



# **Judicial Branch Budget Presentation**

**Justice System  
Appropriations Subcommittee**

**February 4, 2016  
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State Court Administrator**

**[www.iowacourts.gov](http://www.iowacourts.gov)**



# Protect Iowa's Children



## Juvenile Court Services



In 2015, Juvenile Court Services provided services to **11,050 children** through both formal and informal adjustments.

## Family Treatment Courts



Through October 2015, Family Treatment Courts served **823 parents with 1,245 children.**





# Operate an Efficient Full-Service Court System

## Electronic Filing—EDMS

Total documents stored in EDMS	<b>75 Million</b>
Total documents filed in 2015	<b>6.6 Million</b>
Total space for stored documents	<b>15 Terabytes (15 million-million bytes)</b>
Total daily emails generated	<b>127 Thousand</b>

## Iowa Courts Online—The Online Docket for All Iowans [www.Iowacourts.gov](http://www.Iowacourts.gov) including Iowacourtsonline, eJuror, ePay and eFiling

Total page visits in 2015	<b>495 Million</b>
Total unique visitors in 2015	<b>1.9 Million</b>
Total page visits in 2015 for Iowa.Gov	<b>180 Million</b>

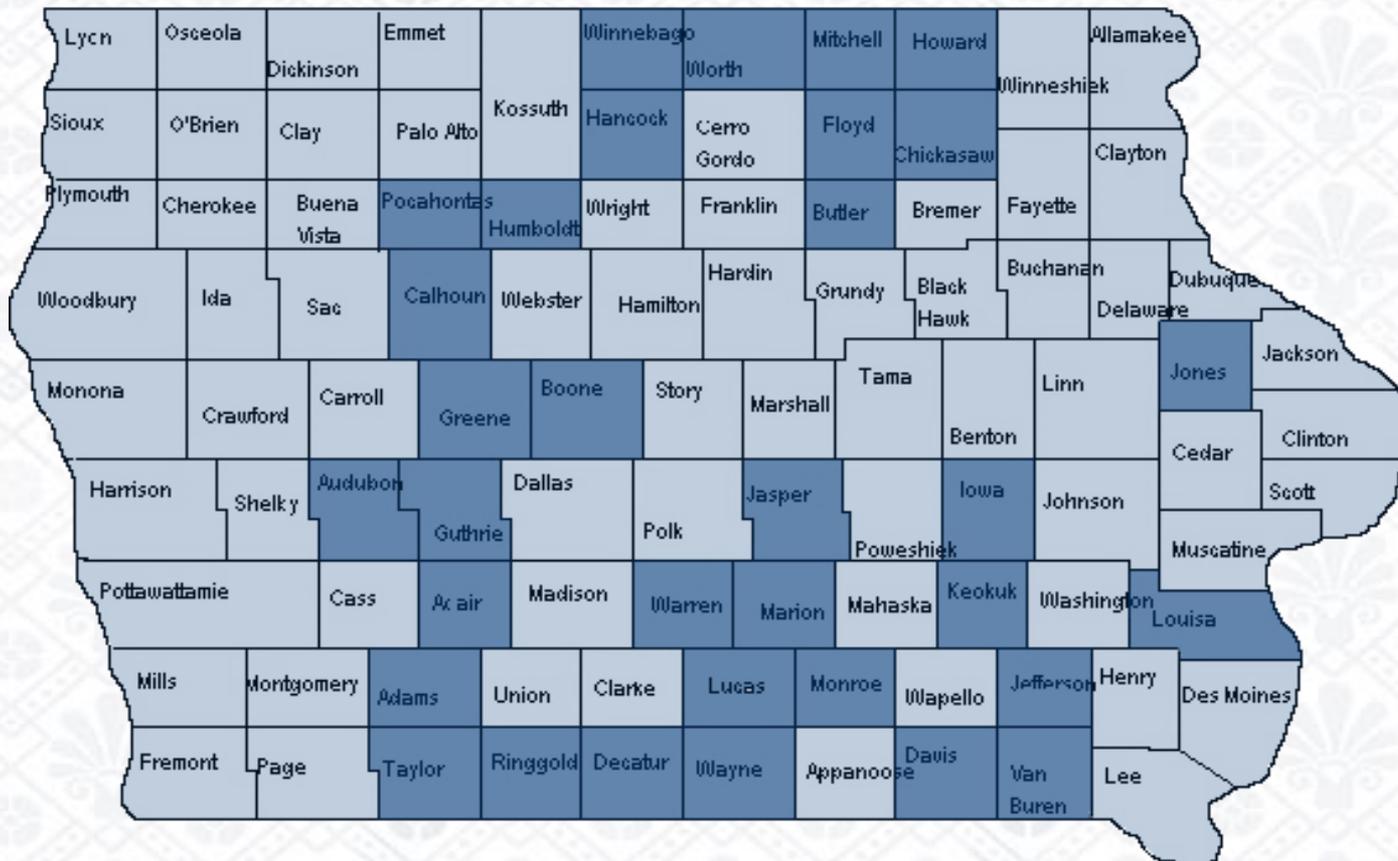


# Provide Full-Time Access to Justice

Iowa district courts handled nearly **750,000 cases** in 2015

**2011**

■ Full Time Clerks Offices ■ Part-Time Clerks Offices



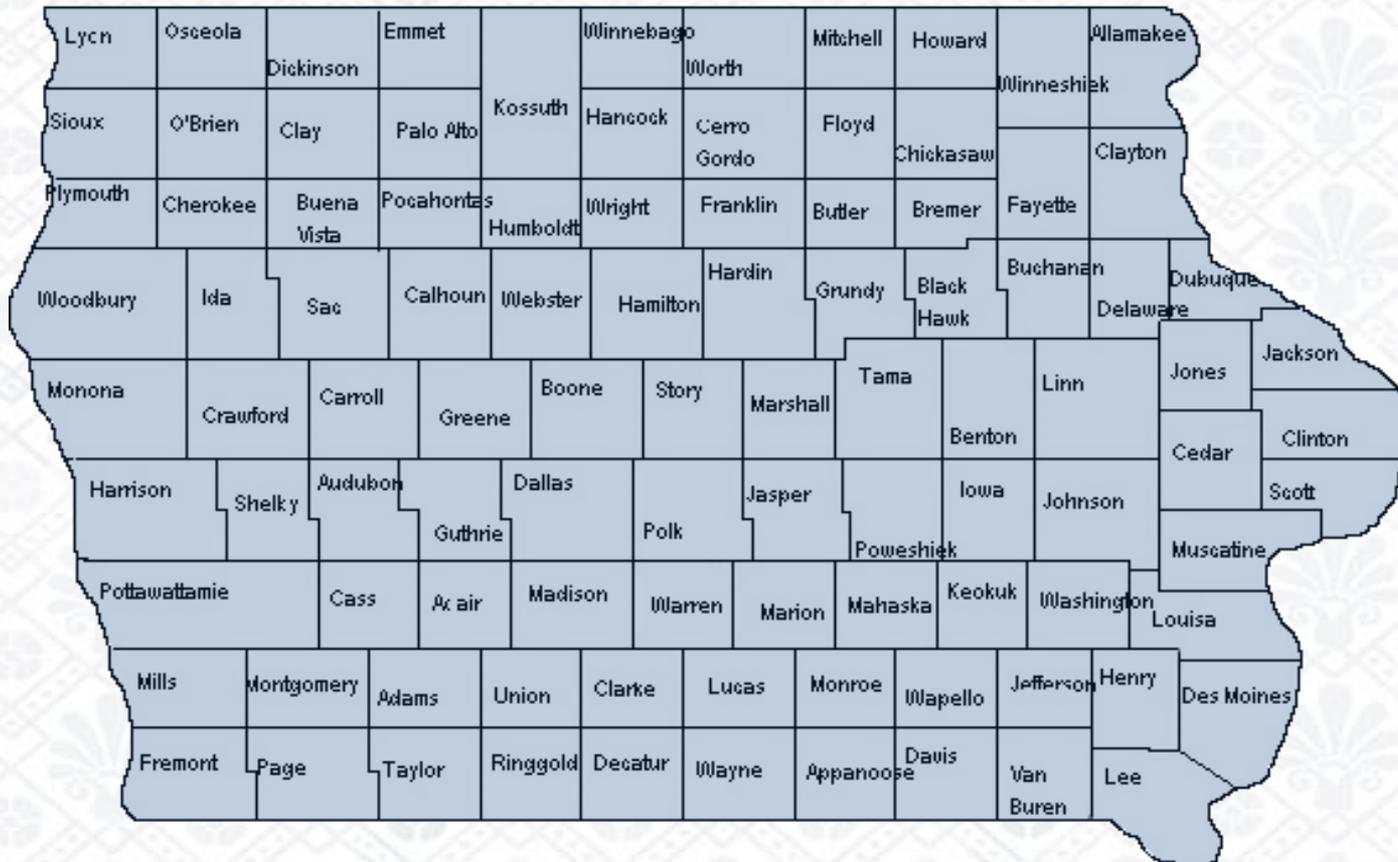


# Provide Full-Time Access to Justice

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2016

■ Full Time Clerks Offices ■ Part-Time Clerks Offices





# Provide Faster and Less Costly Resolution of Legal Disputes

## **Tier 1: Emergency Matters**

Mental health • Substance abuse • Relief from domestic abuse • Injunctive relief involving an imminent threat of serious harm to health or safety • Emergency removal orders in juvenile cases • Criminal warrants

## **Tier 2: Priority Cases**

Civil commitment • Domestic abuse • Juvenile cases—including child in need of assistance, termination of parental rights, juvenile delinquency • Criminal when defendants demand speedy trial • Child custody, physical care, visitation, child support • Guardianship cases • Other cases involving a threat of serious harm to health or safety or the restriction of an individual's liberty.

