

2009

**Trial Court
Improvement Account**

Use Report

June 2010

2009 Trial Court Improvement Account Use Report

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
2ESSB 5454 – Revising Trial Court Funding Provisions	3
Trial Court Improvement Accounts	4
2009 Trial Court Improvement Account Use	5
General Status of Appropriations.....	5
Budget Allocation Decision Processes	8
Comments on Actual and Planned Expenditures	9
Conclusion	22
Questions and Comments.....	23

Appendices

Summary of Distributions and Budget Allocations	Appendix A
Summaries of Actual 2009 Reported Expenditures	Appendix B
Summaries of Planned 2010 Expenditures	Appendix C

2009 Trial Court Improvement Account Use Report

Introduction

In 2005 the Washington State Legislature passed 2ESSB 5454 Revising Trial Court Funding Provisions (Chapter 457, Laws of 2005) which, in part, created local Trial Court Improvement Accounts (TCIA). This report is intended to provide the Judiciary, Legislature and other interested parties with information regarding how the local Trial Court Improvement Accounts have been appropriated to improve the functioning of the judiciary and the provision of justice in Washington State.

The legislation created an Equal Justice Sub-Account, provided for disbursement of funds in the account to local governments for partial reimbursement of district and qualifying¹ municipal court judges' salaries, and mandated that the counties and qualifying cities establish Trial Court Improvement Accounts funded by the local governments in the same amounts as the salary reimbursements. In 2009, the Legislature amended the original legislation to do away with the Equal Justice Sub-Account, directing money going to the account into the state General Fund instead, and providing for the salary reimbursement from the General Fund.

The first disbursement of funds to local governments for partial reimbursement of district and qualifying municipal court judges' salaries, which triggered creation and funding of the TCIA's, was made in October 2005. Full year's disbursements have been made since 2006. This report covers the use, or intended use, of those funds distributed for 2009 as well as plans for funds being distributed in 2010. As provided in the legislation, for the first two years of the program (the State's 2005-07 biennium), 25% of the funds in the Equal Justice Sub-Account were appropriated for reimbursement of district and qualifying municipal court judges' salaries.

Beginning in the State's 2007-09 biennium 50% of the Equal Justice Sub-Account was available. Calendar year 2008 was the first full year of funding at the 50% level that the legislation provides will be sustained. As in 2008, the 2009 disbursements to the counties and cities were \$3,175,000 - the anticipated on-going funding level for the

¹ Cities that elect their municipal court judge(s), compensate their municipal court judges at a rate equivalent to or more than 95% of a district court judges' salary, and who so certify to the Administrative Office of the Courts, qualify for partial reimbursement of their municipal court judges' salaries.

program. More than 90% of jurisdictions reported that trial court improvements were funded from the accounts in 2009 (up from 80% in 2008). Most have plans in place for 2010, but the current recession and consequent local government budget shortfalls have had a substantial impact on the direction of funds. A few jurisdictions are continuing to allow a fund balance to accrue until funds sufficient to undertake desired improvement projects have accumulated.

2ESSB 5454 (2005) – Revising Trial Court Funding Provisions

In passing 2ESSB 5454, the Legislature stated the following intent:

“The legislature recognizes the state’s obligation to provide adequate representation to criminal indigent defendants and to parents in dependency and termination cases. The legislature also recognizes that trial courts are critical to maintaining the rule of law in a free society and that they are essential to the protection of the rights and enforcement of obligations for all. Therefore, the legislature intends to create a dedicated revenue source for the purposes of meeting the state’s commitment to improving trial courts in the state, providing adequate representation to criminal indigent defendants, providing for civil legal services for indigent persons, and ensuring equal justice for all citizens of the state.”

The legislation consisted of these major components:

- Increases to various court fees.
- Establishment of the Equal Justice Sub-Account within the Public Safety and Education Account funded with the State’s portion of the increased filing fees. Funds in the Equal Justice Sub-Account could only be appropriated for:
 - Criminal indigent defense assistance and enhancement at the trial court level, including a criminal indigent defense pilot program.
 - Representation of parents in dependency and termination proceedings.
 - Civil legal representation of indigent persons.
 - Contribution to district court judges’ salaries and to eligible elected municipal court judges’ salaries.

- The creation of local Trial Court Improvement Accounts, to be funded in amounts equal to that received from the State for partial reimbursement of district and qualifying municipal court judges' salaries.

In 2009 the Legislature passed ESSB 5073 (Chapter 479, Laws of 2009) which eliminated the Public Safety and Education Account and the Equal Justice Sub-Account, directing money going to these accounts into the state General Fund instead, and providing for the salary reimbursement from the General Fund.

In addition to creating a state revenue stream to fund the appropriations identified in 2ESSB 5454, the local share of the increases to the various court fees also resulted in significant revenue to local government general funds, particularly for counties. The original 2ESSB 5454 revenue estimates placed local government general fund gains at approximately \$9.9 million annually or \$19.8 million for the 2005-07 biennium.

Prior years' TCIA Use Reports indicate that local general fund revenue gains resulting from 2ESSB 5454 had a positive impact on local appropriations for the courts. Many jurisdictions reported general fund budget increases that could be at least partially tied to these revenue gains. However, it is clear that local government general fund shortfalls in the current recession have seriously affected this trend. As this report details, more than 10% of TCIA funds used in 2009 went to making up for these shortfalls in six jurisdictions and 17% of the planned 2010 use (in nine jurisdictions) will be for this purpose. Two-thirds of the counties and 30% of the cities that provided information on local general fund appropriations reported reductions in 2010.

Trial Court Improvement Accounts

The Legislature appropriated \$2.4 million for the 2005-07 biennium for contribution to district and qualified elected municipal court judges' salaries. For the 2007-09 and 2009-11 biennia, the appropriation has been \$6.35 million, as the legislation provided for the share of the account allocated for this purpose to grow from 25% in the initial biennium to 50% in the succeeding biennia. These funds are distributed quarterly by the Administrative Office of the Courts on a proportional basis to all qualifying jurisdictions.

Upon receipt of these funds counties and participating cities are required to create and fund Trial Court Improvement Accounts in an amount equal to the funds received as partial reimbursement for judges' salaries. In essence, the state funds the TCIA's by providing partial reimbursement for judges' salaries, which frees up local general fund dollars to fund the local Trial Court Improvement Accounts in an equal amount.

Funds in the accounts are appropriated by the legislative authority of each county, city, or town and must be used to fund improvements to court staffing, programs, facilities, and services.

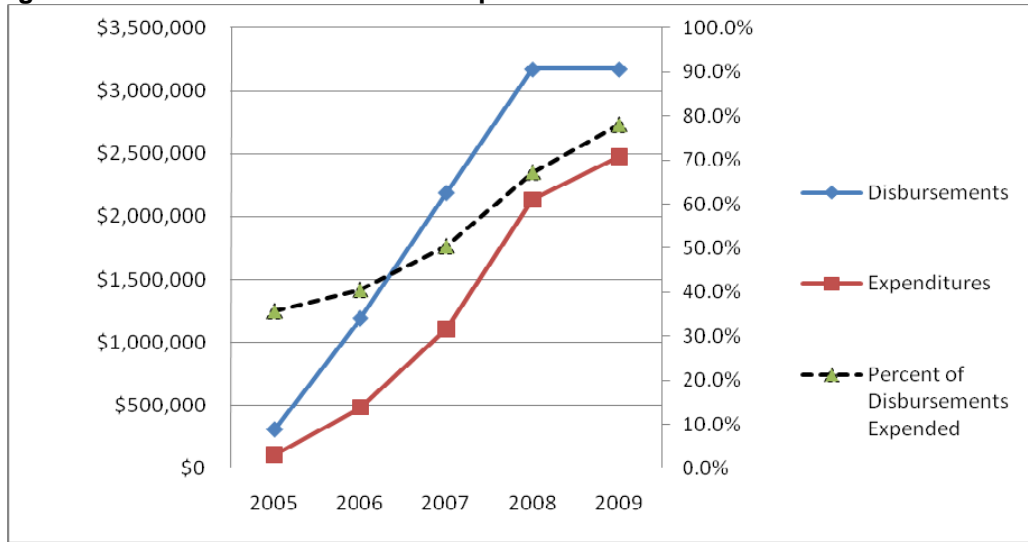
2009 Trial Court Improvement Account Use

In April 2010, a request was made to courts for information regarding actual use in 2009 and intended use in 2010 of the Trial Court Improvement Accounts (Appendix A). All 39 counties and 17 qualifying cities receiving partial reimbursement for district and qualifying municipal court judges' salaries reported on the use or intended use of funds received in 2009.

