



IDAHO JUDICIARY

Idaho Supreme Court
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Idaho Supreme Court FY2021 Budget Enhancement Requests

Additional Judicial Resources

The need for additional judicial resources continues unabated in distinct parts of the state. While the number of total case filings statewide fluctuates, increased judicial resource demands occur for a variety of reasons including significant population growth in certain regions, increasingly complex and time consuming caseloads, and felony case numbers are increasing in good measure.

Idaho's trial courts are "courts of record," and by Idaho statute, each district judge is required to have a court reporter. (I.C. § 1-1101.) The current number of court reporters allows for one reporter for each active district judge.

An ongoing General Fund appropriation is requested for one new District Judge and Court Reporter to be chambered in Bonner County, and for two new Magistrate Judges to be chambered in Kootenai County. Budgeted for 9 months for the first year, are \$197,250, \$75,050, and \$271,300, respectively from the General Fund.

Court Reporter Resources

An ongoing General Fund appropriation is requested to hire a "floating" court reporter to be shared between the 3rd and 4th Judicial Districts. This Court reporter will 1) accommodate the reporting of termination of parental rights cases in the magistrate courts which have an expedited appeals process to the Supreme Court, 2) report for Senior District Judges who are hearing cases in these two districts, and 3) provide coverage when another official court reporter is unavailable. This General Fund request is for \$99,200.

Judicial Change in Employee Compensation

A 1% placeholder for an ongoing General Fund appropriation is requested for a change in employee compensation (CEC) for judicial salaries; however, the Supreme Court requests a CEC equal to that ultimately recommended for all other state employees. 1% of current judicial salaries results in a \$268,600 General Fund request.

Access to the Courts — Contract A.D.A. Specialist

An ongoing General Fund appropriation is requested to provide continued funding for an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) consultant. The consultant will continue assisting the Idaho Courts with expert, technical assistance regarding ADA assessment of local county court facilities and ongoing professional services to assist the courts with Department of Justice audits of facilities and programs, as well as providing assistance on individual questions that have arisen regarding access to court facilities, services, and programs in the Idaho Courts statewide. This request is for \$34,000 in General Funds.



Mission Statement of the Idaho Courts

*As the Third Branch
of Government, we
provide access to
justice by ensuring
fair processes and
the timely, impartial
resolution of cases.*

*The Idaho Judiciary
Stands For:*

*Integrity
Fairness
Independence
Respect
Excellence
Innovation*

*The Idaho Judiciary
Strives To:*

*Provide Timely,
Impartial Case
Resolution Through
Legally Fair
Procedures*

*Ensure Access to
Justice*

*Promote Effective,
Innovative Services*

*Increase Public
Trust and
Confidence In
Idaho's Courts*

Occupancy Cost Increases - Capitol Mall Rental Rate Increase

An ongoing General Fund appropriation is requested to account for the Capital Mall rental rate increases, specifically to pay for the occupancy costs for the space occupied by the Court at the Idaho Law and Justice Learning Center, which also houses the State Law Library. The Department of Administration has increased the Capital Mall rental rates from FY2018 at \$12/sq.ft. to FY2020 at \$14.77/sq.ft. This would increase the ongoing appropriation of \$90,000 to \$110,800 on an ongoing basis. This is a General Fund request of \$20,800.

Lengthy Trial Juror Compensation

An ongoing General Fund appropriation is requested to support I.C. § 2-222 (HB 586, 2018) to compensate jurors who serve in lengthy jury trials. Section 3 of HB 586 (2018) established I.C. § 2-222. This new code section provides a mechanism for the Idaho Supreme Court, through funds appropriated specifically for this purpose, to reimburse counties a portion of the costs associated with jury service in trials that exceed five days. This is a General Fund request of \$35,000.

Guardian Ad Litem Grants

The Idaho Supreme Court, by way of I.C. §§ 16-1602(22), 16-1638(4), and 16-1639, is the grant administrator authorized and directed to award and administer grants to the 501(c)(3) organizations providing Guardian Ad Litem services. As such, the Court is reporting the appropriation requests it received from the grantee GAL/CASA programs. The Court does not take a position on these pass-through requests. An ongoing General Fund appropriation to support the Guardian Ad Litem programs in the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 7th Judicial Districts is requested. This is a General Fund request of \$405,200.

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