## **Tier 3: Other Cases**

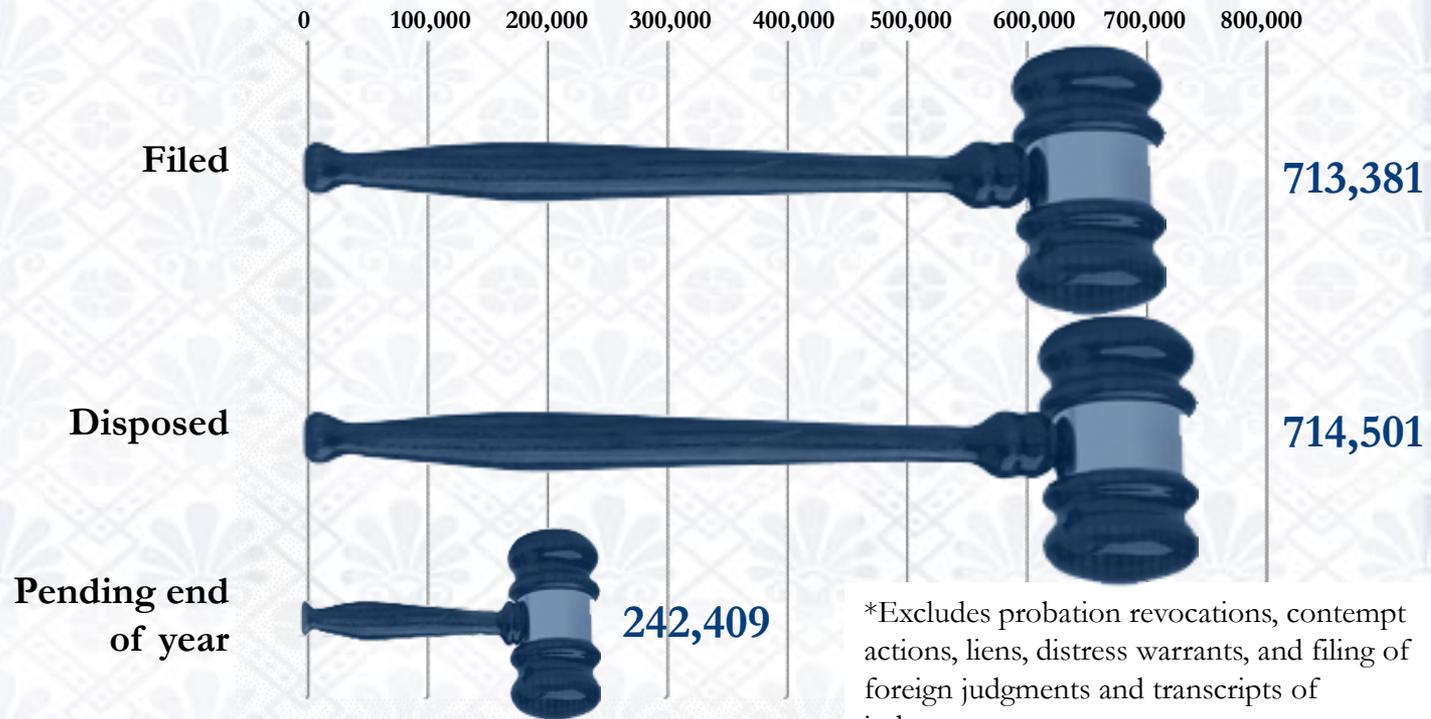
Expedited civil actions • Dissolutions of marriage not involving children • Foreclosure actions • Civil actions for recovery of money damages • Small claims • Administrative appeals • Probate other than guardianship • Other law and equity cases



# Provide Faster and Less Costly Resolution of Legal Disputes



## CY 2015 Caseload Activity in Iowa's District Courts\*



\*Excludes probation revocations, contempt actions, liens, distress warrants, and filing of foreign judgments and transcripts of judgments.



Implemented expedited civil action track of litigation January 1, 2015.