General Status of Appropriations

In 2008, the transition to the ongoing funding level and to TCIA funded programs, projects and services in all participating courts was completed. As provided in the legislation creating the TCIA's, this was the first full calendar year in which 50% of the Equal Justice Sub-Account was used to help fund the salaries of district court judges and eligible elected municipal court judges. In 2006, the first full year of funding, jurisdictions received \$1,199,992 statewide (based on a 25% share of the account). In 2007, which spanned two state biennia, remittances to the courts were \$2,191,396, based on a 25% share for the first half of the year and a 50% share for the second half. In 2008 and 2009, jurisdictions received \$3,175,000 each year.

Figure 1: TCIA Disbursements and Expenditures



Continuing the trend resulting from additional available funds and increasing institutionalization of trial court improvement programs in the participating jurisdictions, expenditures increased by 16% from \$2,134,921 in 2008 to \$2,477,844 in 2009. (This growth rate has declined as most courts have now implemented programs for use of the funds). In 2009, jurisdictions spent more than three-fourths of the funds remitted during the year versus one-half in 2007 and two-thirds in 2008. The number of courts using TCIA funds continues to increase, growing from 29 out of 54 qualifying jurisdictions in 2007 (54%) to 41 out of 56 in 2008 (73%) and 49 out of 57 in 2009 (86%). A few jurisdictions continue to accrue fund balances until sufficient funds are available to undertake desired projects or have otherwise deferred decisions on how to spend the funds. A few small counties have used the funds in past years, have started to accrue balances for future use. From the inception of the program through 2009, \$10,047,567 has been provided for Trial Court Improvement Accounts and \$6,316,626 has been used. Although a significant amount of money continues to be “banked” for future use, the rate has declined over the course of the program. In 2009, 78% of the amount reimbursed was expended. Statewide planned expenditures in 2010 will nearly equal the amount anticipated to be reimbursed.

Table 1: Disbursements and Expenditures

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total for Program
Total Disbursements	\$310,770	\$1,194,973	\$2,192,227	\$3,175,000	\$3,174,597	\$10,047,567
Planned Expenditures		\$292,151	\$1,054,942	\$1,597,693	\$2,605,600	
Planned as a percent of disbursements		24.4%	48.1%	50.3%	82.08%	
Actual Expenditures	\$111,145	\$485,458	\$1,107,258	\$2,134,921	\$2,477,844	\$6,316,626
Actual as a percent of disbursements	35.8%	40.6%	50.5%	67.2%	78.05%	62.87%
Banked	\$199,625	\$709,515	\$1,084,969	\$1,040,079	\$696,753	\$3,730,941
Banked as a percent of disbursements	64.24%	59.37%	49.49%	32.76%	21.95%	37.13%
Running Total Banked	\$199,625	\$909,140	\$1,994,109	\$3,034,188	\$3,730,941	

As of the publication of this report, seven jurisdictions have budgeted 2010 TCIA funds at a level almost equal to the amount anticipated to be disbursed during the year. Statewide, 46 jurisdictions have budgeted \$3,129,140 for the year. Additional budget decisions are expected later in the year. Overall, a drawdown of funds accrued in prior years is expected in 2010.

Table 2: Jurisdiction Status

2005 Report	Number of Jurisdictions	2006 Report	Number of Jurisdictions	2007 Report	Number of Jurisdictions	2008 Report	Number of Jurisdictions	2009 Report	Number of Jurisdictions
Funds expended in 2005:	4	Funds expended in 2006:	26	Funds expended in 2007:	29	Funds expended in 2008:	41	Funds expended in 2009:	49
Funds budgeted for 2006:	13	Funds budgeted for 2007:	28	Funds budgeted for 2008:	28	Funds budgeted for 2009:	40	Funds budgeted for 2010:	46
No determination for 2006:	34	No determination for 2007:	25	No determination for 2008:	26	No determination for 2009:	16	No determination for 2010:	8

Jurisdictions also reported how the TCIA funds are maintained and appropriated within the jurisdiction's budget structure. In most cases, trial court improvement money is accounted for separately, but in many it is moved into the court's operating budget or some other budget when appropriated. In 32 jurisdictions, the TCIA is a separate fund, and in most others, TCIA receipts are accounted for separately from other money in the local accounting structure. On the expenditure side, of those reporting, 15 jurisdictions indicated that the TCIA funds were allocated within the court's general operating budget

and 30 said that the jurisdiction had or would create a separate “Trial Court Improvement Account” expenditure budget from which to appropriate funds.

Table 3: Expenditure Budget Structure

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Superior Court Operating Budget:	1	0	0	2	3
District Court Operating Budget:	5	6	7	2	1
Superior and District Court Operating Budgets:	1	2	3	3	5
Municipal Court Operating Budget:	2	3	4	4	7
Separate “Trial Court Improvement Account” Budget:	16	23	17	26	30
Other County or City Budget:	-	-	7	2	1
Not Determined:	21	19	16	17	7

The separate “Trial Court Improvement Account” expenditure budget is the preferred model for courts to follow because it will allow for a more direct accounting of how TCIA funds are allocated and expended over time. Further, when TCIA funds are co-mingled with the court’s general operating budget it is more likely that the funds will supplant normal general fund appropriations as general budget reductions occur during regular budgeting cycles.

A summary of the amounts received and expended in 2009 and of 2010 budget allocations and structures by jurisdiction is located in Appendix A.

Budget Allocation Decision Processes

In 2009, collaboration among the courts on spending decisions and participation of Trial Court Coordination Councils decreased marginally. Reasons for this decrease are not known. Various approaches to the allocation decision process have been developed and can be summarized as follows:

- In many counties, there is clear communication and collaboration between the superior and district courts in planning for TCIA budget allocation requests for joint presentation to the legislative authority. In some counties, allocation decisions are made jointly, but each court submits its budget separately. Seven counties (versus nine in 2008) report that the superior and district courts have executed an agreement on how funds will be allocated.

- In five counties (down from six in 2007 and 2008) the local Trial Court Coordinating Council, Law and Justice Council or similar body has been tasked with developing budget allocation recommendations for presentation to the legislative authority.
- As in past years, municipal courts in cities where TCIA funds have been spent submitted budget requests without the participation of the local Trial Court Coordinating Council, Law and Justice Council or similar bodies.

As in prior years, there are indications in several jurisdictions that the TCIA funds were appropriated by the legislative authority without direct consultation with the trial court leadership. In at least three, local funding authorities made independent decisions to use TCIA funds to plug budget gaps. While the authority to appropriate the funds clearly falls within the sphere of the legislative authority, a more collaborative approach was envisioned by the judicial proponents of the enacting legislation.

Comments on Actual and Planned Expenditures

The number of jurisdictions reporting TCIA expenditures grew to 49 in 2009 from 28 in 2006, 34 in 2007, and 41 in 2008; the number with plans in place for at least part of anticipated available TCIA dollars grew from 26 for 2008 and 40 for 2009 to 49 for 2010.

The most significant development in 2009 was the use of a sizeable portion of the funds to stave off budget cuts. While many jurisdictions used the funds to start new services or programs, or to continue services and programs established with TCIA funds in previous years, the number using the funds to restore de-funded programs grew substantially.

