

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Bernalillo County

State of New Mexico



FY 23 Budget Request

HIGHLIGHTS

The Court has 29 Judges, 11 Hearing Officers and 350.5 full-time employees.

In FY21:

- ◇ Opened/reopened over 30,000 cases
- ◇ Closed and resolved over 29,000 cases
- ◇ Processed over 440,000 docket entries
- ◇ The Center for Self-Help provided assistance 17,687 times
- ◇ 2,923 criminal background checks
- ◇ 429 cases referred to civil arbitration
- ◇ Provided Spanish interpretation services in 2,143 cases; other languages in 229 cases
- ◇ Juvenile Treatment Court had 18 participants and 2 graduations
- ◇ Young Adult Court had 36 participants and 6 graduations
- ◇ Mental Health Court had 50 participants and 22 graduations

GENERAL FUND REQUEST \$27,221,500

The Court is requesting an increase of \$326.0 in the FY23 base budget in General Fund to support the Judiciary's priorities, which is an increase of 1.2% from FY22. The Court has imposed an estimated 7.5% vacancy rate to the base request.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT \$62.0

Although originally requested and approved to receive \$163.1 in the 2020 session before the special session, the Court needs funding to hire an Administrative Assistant 2 for the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), the Court is requesting \$62.0 for this program. In 2019, in collaboration with the Native America Budget and Policy Institute, Pegasus Legal Services of Children, New Mexico Kids Matter, Tribal-State Judicial Consortium, New Mexico Tribal Indian Children Welfare Consortium, Corrine Wolfe Center for Child and Family Justice, and the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families, the SJDC launched an ICWA program to focus on compliance with ICWA and the New Mexico Children's Code. The Administrative Assistant 2 is needed to coordinate culturally specific services, assist with tribal interactions, coordinate judicial oversight functions, conduct enhanced family and relative searches, and compile and analyze data.

CHILD SUPPORT HEARING OFFICER PROGRAM \$151.9

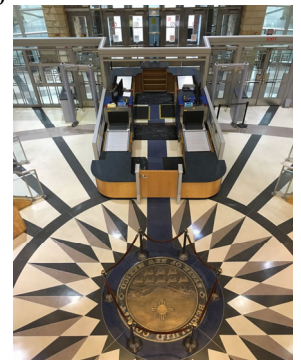
The court is beginning its multi-year, phased approach to transition its Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED) funding to General Fund to stabilize the program, improve efficiencies and outcomes for parties. The Court is requesting funding for one Hearing Officer position and to convert the position from term to perm. Moving the CSED contract funding to general fund would create efficiencies and improve court operations. Currently, the SJDC CSED Division is restricted by the contract and can only hear and work on child support enforcement matters. By moving the CSED Division to the general fund, the hearing officers can hear other domestic relations case types and the staff can be cross-trained to perform work on other domestic relations matters, such as dissolution of marriage, parentage, visitation and kinship guardianship. One party may have three different pending cases, including a child support matter. Under the current structure, the matters have to be heard separately, which could lead to four or five hearings, rather than the consolidation of matters resulting in only one or two hearings that benefits the Court and the parties.

FY22 2% JUDICIAL SALARY INCREASE FUNDS \$93.7

During FY22, the AOC received \$585.0 as a Special Appropriation to fund a 2% Judicial Salary increase. In FY22, AOC will transfer a portion of these funds to each Court for this purpose. Regarding FY23 and beyond, each Court must request their portion to be established in their base budget in order to continue to fund this increase.

WIP \$18.4

The Court is requesting \$18.4 for the ongoing Judicial WIP step increases.



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FY 23 Budget Request cont.

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS \$2,227,500

- ◆ **IT REFRESH \$867,600** The Court is requesting funds to purchase hardware & software to replace and refresh aging desktops, scanners, printers, etc. that have reached end of life and warranty/support.
- ◆ **FORECLOSURE SETTLEMENT PROGRAM \$488,400** The Court is requesting funds for the existing staff of 3 FTEs (1 Program Manager and 2 Attorneys), as well as an expansion of 2 FTEs (1 Admin Assistant and 1 Attorney) which will enable the Court to increase services that will support foreclosure settlement in the Third Judicial District (Las Cruces). This program is a tool that can assist in preventing avoidable foreclosures and provide economic stability for families and communities.
- ◆ **PRETRIAL SERVICES \$741,300** The Court is requesting funds for an expansion of 7 term positions to establish an after-hours electronic monitoring division, which includes weekends and holidays. Currently, the court only has the resources for passive monitoring capabilities for individuals that have been released pretrial with a condition of GPS (global positioning system) monitoring. Adding an after-hours division will provide real-time reporting and the ability to secure after-hour warrants when appropriate for GPS violations that would include removal/tampering with GPS units; dead batteries; violations of exclusion zones and curfew violations.
- ◆ **SPEECH TO TEXT EQUIPMENT \$55,000** The Court is requesting funds to add speech-to-text capabilities to the court's digital court recording platform and secure storage service. This will significantly improve staff efficiencies as well as provide timelier accessibility by judges, attorneys, the public, and appellate courts to the record.
- ◆ **VETERANS TREATMENT COURT \$75,200** The Court is requesting funds one term Case Manager position for the development and initiation of a Veterans' Treatment Court that will provide veterans with substance abuse and/or mental health issues with treatment as an alternative to incarceration.

CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST \$419,287

- ◆ **\$189,076** To upgrade and purchase IT equipment to include storage array network (SAN) server hardware and software. The SAN provides network access for every networked drive including thousands of employee, judge and division drives, For the Record FTR drives, eDocs drives, print drives, scan drives, MS SQL databases, electronic microfiche drives, facsimile drives, internet access drives, and internet security drives.
- ◆ **\$230,211** To upgrade and purchase IT equipment to include StorServer. The Court is independently responsible for the long-term backup of all electronic documents and records, other than Odyssey records. The data backup and recovery system entails copying and archiving computer data to make it accessible in the event of loss.

