,500
Court Appoint Special Advocate (CASA) Fund	80,300
CJEF	1,654,800
Defensive Driving School Fund	3,492,300
JCEF	11,393,200

These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(198,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the Automation line item appropriation. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included a \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to this line. Laws 2015, Chapter 276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of this reduction to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(198,000) reduction represents the remaining reduction from the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act after all shifts. (Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)

Automation Centralization

The budget includes an increase of \$8,866,100 in FY 2016 to shift all automation costs incurred by the Supreme Court into the Automation line item. This amount consists of:

General Fund	3,590,500
CASA Fund	80,300
CJEF	1,654,800
Defensive Driving School Fund	139,400
JCEF	3,401,100

The Automation line item provides funding for court automation projects throughout the state. The budget includes monies from other Supreme Court and Superior Court line items in the Automation line item to allow for the centralization of Judicial automation expenditures. Going forward, automation costs will be solely funded from the Automation line item. As required by a General Appropriation Act footnote, any additional monies

expended from other line items for automation projects are to be transferred to the Automation line item prior to expenditure. Table 1 below includes the line item sources of the funding shifted to the Automation line item in FY 2016.

Table 1

Source of Automation Shifts

Budget Line	FY 2016 Shift
Supreme Court	
Operating Lump Sum	\$ 845,400
State Aid	301,400
Case and Cash Management System	3,326,500
CASA	80,300
Domestic Relations	16,500
Foster Care Review Board	62,000
Supreme Court Total	\$4,632,100^{1/}
Superior Court Total	\$4,234,000
TOTAL	\$8,866,100

^{1/} Please see Table 2 in the Superior Court budget for more information on the Superior Court line items that transferred funding to the Automation line item.

Case and Cash Management System

The budget includes no funding in FY 2016 for the Case and Cash Management System. This amount funds the following adjustments:

Automation Centralization

The budget includes a decrease of \$(3,326,500) in FY 2016 to shift all automation costs incurred by the Supreme Court into the Automation line item. This amount consists of:

Defensive Driving School Fund	(139,400)
JCEF	(3,187,100)

(Please see the Automation line item for more information.)

The Case and Cash Management System line item funds the replacement of the computer systems in the larger volume Superior and Limited Jurisdiction Courts in Pima and Maricopa Counties, as well as the case and financial management system that is provided to approximately 144 of the 182 courts at the state, county and municipal level located throughout the state.

Foster Care Review Board

The budget includes \$3,212,300 and 40 FTE Positions from the General Fund in FY 2016 for the Foster Care Review Board. These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(300,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the Foster Care Review Board line item. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included no reductions to this line other than statewide adjustments and a transfer of automation funding to the Automation line item. Laws 2015, Chapter 276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of the \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to the Automation line item in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(300,000) reduction is part of that shift. *(Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)*

Automation Centralization

The budget includes a decrease of \$(62,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 to shift all automation costs incurred by the Supreme Court into the Automation line item. *(Please see the Automation line item for more information.)*

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes a decrease of \$(43,600) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for statewide adjustments.

The Foster Care Review Board line item coordinates local volunteer review boards for foster care children in out-of-home placement.

Court Appointed Special Advocate

The budget includes \$2,862,500 and 5.5 FTE Positions from the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Fund in FY 2016 for CASA. These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(102,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the CASA line item. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included no reductions to this line other than statewide adjustments and a transfer of automation funding to the Automation line item. Laws 2015, Chapter 276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of the \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to the Automation line item in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(102,000) reduction is part

of that shift. *(Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)*

Automation Centralization

The budget includes a decrease of \$(80,300) from the CASA Fund in FY 2016 to shift all automation costs incurred by the Supreme Court into the Automation line item. *(Please see the Automation line item for more information.)*

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes an increase of \$1,700 from the CASA Fund in FY 2016 for statewide adjustments.

The CASA line item administers and monitors a community-based volunteer advocacy program for abused and neglected children in the Juvenile Court System. In FY 2014, 916 individuals volunteered for this program.

Model Court

The budget includes \$437,600 from the General Fund in FY 2016 for Model Court. This amount funds the following adjustments:

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(10,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the Model Court line item. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included no reductions to this line. Laws 2015, Chapter 276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of the \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to the Automation line item in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(10,000) reduction is part of that shift. *(Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)*

Monies in this line item represent a pass-through to counties to improve processing of dependency cases.

Domestic Relations

The budget includes \$621,000 and 4.9 FTE Positions from the General Fund in FY 2016 for Domestic Relations. These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(10,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the Domestic Relations line item. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included no reductions to this line other than statewide adjustments and a transfer of automation funding to the Automation line item. Laws 2015, Chapter

276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of the \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to the Automation line item in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(10,000) reduction is part of that shift. *(Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)*

Automation Centralization

The budget includes a decrease of \$(16,500) from the General Fund in FY 2016 to shift all automation costs incurred by the Supreme Court into the Automation line item. *(Please see the Automation line item for more information.)*

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes a decrease of \$(8,100) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for statewide adjustments.

The Domestic Relations line item provides coordination and technical support for groups formed to develop and review policies and programs related to domestic relations and child support.

Judicial Nominations and Performance Review

The budget includes \$413,500 and 3.6 FTE Positions from the General Fund in FY 2016 for Judicial Nominations and Performance Review. These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(10,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the Judicial Nominations and Performance Review line item. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included no reductions to this line other than statewide adjustments. Laws 2015, Chapter 276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of the \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to the Automation line item in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(10,000) reduction is part of that shift. *(Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)*

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes a decrease of \$(5,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for statewide adjustments.

This line item funds administrative costs to oversee the nominations for the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and the Superior Court in Maricopa, Pima, and Pinal 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.

Commission on Judicial Conduct

The budget includes \$505,000 and 4 FTE Positions from the General Fund in FY 2016 for Commission on Judicial Conduct. These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Appropriation Reduction

The budget includes a decrease of \$(10,000) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for a reduction to the Commission on Judicial Conduct line item. The FY 2016 General Appropriation Act included no reductions to this line other than statewide adjustments. Laws 2015, Chapter 276, however, shifted \$(3,392,500) of the \$(3,590,500) General Fund reduction to the Automation line item in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act to other lines in the Supreme Court and Superior Court budgets. This \$(10,000) reduction is part of that shift. *(Please see Table 1 in the Superior Court section for more information.)*

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes a decrease of \$(7,500) from the General Fund in FY 2016 for statewide adjustments.

The Commission on Judicial Conduct investigates and resolves all complaints of judicial misconduct.

Additional Legislation

Appropriation Shift

Laws 2015, Chapter 276 shifts \$2,810,500 in General Fund monies in FY 2016 from the Superior Court to the Automation line item in the Supreme Court to mitigate a \$(3,590,500) FY 2016 General Fund reduction in the Automation line item included in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act (Laws 2015, Chapter 8). The bill also shifts \$582,000 in General Fund monies in FY 2016 from other line items in the Supreme Court to the Automation line item to further limit the reduction included in the FY 2016 General Appropriation Act. The total remaining reduction to the Automation line item is \$(198,000) in FY 2016. *Table 1* in the Superior Court displays how Laws 2015, Chapter 276 distributed the \$3,392,500 General Fund shift in FY 2016 from Supreme and Superior Court line items to the Automation line item.

Other Issues

Fund Transfers

The budget includes the following FY 2016 transfers from this agency's funds to the General Fund:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Fund	\$250,000
Arizona Lengthy Trial Fund	750,000
CASA Fund	500,000
State Aid to the Courts Fund	100,000