Jurisdictions reported that TCIA uses can be broken down as shown in the following table:

Table 4: Funding Uses

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ²	
5	10	7	11	9	Funds a new program or service not previously provided by the court.
4	9	11	20	16	Funds expand an existing program or service currently provided by the court.
0	1	1	9	5	Funds restore a previously de-funded program.
1	9	9	7	5	Funds capital facilities or equipment for the court.
16	34	30	64	38	Funds equipment, technology, or software.
15	40	36	67	29	Funds a one-time expense for a project or service.
15	21	20	38	34	Funds a recurring expense for which TCIA funds will likely be used in future years.
4	3	2	4	6	Funds are primarily used to increase salaries and benefits of judicial officers.
0	3	2	4	4	Funds are primarily used to increase salaries and benefits of non-judicial personnel.
3	6	3	1	2	Funds are primarily used for new or increased (e.g., part-time to full-time) position for judicial officers.
6	9	8	9	9	Funds are primarily used for new or increased (e.g., part-time to full-time) position for non-judicial personnel.

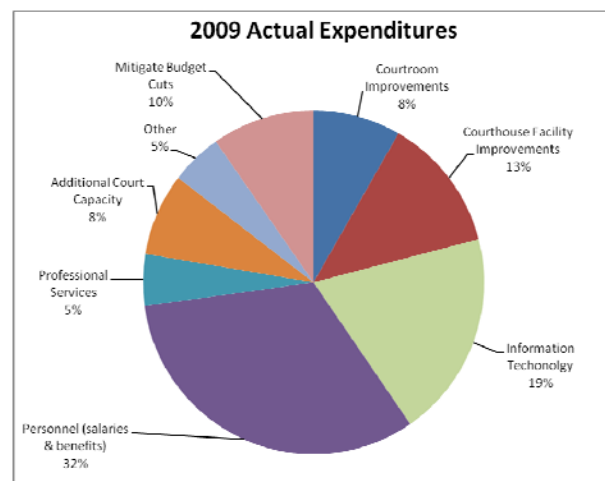
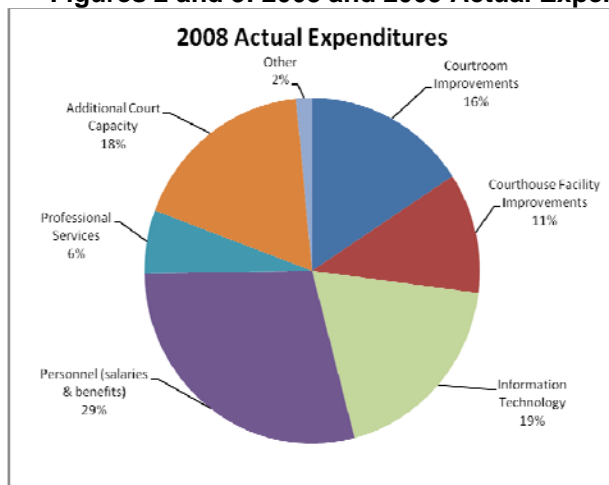
² Planned projects, programs and services.

Actual expenditures for 2007 through 2009 and anticipated 2010 expenditures can be further broken down as follows:

Table 5: Expenditures By Category

	2007 Actual	# of Jurisdictions	2008 Actual	# of Jurisdictions	2009 Actual	# of Jurisdictions	2010 Budgeted	# of Jurisdictions
Courtroom Improvements	\$153,264	12	\$337,270	19	\$205,658	20	\$331,244	13
Courthouse Facility Improvements	\$7,779	5	\$240,192	9	\$313,718	13	\$290,200	8
Information Technology	\$85,592	8	\$402,606	12	\$481,881	13	\$325,670	10
Personnel (salaries & benefits)	\$738,061	18	\$616,465	19	\$802,851	23	\$621,061	23
Professional Services	\$68,722	4	\$125,426	7	\$120,315	7	\$42,109	3
Additional Court Capacity	\$53,842	2	\$380,392	2	\$192,060	3	\$365,778	3
Other Programs		0	\$32,500	1	\$120,867	6	\$15,188	2
Restore Budget Cuts					\$240,496 ³	9	\$526,646 ⁴	11
Funds Budgeted, Specifics To Be Determined	n/a		n/a		n/a		\$611,244	9
	\$1,107,260		\$2,134,851		\$2,477,846		\$3,129,140	

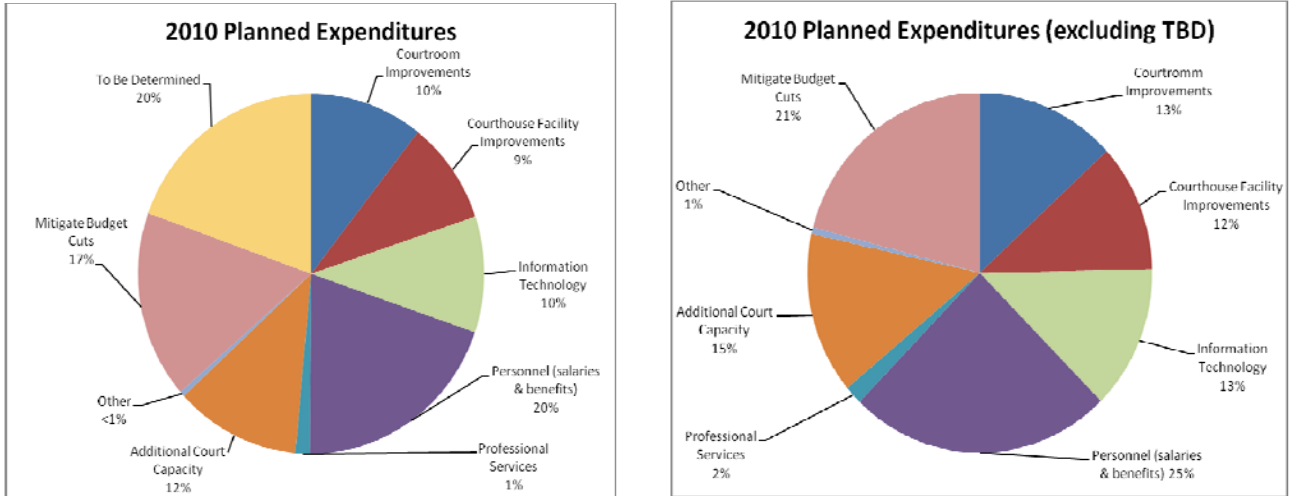
Figures 2 and 3: 2008 and 2009 Actual Expenditures



³ Does not include \$111,566 counted in the personnel category.

⁴ Does not include \$102,300 counted in the personnel category.

Figures 4 and 5: 2010 Planned Expenditures

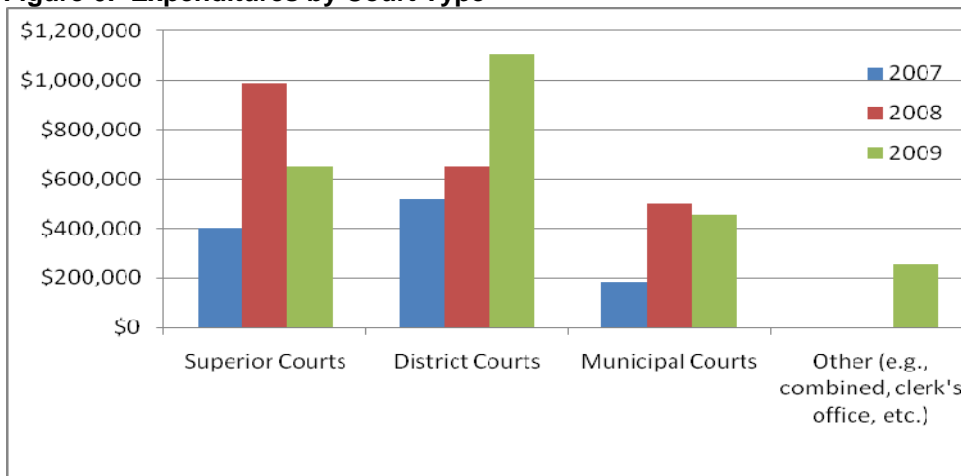


In 2009 the distribution of county funds among the court levels swung back to the preponderance of the funds being used to benefit courts of limited jurisdiction. The district court share grew from \$649,771 in 2008 to \$1,105,770 in 2009.

