



# Budget Briefing to the Interbranch Advisory Committee

**Christopher Stanley, CGFM – Chief Financial and Management Officer, AOC**  
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# A Quick Recap of Some of Last Year's Funding



## **THERAPEUTIC COURTS**

\$9.4 million in additional funding was used to launch **22 new programs** and substantially enhance 16 more!

## **AUDIO/VISUAL ENHANCEMENTS**

\$5 million in additional funding was used to add and improve technology in **245 courtrooms!**

## **BACKLOG REDUCTION**

Nine courts were able to utilize a combined \$2.05 million to hire staff and **reduce pandemic-driven backlogs.**

## **BLAKE IMPLEMENTATION**

**Over 43,000 cases** have been vacated so far, with another 200,000+ to go.

## **COMMUNITY JUSTICE COUNSELORS**

\$2.47 million in additional funding was distributed to 14 courts to support community justice counselors and **connect court participants with community services.**

## **SELF-HELP CENTERS**

Grays Harbor Superior and Spokane Superior Court both have launched pilot self-help centers to **assist pro se individuals** with filing court documents and preparing self-represented cases.

# What to Expect When You're Expecting... A Budget



## UPDATED INFORMATION

New information comes along that updates or changes work assumptions related to budget packages. We do our best to pass that along as quickly as we learn it, but sometimes info comes in late.

## PROVISOS

Sometimes proviso language has unintended effects or interpretations. Sometimes there is ambiguity in the language that makes implementation difficult. We provide feedback as quickly as possible to provide clarity.

## JUDICIAL IMPACT NOTES

Judicial Impact Notes capture not only AOC costs, but also local court and court staff costs (including clerks) and reflect the best information regarding assumptions *at the time of the note's drafting*. Sometimes, new information comes along and changes assumptions, which changes the estimated cost. We try to minimize these occurrences, but they still happen and when they do, we try to fully explain the change.

# What to Expect When You're Expecting... A Budget



## **CHAMBER FUNDING COMMITTEE CHAIR PROPOSALS**

Proposals are expected by the end of the month from both Senator Rolfes and Representative Ormsby. We've been working diligently with their respective staffs on including judicial branch priorities in their proposals.

## **CHAMBER FUNDING COMMITTEE PROPOSALS**

Committee amendments to the Chair proposals will be heard in the respective chamber's funding committee. We'll work with staff on technical corrections to correct typos in provisos or to correct mathematical issues. We'll work with committee members on amendments for priority items that weren't funded in the Chair proposals.

## **CHAMBER FUNDING PROPOSALS**

Floor amendments to the Committee proposals will be proposed in each respective chamber. At this point, technical corrections to correct typos in provisos or to correct mathematical issues are minimal. We'll work with members on amendments for priority items that weren't funded in the Committee proposals.

# While we Anxiously Wait...



## **2024 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET DEVELOPMENT**

Funding proposals are solicited from across the judicial branch in preparation for the 2024 Supplemental Budget Request. A supplemental budget is largely technical in nature, so this work may seem premature, but it never hurts to start thinking about these requests early.

## **PREPARING TO IMPLEMENT THE 2023-25 BIENNIAL BUDGET**

After Chair and Committee proposals are public, items that appear in both chambers' budget proposals are deemed "likely to pass", and discussions around implementation begin. If those items were requested, these discussions have largely already occurred.

## **PACING – A LOT OF PACING**

For many programs, their future funding may be under consideration, and the wait for the budget can be stressful.

# #InterimGoals



## **COURTHOUSE TOURS**

We want to encourage members to reach out to the courts in their area to set up an informational tour to get a better understanding of how the court system operates, as well as understand the differences between the court levels.

## **COURT PROGRAM BRIEFINGS**

The Administrative Office of the Courts facilitates and passes through funding for a number of critical programs. Briefings can be easily arranged for members interested in a particular area.

## **LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS**

In the spirit of fostering greater understanding between our branches, we're interested in gaining a better understanding of the legislative world.



# Questions?

[Christopher.Stanley@courts.wa.gov](mailto:Christopher.Stanley@courts.wa.gov)  
360-357-2406