

# Judiciary Budget Request

FY 2024

Dave Byers, Director  
Administrative Office of the Courts

# Probation Salaries Market Adjustment \$17,248,400 GF ongoing

Probation officer vacancies due to low pay have resulted in dangerously high caseloads statewide.

**79,000+ felons** in the state on probation

If **5%** of the probation population shifted to prison,  
it would cost **\$112,716,015** at Corrections

**8 counties**  
exceed the statutory  
1:65 caseload  
standard due to  
officer vacancies  
(May 2022)

Staffing shortages =  
Danger to officers  
Danger to communities  
Less effective rehabilitative outcomes  
Historically increased prison population  
Potential lawsuits



Position	Current Avg. Entry Level Salaries	New Salaries	% Increase
Probation Officer	\$ 44,040	\$ 54,288	23%
Surveillance Officer	\$ 37,531	\$ 40,248	7%
Probation Supervisor	\$ 59,912	\$ 74,393	24%
Detention Officer	\$ 39,978	\$ 41,342	3%



Note: a DPS officer makes **48% more** than a probation officer

### Probation vs. Prison Cost Per Capita Per Day (FY 20)



Probation Case Management System Service Costs  
*\$4,508,400 GF ongoing*

Previous system used to track probationers statewide is **>20 years** old and no longer supports modern updates – new cloud-based system.



## Staff Salaries

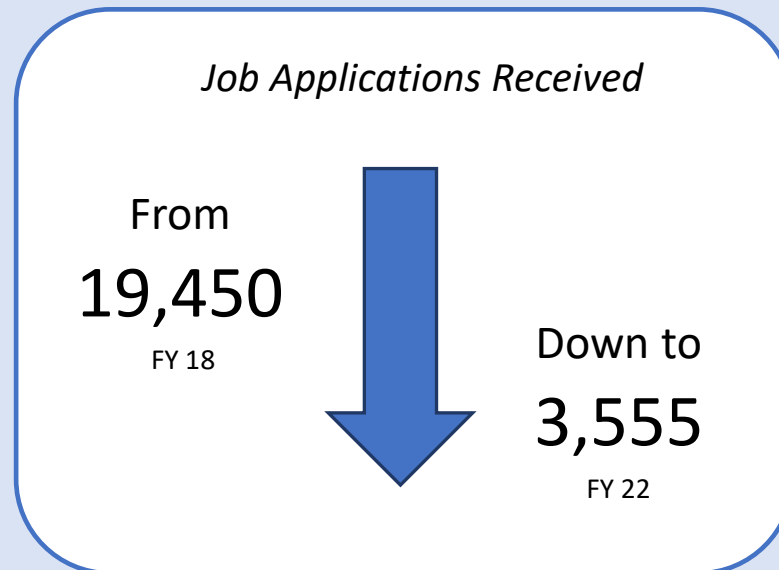
Equalize to Agency Salaries \$908,000

+ \$2,593,700 5% COLA

**The number one reason for leaving court employment is for higher pay.**  
In FY 21, state court staff were paid:

**10% less** than other state agency employees

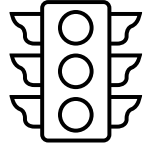
**14% less** than Maricopa and Phoenix court employees



Staff turnover has **doubled to 18%** in FY 22.

The court receives **few or no** applications for certain positions.

# Technology



Automation Operating Expenses  
*\$2,450,000 GF ongoing*

The Supreme Court operates the case management systems for 150+ courts and probation depts statewide with fee-based revenue largely from traffic tickets.

Tickets have declined resulting in  
**~827,000 fewer** tickets issued in FY 21.



Digital Evidence Software  
*\$280,000 GF ongoing*

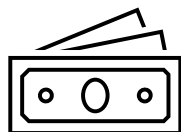
Portal costs for all case types  
statewide after a successful  
2-year pilot.

# Oversight & Accountability

Fiduciary Investigators (2 FTEs)  
*\$211,900 GF ongoing*

Fiduciaries manage medical and financial decisions for elderly and vulnerable citizens.

Additional investigators will process 41 pending fiduciary complaints (>1 yr of backlog) and perform proactive audits.



Judicial Conduct Attorney (1 FTE)  
*\$116,300 GF ongoing / \$7,500 GF one-time*

Additional staffer to process ~400 complaints against judges/yr and resolve the investigation backlog.

A recent serious case took 18 months to resolve with only 1 investigator on staff.



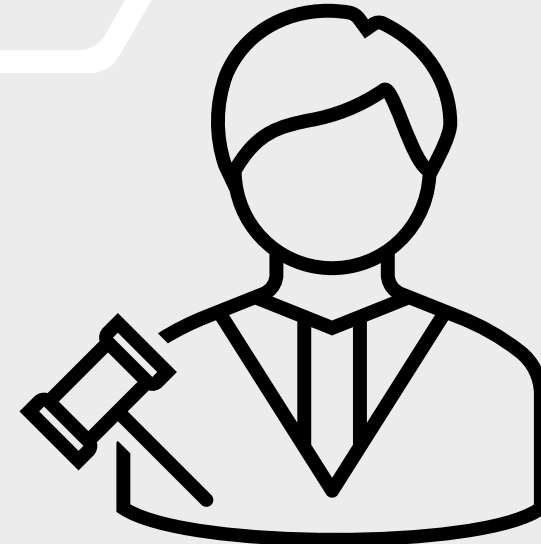
Confidential Intermediary (CI), Fiduciary Program Operating Costs  
*\$130,000 non-GF ongoing*

CIs are post-adoption liaisons between birth parents, adopted children and their siblings.



# Yuma Judge - \$149,600 GF ongoing

- On April 4, 2022, Governor Doug Ducey approved a petition for one additional judge in Yuma County, effective July 1, 2022.
- In years past, the creation of a new judgeship (population-driven), has always been a baseline issue. This year, it was not included in the JLBC baseline.
- This is the ongoing cost for the judge's salary and ERE.







Questions