Table 6: Expenditures by Court Type

Expenditures	2007	%	2008	%	2009	%
Superior Courts	\$402,588	36.40%	\$986,740	46.20%	\$655,172	26.44%
District Courts	\$521,939	47.10%	\$649,771	30.40%	\$1,105,770	44.63%
Other (combined Superior and District Courts, County Clerk, etc.)					\$258,615	10.44%
Municipal Courts	\$182,731	16.50%	\$498,410	23.30%	\$458,287	18.50%
Total	\$1,107,258	100.00%	\$2,134,921	100.00%	\$2,477,844	100.00%

Figure 6: Expenditures by Court Type



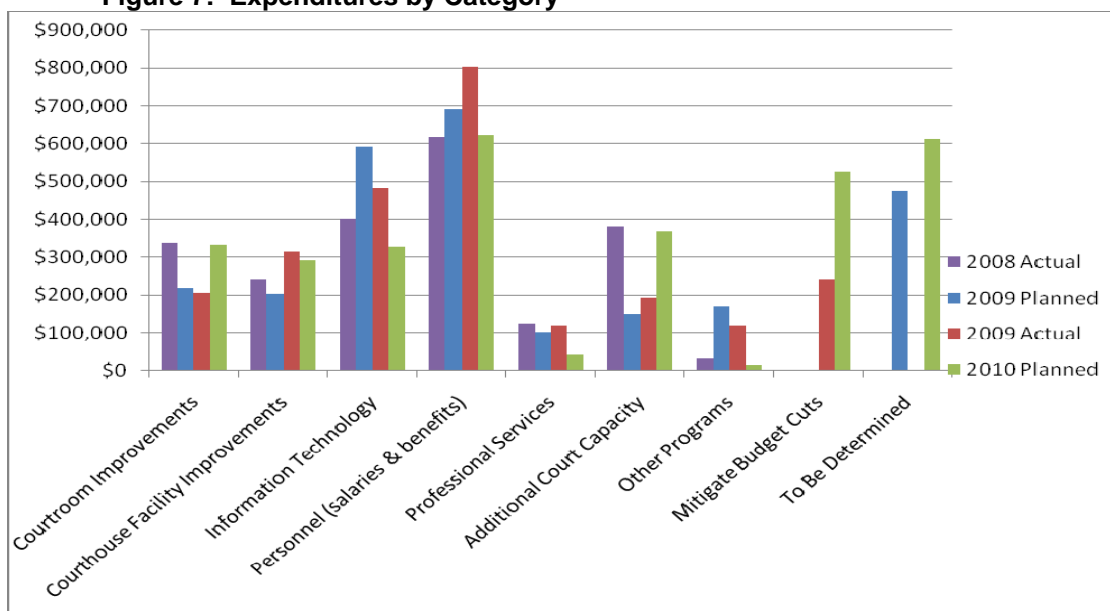
As in prior years, the 2009 expenditures and 2010 plans continue to reflect the 2005 TCIA Use Report’s observation that:

“In categorizing how Trial Court Improvement Account funds have been or will be expended it is evident that local jurisdictions must make an initial and critical choice between funding one-time, limited duration expenses and funding on-going permanent personnel costs.”

Funding salaries and benefits, particularly for judicial officers, continues to consume the largest share of TCIA dollars. Most of the jurisdictions using the funds for this purpose have committed to this use for the long-term, thus limiting the availability of funds for other purposes.

This report shows a variety of other uses. Information technology, particularly the acquisition and implementation of local applications such as jury management and digital records accounts for the second largest portion of the funds. Courts have invested funds in implementing security measures and upgrading to modern electronic equipment including courtroom recording systems, sound systems, and presentation equipment. They have also implemented new technologies such as video conferencing and electronic calendar displays. Acquisition of additional capacity in the form of new courtrooms and additional court time in existing courtrooms also represents a significant use.

Figure 7: Expenditures by Category



Impact of the Recession: The effect of the recession on local government budgets had a major impact on TCIA use in 2009. Local funding authorities, in some cases without court involvement, directed \$352,062⁵ from TCIA accounts to cover routine operating expenses in order to make up for shortfalls in local government general fund budgets. Plans for 2010 show that this use will increase to \$628,946.⁶ In addition, while prior TCIA use reports indicated that few jurisdictions needed to use TCIA funds to restore de-funded programs, nine used funds for this purpose in 2009 and five plan to do so in 2010.

The 2009 TCIA report form requested jurisdictions provide data on local general fund appropriations in 2009 and 2010. In their reports, 30 counties⁷ and 10 cities provided this information. Two-thirds of the counties and 30% of the cities that provided information on local general fund appropriations reported reductions in 2010. While reductions ranged from less than 1% to more than 16% and in some cases budgets were increased, the reports indicate that overall:

- Superior court budgets were reduced by an average of 2.4%.
- District court budgets were reduced by an average of 1.1%.
- Municipal court budgets for qualifying jurisdictions were reduced by an average of 1.4%.

Personnel: For 2010, jurisdiction TCIA reports show a substantial increase in the expenditure of TCIA funds for personnel in the courts. TCIA use for personnel had grown substantially over the first three years of the program, but declined in 2008. In 2009, 32% (\$802,851 in 20 jurisdictions) of TCIA dollars expended statewide went to salaries and benefits, compared to 29% (\$616,465 in 19 jurisdictions) in 2008. At least \$111,566 of the 2009 expenditures can be attributed to funding for positions, primarily clerical, that had been, or were slated to be, cut because of local budget shortfalls.

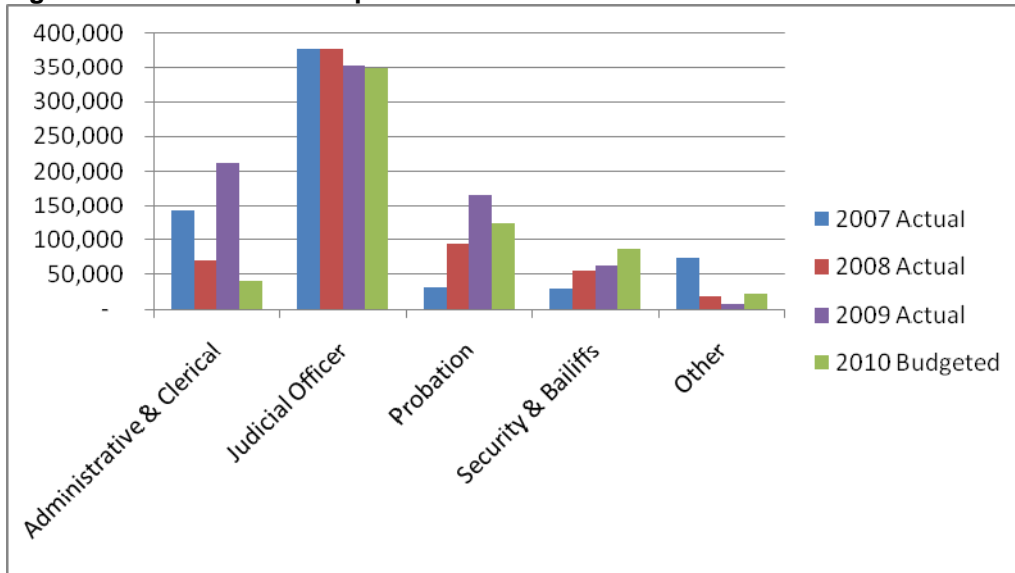
⁵ Includes \$111,566 identified as personnel costs in Table 5.

⁶ Includes \$102,300 identified as personnel costs in Table 5.

⁷ Twenty-nine provided numbers for both courts; one provided numbers for the district court only.

Jurisdiction plans for 2010 show TCIA use for personnel falling to pre-2009 levels. Salaries and benefits constitute 29% of the 2010 expenditures planned by the courts as of April 2010.

Figure 8: Distribution of Expenditures for Personnel



As in prior years, in the category of personnel costs, the predominant use is to fund judicial officers (more than one-half of the jurisdictions using TCIA funds for personnel reported this type of use in 2009). In addition, courts report using TCIA funds for a variety of other positions including bailiffs and other security staff, clerks, probation officers and support staff, a courthouse facilitator, and a family court coordinator.

In 2009, eight (as in 2008) courts of limited jurisdiction, including six municipal courts, indicated that they are using their TCIA funds to fund portions of judges' salaries. Another is using TCIA to compensate pro tem judges. Compared to their pre-TCIA status:

- Five of these jurisdictions increased judges' hours and/or added judicial positions.
- Three municipal courts used the funds to make their part-time judges full-time; this increased judicial hours and enabled them to qualify for the TCIA funds they used for this purpose.
- Four directed TCIA money to salaries for judges who were already full-time. A municipal court is continuing to use its TCIA to raise municipal court judges' salaries

to 95% of a district court judge's salary, which enables the court to qualify for the TCIA funds it used for this purpose. While using TCIA funds to raise salaries arguably enables the jurisdiction to attract better qualified candidates for a judicial position, this type of use precludes using TCIA to fund new programs.

The number of courts using TCIA funds for security related positions grew from two in 2008 to four in 2009. As in 2007 and 2008, three jurisdictions reported using TCIA funds to pay for personnel in their probation departments.

In addition to the jurisdictions that separately reported personnel related expenditures, two reported using funds for the operation of courts created in prior years because of the availability of TCIA funds; the operating costs in these cases include salaries and benefits, but these costs were not reported separately and are not included in the data presented in this section. A third used TCIA funds for the operation of a drug court previously supported from other sources.

As anticipated in the 2008 report, the impact of cuts in local jurisdiction budgets resulted in more TCIA money spent on personnel. While earlier reports had shown increases in expenditures for personnel, the 2008 report had shown a leveling off in personnel expenditures and a shift to investment in equipment. The strain on local budgets has reversed this movement.

Most of the TCIA funds spent for personnel are for basic court operations rather than new innovative programs. The TCIA reports from local jurisdictions continue to indicate that most of the current expenditures for judicial officer salaries, probation staff and administrative employees will continue into the future. As in 2009, in 11 jurisdictions all 2010 TCIA funds will be used to cover personnel costs. Of the 21 jurisdictions reporting use of TCIA funds for personnel in 2009, 15 courts at indicated the use will continue with no fixed duration. Therefore, for 15 jurisdictions, the substantial resources in the Trial Court Improvement Account are being, over the long-term, tied to a single improvement (personnel), rather than being used for multiple one-time expenses and projects. The number of jurisdictions reporting such plans declined from 17 in 2008; this indicates that, despite widespread budget shortfalls, there is some flexibility in local decision-making. Whether current budget crises leads to more long-term use of funds for personnel remains to be determined.

Capital Improvements and Court Operations: The impact of local government budget reductions in 2009 was also reflected in the use of TCIA funds for non-personnel purposes. Funds used for capital improvements and court operations declined from 2008 totals despite an overall increase in TCIA spending. It is clear that funds that might have been spent on capital improvements, information technology, professional services and adding court capacity were used instead to mitigate budget cuts. Information on plans for 2010 indicates that this shift will continue. Nevertheless, uses for capital improvements and enhancing court operations were substantial in 2010.

The 2008 report indicated a shift of emphasis from recording, sound, presentation, and assistive listening to video systems in courtrooms, with five courts planning to spend \$102,293 for video in 2009. The growing maturity of video technology has made it feasible for more courts to plan implementation projects. Actual spending in 2009 was only \$36,408, but 2010 plans for video total \$211,094, part of which reflects the postponement of 2009 plans to 2010. Expenditures for recording systems declined from \$230,558 in 2008 to \$50,163 in 2009.

Use of TCIA funds for facilities improvements outside the courtroom grew from 2008 to 2009. Spending for remodeling and other building improvements declined from \$165,000 to \$45,594, but expenditures for security improvements increased from \$12,566 to \$119,233 with \$115,400 planned in 2010. In addition, \$101,146 went to the purchase and installation of electronic court calendar displays for public areas with \$108,000 planned for 2010.

Increased Court Capacity: Courts use TCIA funds to expand facilities and to enable increased and enhanced usage of existing facilities or the implementation of therapeutic and problem-solving courts. Two jurisdictions continue to use TCIA funds to support courts implemented in prior years through the use of TCIA funds. No jurisdictions used TCIA funds to add courtrooms in 2009 and none reported 2010 plans to use funds for this purpose.

Information Technology: As in prior years, many jurisdictions report funding information technology in the form of equipment and software. Expenditures in 2009 and plans for 2010 show a decline in use of TCIA funds for computing equipment. This, the relatively small number using TCIA funds for personal computers, and the types of applications implemented by local courts reflect the fact that the State, through the

Judicial Information System (JIS) equipment replacement program, provides much of the computer equipment courts need and, through the JIS application, provides much of the automation courts need. However, given the substantial amount of TCIA money shifted to mitigating local budget reductions, it is also possible that the decline reflects local decisions to delay equipment purchases and spend scarce dollars elsewhere.

As seen in prior years, jurisdictions are using the funds to acquire applications not provided through the JIS. These fall into two main categories:

- Jury management systems: Three jurisdictions used TCIA funds in 2009 either to make installment payments or fund licenses for existing jury systems. In 2010, these uses will continue and two counties plan to use TCIA to fund new jury systems.
- Record management systems: Four jurisdictions used TCIA funds for expenses related to existing digital records systems.

Snohomish County Superior Court has allocated TCIA funds in 2010 for the acquisition of a case management system.

Access to Justice Improvements: Jurisdictions continue to report expenditures for programs and improvements that enhance access to justice. This includes equipment, such as assistive listening devices, and facilities changes that are directed toward people with disabilities. It also includes the translation of court documents and forms into other languages and the installation of foreign language signs in the courthouse.

Security: Besides the use of TCIA funds to fill budget shortfalls, the most significant area of growth has been in the area of security. In 2009, the number of jurisdictions using TCIA for this purpose and the amount allocated increased significantly. Uses included security personnel in three jurisdictions and security-related equipment and building improvements in six others.

In addition to providing detailed descriptions of actual or planned expenditures, jurisdictions were asked to categorize the areas affected in general terms using checklists. The following data is presented in the format used in the report response form completed by individual jurisdictions with the number of jurisdictions marking the

box shown to the left of each statement. Because multiple responses under each checklist category were possible, the totals vary. The types of cases likely to be impacted by the expenditure of trial court improvement funds are fairly evenly distributed and all of the major case types and areas of law are represented.

Table 7. Which area(s) of the law or case types are primarily affected by the expenditures?

2006	2007	2008	2009	
16	17	23	26	Civil
5	8	8	9	Civil – Arbitration
11	16	21	23	Civil – Small Claims
12	16	23	28	Criminal – Felony
23	34	38	43	Criminal – Misdemeanor
10	14	21	21	Juvenile Offender
11	14	20	23	Family Law
19	23	28	34	Domestic Violence
8	11	15	16	Dependency
6	12	18	16	Probate & Guardianship
8	12	13	11	Mental Illness
6	9	13	10	Adoption
15	22	31	36	Traffic and Other Infractions
6	10	10	10	Other

Nine jurisdictions indicate that therapeutic or problem solving courts are, or will likely be, beneficiaries of the TCIA funding. One jurisdiction is using all of its TCIA funds to support the local drug court. The table below shows the courts benefited in those jurisdictions.

Table 8. Which therapeutic or problem-solving courts are directly supported by the funds?

2006	2007	2008	2009	
3	5	4	8	Drug Court – Adult
1	4	4	4	Drug Court – Juvenile
0	4	4	4	Drug Court – Family
4	3	3	2	DUI Court
1	2	4	5	Unified Family Court
3	2	2	2	Mental Health Court
3	4	6	4	Domestic Violence Court
1	7	5	2	Other

Jurisdiction Reports

Forty-six jurisdictions reported actual expenditures in 2009. Summaries of 2009 projects and programs for each jurisdiction can be found in Appendix B.

Forty-three jurisdictions reported firm planned expenditures for 2010. Summaries of planned 2010 projects and programs is in Appendix C.

Actual jurisdiction responses which provide additional detail on the summary descriptions above are available from the Administrative Office of the Courts on request.

The following twenty-one jurisdictions reported that a final decision had not yet been reached on how funds will be used in 2010. In some, funds have been allocated for use by the court, but specific expenditure plans are not yet in place. In some, identified projects or expenditures were under active consideration.

Adams County	Skamania County
Asotin County	Snohomish County
Benton County	Stevens County
Chelan County	Thurston County
Garfield County	Wahkiakum County
Grays Harbor County	Whitman County
Jefferson County	City of Puyallup
King County	City of Renton
Lewis County	City of Seattle
Okanogan County	City of Tacoma
Pend Oreille County	

The following seven⁸ jurisdictions reported that a decision had been made to allow a sufficient account balance to accrue before determining how to best utilize the funding:

Adams County
Grant County
Mason County
San Juan County
Thurston County
Whitman County
City of Marysville

⁸ Four small municipal courts in Grant County also received small amounts of money (\$26-\$128). These funds were used for operating expenses in those courts.

As the fund levels have increased in jurisdictions allowing funds to accrue, the number of jurisdictions in this category has declined substantially. Some of these jurisdictions have spent Trial Court Improvement funds in prior years and are now rebuilding their funds. A few have yet to spend any TCIA funds.

Conclusion

At the same time that it might be expected that most courts are using TCIA funds to implement trial court improvement programs, for many economically strapped jurisdictions the strain on local court budgets has resulted in a shift in the use of the funds away from improvements. The 2008 report concluded:

“[B]ecause local jurisdictions are facing extreme pressure on their budgets, it can be expected that many budget decisions will be subject to change. It is therefore anticipated that the report next year on actual 2009 expenditures will reflect local strategies for coping with shortfalls.”

As seen in this report, this expectation has been realized. Three trends are evident:

- TCIA funds are being explicitly allocated to fill budget gaps. In fact, 14% of the TCIA funds expended in 2009 were shifted to deal with shortfalls and plans are for 20% to be used this way in 2010.
- Courts are spending significant TCIA dollars on programs that in the past would have been funded by local general funds.
- Courts are banking less for future use and during economic crisis are likely to spend at the reimbursement level.

With the slow economic recovery, these trends can be expected to continue into 2011.

Questions and Comments

This is the fifth annual report on the use of Trial Court Improvement Accounts. As for the 2008 report, an electronic form was provided for jurisdictions to use in preparing their reports. The 2009 data collection tool was also revised based on responses received for the 2008 report.

Comments on this report are welcomed and will assist in the continued improvement of this report and the supporting data collection effort for 2010. Please direct questions or comments on how this report might be improved to:

Brian Backus
Administrative Office of the Courts
PO Box 41174
Olympia, WA 98504-1174
(360) 705-5320
brian.backus@courts.wa.gov

APPENDIX A

2009

TRIAL COURT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

***Summary of Distributions
and Budget Allocations***

Jurisdiction	2009 Amount Received	2009 Expended	2010 Allocation Determined	2010 Budget Placement	2010 Amount Budgeted
Adams County	\$21,826.00	\$1,852.00	No - TCIA funds allowed to accrue	Separate TCIA Budget	\$0
Asotin County	\$22,298.00	\$18,568.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$11,796
Benton County	\$74,327.00	\$67,552.66	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$35,000
Chelan County	\$49,551.00	\$83,843.87	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$136,602
Clallam County	\$39,641.00	\$38,000.00	Yes	Superior Court Operating	\$39,641
Clark County	\$148,653.00	\$65,000.00	Partially	Superior/District Operating	\$213,000
Columbia County	\$10,406.00	\$5,840.30	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$15,000
Cowlitz County	\$74,327.00	\$84,744.00	Yes	Other County or City Budget	\$151,454
Douglas County	\$24,775.00	\$24,775.00	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$25,000
Ferry County	\$8,919.00	\$2,000.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$15,000
Franklin County	\$24,775.00	\$30,506.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$56,164
Garfield County	\$6,194.00	\$95.55	Partially	Not Determined	\$3,750
Grant County	\$49,155.00	\$0.00	No - TCIA funds allowed to accrue	Not Determined	\$0
Grays Harbor County	\$49,551.00	\$26,284.28	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$32,600
Island County	\$24,775.00	\$0.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$45,000
Jefferson County	\$24,775.00	\$16,211.00	Partially	Superior/District Operating	\$6,000
King County	\$520,279.00	\$422,703.87	Partially	Superior/District Operating	\$275,000
Kitsap County	\$99,103.00	\$103,000.00	Yes	District Court Operating	\$99,103
Kittitas County	\$40,880.00	\$40,880.00	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$40,880
Klickitat County	\$30,474.00	\$30,474.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$30,474
Lewis County	\$49,551.00	\$4,382.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$38,000
Lincoln County	\$18,334.00	\$15,703.31	Yes	Not Determined	\$54,916
Mason County	\$24,775.00	\$1,184.82	No - TCIA funds allowed to accrue	Other County or City Budget	\$0
Okanogan County	\$49,551.00	\$25,506.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$28,784
Pacific County	\$24,775.00	\$24,775.00	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$24,775
Pend Oreille County	\$17,655.00	\$0.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$10,000
Pierce County	\$198,205.00	\$199,205.00	Yes	Superior/District Operating	\$199,205
San Juan County	\$19,077.00	\$50,000.00	No - TCIA funds allowed to accrue	Not Determined	\$0

Skagit County	\$29,624.00	\$0.00	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$108,000
Skamania County	\$12,388.00	\$12,388.00	Partially	Superior/District Operating	\$12,388
Snohomish County	\$222,980.00	\$115,197.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$200,000
Spokane County	\$198,205.00	\$222,288.00	Partially	Superior Court Operating	\$200,000
Stevens County	\$24,775.00	\$20,979.09	No - supplemental request planned	Separate TCIA Budget	\$0
Thurston County	\$74,327.00	\$76,508.00	No - TCIA funds allowed to accrue	Superior Court Operating	\$0
Wahkiakum County	\$9,910.00	\$3,093.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$0
Walla Walla County	\$29,730.00	\$22,317.00	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$29,730
Whatcom County	\$49,551.00	\$44,111.18	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$42,235
Whitman County	\$24,775.00	\$5,782.60	No - TCIA funds allowed to accrue	Separate TCIA Budget	\$0
Yakima County	\$99,103.00	\$113,716.00	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$130,236
City of Anacortes	\$3,334.00	\$0.00			\$0
City of Auburn	\$24,466.00	\$24,466.00	Yes	Municipal Court Operating	\$24,466
City of Bremerton	\$23,536.00	\$0.00	Partially	Municipal Court Operating	\$78,094
City of Burlington	\$5,760.00	\$0.00			\$0
City of Des Moines	\$5,869.00	\$5,869.00	Yes	Municipal Court Operating	\$5,689
City of Edmonds	\$12,945.00	\$12,732.10	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$11,800
City of Everett	\$44,040.00	\$0.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$50,000
City of Federal Way	\$47,074.00	\$47,074.00	Yes	Municipal Court Operating	\$47,074
City of Kent	\$47,074.00	\$47,074.00	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$2,000
City of Kirkland	\$23,536.00	\$23,536.00	Yes	Separate TCIA Budget	\$23,536
City of Marysville	\$23,536.00	\$0.00	No - TCIA funds allowed to accrue	Not Determined	\$0
City of Mt. Vernon	\$10,836.00	\$0.00			\$0
City of Olympia	\$23,536.00	\$23,536.00	Yes	Municipal Court Operating	\$23,536
City of Puyallup	\$23,536.00	\$0.00	No - supplemental request planned	Not Determined	\$0
City of Renton	\$23,536.00	\$12,200.00	Partially	Municipal Court Operating	\$12,200
City of Seattle	\$188,295.00	\$126,000.00	No - supplemental request planned	Separate TCIA Budget	\$288,519
City of Tacoma	\$73,400.00	\$87,487.30	Partially	Separate TCIA Budget	\$204,000
City of Yakima	\$48,313.00	\$48,313.00	Yes	Municipal Court Operating	\$48,313
Statewide Total	\$3,174,597	\$2,477,754			\$3,128,960

APPENDIX B

2009

TRIAL COURT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

ACTUAL 2009 REPORTED EXPENDITURES

Actual 2009 Reported Expenditures

Adams County

- Purchased a laptop computer and a projector for use in courtroom presentations for both courts.

Asotin County

- Replaced the recording system in district court. †
- Replaced the superior court's HVAC system.
- Continued to provide wi-fi in both courts. †

Benton County

- Remodeled clerk's juvenile division office.
- Purchased chairs for court reporters. †
- Funded second (of four) installment payment for acquisition of an automated jury management program for use by both courts. †
- Upgraded the recording system in juvenile court. †
- Purchased laptop computers and printers for district court judges. †
- Covered a variety of small operating expenses for the superior court.
- Acquired software to enable the public and other court levels to view superior court documents.

Chelan County

- Used funds to mitigate budget cuts (both superior and district courts).
- Paid travel and conference fees for a team from the superior court to attend a family law training program.

Clallam County

- Continued to fund a portion of the cost of a courthouse security officer position. The remainder is covered by the county's general fund. †

Clark County

- Funded a drug and alcohol education program for youth. †

Columbia County

- Upgraded recording system.
- Upgraded computers, software and related equipment.

Cowlitz County

- Funded salary for deputy sheriffs to provide security in the courthouse. Previously security officers funded from other sources had provided security.
- Restored funding for district court clerk positions that were subject to budget cuts.

Douglas County

- Continued to apply funds to payments on loan for remodeling the Waterville courthouse to create an additional hearing room and add video conferencing for the superior court. (TCIA funds will be applied to this for several years in the future.) †

Ferry County

- Partially funded clerk position cut in county budget.

Franklin County

- Purchased neck loop assistive listening devices.
- Upgraded the digital recording system for the juvenile court. †
- Installed signage for the hearing impaired in the district court.
- Funded travel and training costs for the superior court administrator, district court administrator and county clerk to attend a national conference on court management.
- Purchased media boards for both courts.
- Purchased a podium for attorneys to use in one courtroom. †
- Acquired a scanner for the district court.
- Acquired three task chairs for court reporters in the superior court.
- Purchased two chairs for district court judges. †
- Acquired software to enable the public and other court levels to view superior court documents.
- Funded second (of four) installment payment for acquisition of an automated jury management program for use by both courts. †

Garfield County

- Purchased hearing aid compatible assistive listening devices for use in both courts.

Grays Harbor County

- Paid for software license and maintenance for the district court digital records system (purchased in 2008 with TCIA funds).
- Continued district court contract with local dispute resolution center to provide mandatory mediation services for small claims cases prior to trial. †

Jefferson County

- Continued to fund a civilian bailiff for jury trials in district court instead of using sheriff's deputies. Funded existing civilian bailiff services in superior court. †
- Purchased a new audio/video recording system for both courts.

King County

- Translated parenting seminar materials into Spanish and Vietnamese and printed them. †
- Obtained additional consulting services for updating the superior court's strategic plan. †
- Continued to fund translation of commonly used criminal and family law forms into multiple languages including Spanish, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Russian, and Somali. †
- Continued a pilot project for an Early Resolution Case Manager for the superior court at the Maleng Justice Center. †
- Upgraded servers and added storage capacity for the district court's electronic records system.
- Provided knowledge center training for district court staff. †
- Implemented an electronic calendar display system at each district court location.

Kitsap County

- Continued to fund the district court judge position added in 2006 using TCIA funds. †

Kittitas County

- Funded the operation of an adult drug court; replaced support provided by local social service agency which no longer provide services at no cost. †

Klickitat County

- Continued to partially fund a probation officer for the drug court. †

Lewis County

- Installed hallway security cameras in both courts.

Lincoln County

- Purchase a new sound system for the superior court.
- Acquired a tabletop phone system for use in superior court telephone hearings.
- Leased a photocopier for district court.

Mason County

- Funded a maintenance contract for the portable recording system acquired in 2008 for use in both courts.

Okanogan County

- Funded maintenance of jury management system acquired in 2008 for use by both superior and district court.
- Funded maintenance of interface program for indexing scanned document with the Judicial Information System.
- Replaced clerk personal computer workstations in all courtrooms.
- Upgraded sound system in superior court.
- Funded one-half of the court facilitator's salary.

Pacific County

- Maintained the 0.1 FTE increased district court judicial staffing begun in 2006. †

Pierce County

- Restored a probation officer for district court whose position was cut in the 2009 budget.
- Funded pro-tem judge and court reporters in superior court to offset budget reductions.
- Offset budget reductions that would have required superior court services staff to take furlough days.
- Paid the salary of a family court coordinator in superior court.
- Funded additional interpreter hours for superior court.
- Purchase replacement personal computers for superior court (offsets cut in IT funds for court).

- Funded Guardians ad Litem for indigent parties in superior court.

San Juan County

- Used funds as match for grant from Washington State Historic County Courthouse Rehabilitation Grant Program for courthouse restoration.

Skamania County

- Continued to partially fund an additional clerk position in district court. †

Snohomish County

- Installed security barriers and electronic entry doors at Cascade and Evergreen Division (district court) facilities.
- Purchased dual monitors for the superior court judicial coordinator's workstation.
- Replaced closed circuit television monitors in jury assembly room with high definition screens. The monitors are used for the jury orientation and other videos.
- Acquired video conferencing hardware, software and bridge for superior court.
- Purchased conference telephones with external microphones for superior court.
- Replaced microphones at counsel tables in three superior court courtrooms with wireless mics.

Spokane County

- Continued to support the existing day reporting service for defendants in both courts until mid-2009. †
- Replaced carpet in the juvenile detention center's school. †
- Replaced floor in the juvenile detention center's intake area. †
- Purchased two new photocopiers for the juvenile court. †
- Installed a cage barrier in the juvenile court's transport vehicle. †
- Replaced video view stations used for hearings in the jail. †
- Acquired an assisted listening system for the superior court jury room. †
- Contributed to district court operating funds reduced in part because of the termination of an interlocal agreement to provide municipal court services to the City of Spokane. The funds were used to purchase equipment and for other one-time costs.
- Provided cash match for State Justice Institute grant for consulting services to evaluate district court case management methods and to develop a caseload management system.
- Purchased ergonomic chairs for court commissioners.

- Acquired monitors, video projection equipment, and a sound system for use in jury assembly room used in both courts.

Stevens County

- Acquired a backup power supply for courtroom recording equipment.
- Acquired Monarch software for importing data from the Judicial Information System to local correspondence system.
- Purchased a new monitor for district court courtroom.
- Installed an assistive listening device in the commissioner's hearing room. †
- Purchased four workstations for district court staff. †
- Purchased desktop scanners so that all clerk's office staff can scan documents. The position that was responsible for scanning was eliminated in the 2009 budget. †

Thurston County

- Acquired conference telephone systems for six superior court courtrooms.
- Implemented a web-based application for real-time court reporting in the superior court.
- Upgraded the district court's recording system.
- Hired a temporary employee to review and close old district court case files. Budget cuts had eliminated staffing for this task.
- Funded the security checkpoint for the district court. Budget cuts had eliminated staffing for this function.

Wahkiakum County

- Upgraded courtroom recording system.

Walla Walla County

- Continued to partially fund a district court probation assistant position. †

Whatcom County

- Offset budget reduction to pay criminal counsel costs. The court reports that this decision was made by the county executive branch without consulting the courts.
- Continued to fund non-judicial staff for a night court for small claims cases. †

Whitman County

- Upgraded microphones in superior court courtroom.
- Installed panic buttons in multiple district court locations.

Yakima County

- Continued to fund the operating expenses for the district court satellite facility in Grandview. †
- Partially funded an additional part-time family court commissioner. †

City of Auburn

- Paid for pro-tem services.

City of Des Moines

- Partially funded the judge's salary and benefits.

City of Edmonds

- Implemented a video arraignment system connecting the jail and the court. †
- Installed wireless duress alarms for the judge and others who interface with the public. Note: originally planned for implementation in prior years. †
- Purchased telephone headsets for clerks who provide public information over the telephone.

City of Federal Way

- Continued to partially fund an additional judge. †

City of Kent

- Continued to fund a probation clerk. †

City of Kirkland

- Continued to fund judge position increased to full-time and increased commissioner hours. †

City of Olympia

- Continued to fund the increase in the judge's salary to 95% of a district court judge's salary.

City of Renton

- Continued to partially fund the judge's salary in order to pay at 95% of a district court judge's salary.

City of Seattle

- Funded analysis by a consultant of options replacement of the courts information system.

City of Tacoma

- Funded a file clerk originally funded by local general fund.
- Funded a collection clerk.

City of Yakima

- Maintained the 2006 increase the judges' salaries made in order to qualify for TCIA funding.

[†] Expenditure of TCIA funds for this item in 2009 was reported as a planned 2009 expenditure in the 2008 TCIA Use Report.

APPENDIX C

2009

TRIAL COURT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

PLANNED 2010 EXPENDITURES

Planned 2010 Expenditures

Asotin County

- Facility and equipment upgrades (capital items; specifics to be determined).
- Continue to provide wi-fi “hot spots” in both courts.

Benton County

- Fund third (of four) installment payment for acquisition of an automated jury management program for use by both courts.

Chelan County

- Mitigate the impact of county budget reductions (superior court).

Clallam County

- Continue to fund a courthouse security officer position.

Clark County

- Fund a drug and alcohol education program for youth.
- Provide funds for family law annex.
- Cover budget shortfalls for both courts.

Columbia County

- Sustain funding levels for both courts with TCIA funds covering personnel, equipment and jury costs.

Cowlitz County

- Continue to fund salary for deputy sheriffs to provide security in the courthouse. Previously security had been provided by security officers funded from other sources.
- Continue funding district court clerk positions that were subject to budget cuts.

Douglas County

- Continue to apply funds to payment on loan for remodeling the Waterville courthouse to create an additional hearing room and add video conferencing for the superior court. (TCIA funds will be applied to this for several years in the future.)

Ferry County

- Fund salary for clerk position cut in county budget.
- Replace attorney chairs in courtroom.
- Replace microphones in courtroom.

Franklin County

- Replace courtroom assistive listening system, purchase four neck loops and transmitter receivers.
- Contribute funds for staff to attend conferences and Institute for Court Management training.
- Purchase a scanner for the district court.
- Purchase webcams and headsets to enable participation in web-based statewide committee meetings.
- Install a permanent projection screen in the courtroom.
- Fund third (of four) installment payment for acquisition of an automated jury management program for use by both courts.

Garfield County

- Purchase a backup recording system for use by both courts.

Grays Harbor County

- Continue the district court contract with local dispute resolution center to provide mandatory mediation services for small claims cases prior to trial.
- Continue to fund software license and maintenance for the district court digital records system (purchased in 2008 with TCIA funds).
- Purchase four keyless entry systems for district court offices.

Island County

- One superior court courtroom will receive a technology upgrade including a podium with technology for presentations; monitors in lieu of projectors and screens; laptops for the parties; monitors for the jury box; upgrades to the sound system; and minor remodel work as necessary.

Jefferson County

- Continue to fund a civilian bailiff for jury trials in district court instead of using sheriff's deputies and to contribute to funding for the existing civilian bailiff services in superior court.

- Restore funding for a half-time clerk position in district court. The position had been eliminated as a result of county budget cuts.

King County

- Upgrade software used for the district court's online records system.
- Replace the district court's video conferencing system.
- Produce an informational DVD on superior court services and processes specifically for pro se family law litigants (originally planned for 2008).
- Purchase portable and close range video conferencing equipment for use in trials (originally planned for 2008).
- Print brochures on a variety of juvenile programs (originally planned for 2008).
- Conduct pilot project(s) to implement recommendations in the superior court's Children and Family Operational Master Plan which was approved in 2006 (originally planned for 2008).
- Provide funding for replacement of the superior court's automated case management system.

Kitsap County

- Continue to fund the district court judge position added in 2006 using TCIA funds.

Kittitas County

- Continue to fund the adult drug court.

Klickitat County

- Continue to partially fund a probation officer for the drug court.

Lewis County

- Make security enhancements including locks and telephones for notifications.
- Acquire presentation carts and related equipment for both courtrooms.
- Replace chairs in a superior court jury room.
- Upgrade sound system in two superior court courtrooms.

Lincoln County

- Fund a district court clerk position that was abrogated as a part of a budget reduction.
- Pay for a photocopier lease.
- Purchase a fax machine and paper shredder for the superior court.

- Purchase a jury management system for the superior court.

Okanogan County

- Continue to fund maintenance of jury management system acquired in 2008 for use by both superior and district court.
- Continue to fund maintenance of interface program for indexing scanned document with the Judicial Information System.
- Fund the court facilitator's salary. (The county plans to fund the salary from the general fund starting in 2011.)

Pacific County

- Continue the 0.1 FTE increased district court judicial staffing begun in 2006.

Pend Oreille County

- Fund a new automated jury management system for both courts.

Pierce County

- Continue funding for a probation officer for district court whose position was cut in the 2009 budget.
- Offset 2010 budget cuts – superior court.

Skagit County

- Acquire electronic display panels for court calendars for superior and district courts. This project was originally planned for 2007 and then for 2008.

Skamania County

- Continue to partially fund an additional clerk position in district court.

Snohomish County

- Acquire a case management system for the superior and juvenile courts.
- Upgrade security in South Division's facility.

Spokane County

- Restore funding for drug court.

Wahkiakum County

- Fund security personnel previously funded from a grant.

Walla Walla County

- Continue to fund the probation assistant position.

Whatcom County

- Continue to fund the night court.
- Replace recording equipment for district court.
- Pay for maintenance of new jury management software.
- Acquire courtroom recording equipment.

Yakima County

- Continue to partially fund an additional part-time family court commissioner.
- Continue to fund the operating expenses for the district court satellite facility in Grandview.

City of Auburn

- Continue to pay for pro-tem services.

City of Bremerton

- Purchase video equipment for new permanent court facility acquired in April 2010. It will be used for in-custody arraignments.
- Restore a probation monitor position cut from the courts 2010 budget.

City of Des Moines

- Continue to partial fund the judge's salary and benefits.

City of Edmonds

- Upgrade the courtroom sound system.
- Acquire an emergency generator to enable continued courtroom operations in power outages.

City of Everett

- Implement a video arraignment system connecting the county jail and the court. This was originally planned for 2008 or 2009.

City of Federal Way

- Continue to fund partially fund an additional judge.

City of Kent

- Purchase digital voice recorders and assisted listening devices.

City of Kirkland

- Continue to fund judicial officer increased hours.

City of Olympia

- Continue to fund an increase in the judge's salary to 95% of a district court judge's salary begun in 2008.

City of Renton

- Continue to partially fund the judge's salary in order to maintain the pay at 95% of a district court judge's salary.

City of Tacoma

- Continue to fund file and collections positions.

City of Yakima

- Continue to fund the increase in judge's salaries to 95% of a district court judge's salary begun in 2006.