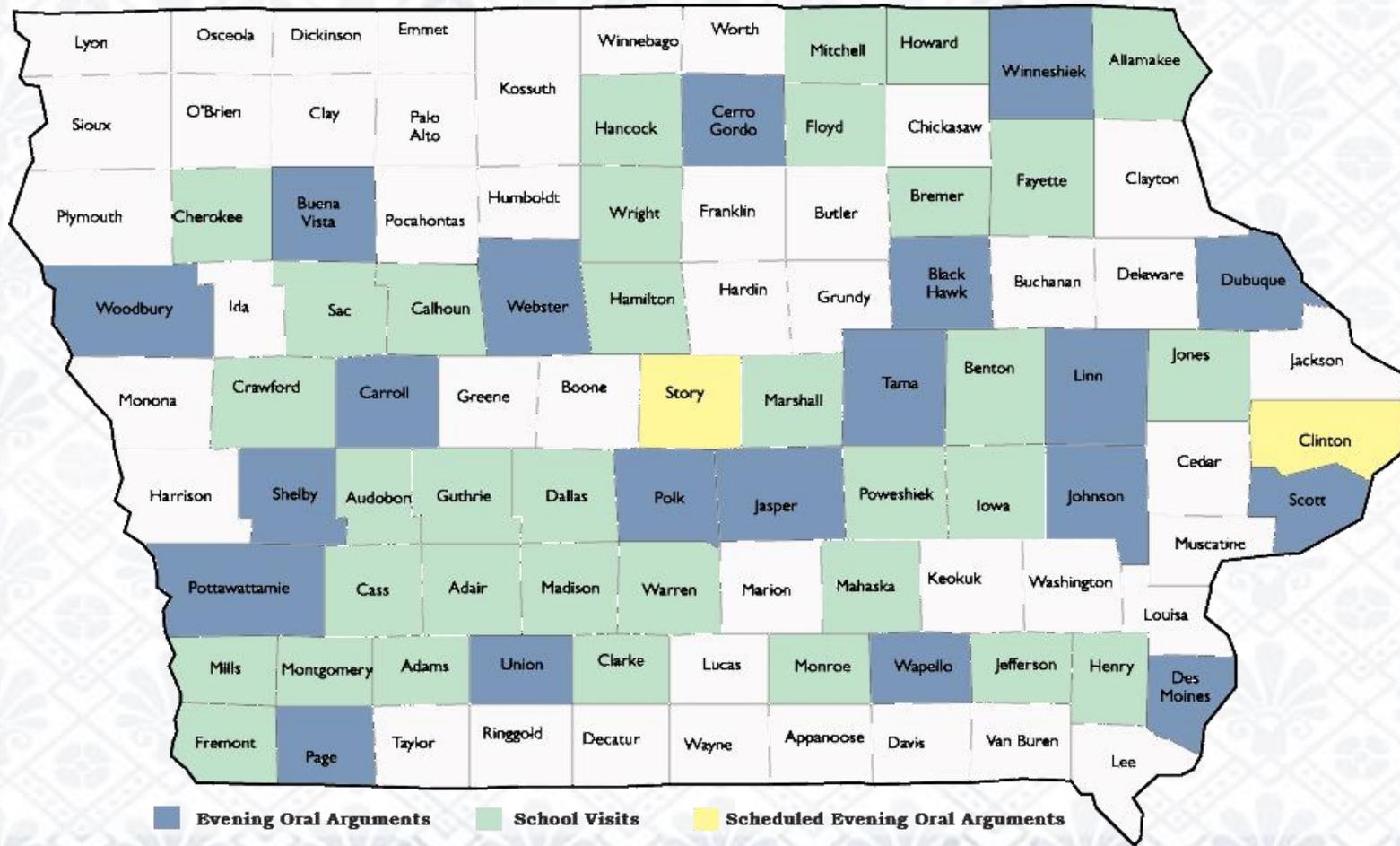
Nearly **400 expedited civil actions** filed

Guaranteed trial date **within one year of filing**



# Operate in an Open and Transparent Way

Since May 2011, the Iowa Supreme Court has visited  
20 communities and 123 high schools, colleges and universities





# Provide Fair and Impartial Justice for All

## Jury Modernization

The Iowa Judicial Branch's effort to deliver justice to all Iowans includes a modernization of the jury system in three ways:

- We **train judges to recognize implicit bias** and identify ways for judges to help jurors recognize the impact of implicit bias.
- We are planning to **modernize our jury management software** to provide greater assurance that randomly selected jury pools represent a fair cross-section of each community.
- We will **collect and maintain data** on the racial composition of juries. This internal data will help us determine if the jury selection process we use could be further improved.

## Implicit Bias Training

Last year, the judicial branch trained **716 judges, judicial magistrates**, and other judicial branch staff to recognize implicit biases that may contribute to racial disparities. We will continue this training this year.



# Judicial Branch Mission

**Our courts have a vital constitutional mission:**

*The Iowa Judicial Branch dedicates itself to providing independent and accessible forums for the fair and prompt resolution of disputes, administering justice under law equally to all persons.*

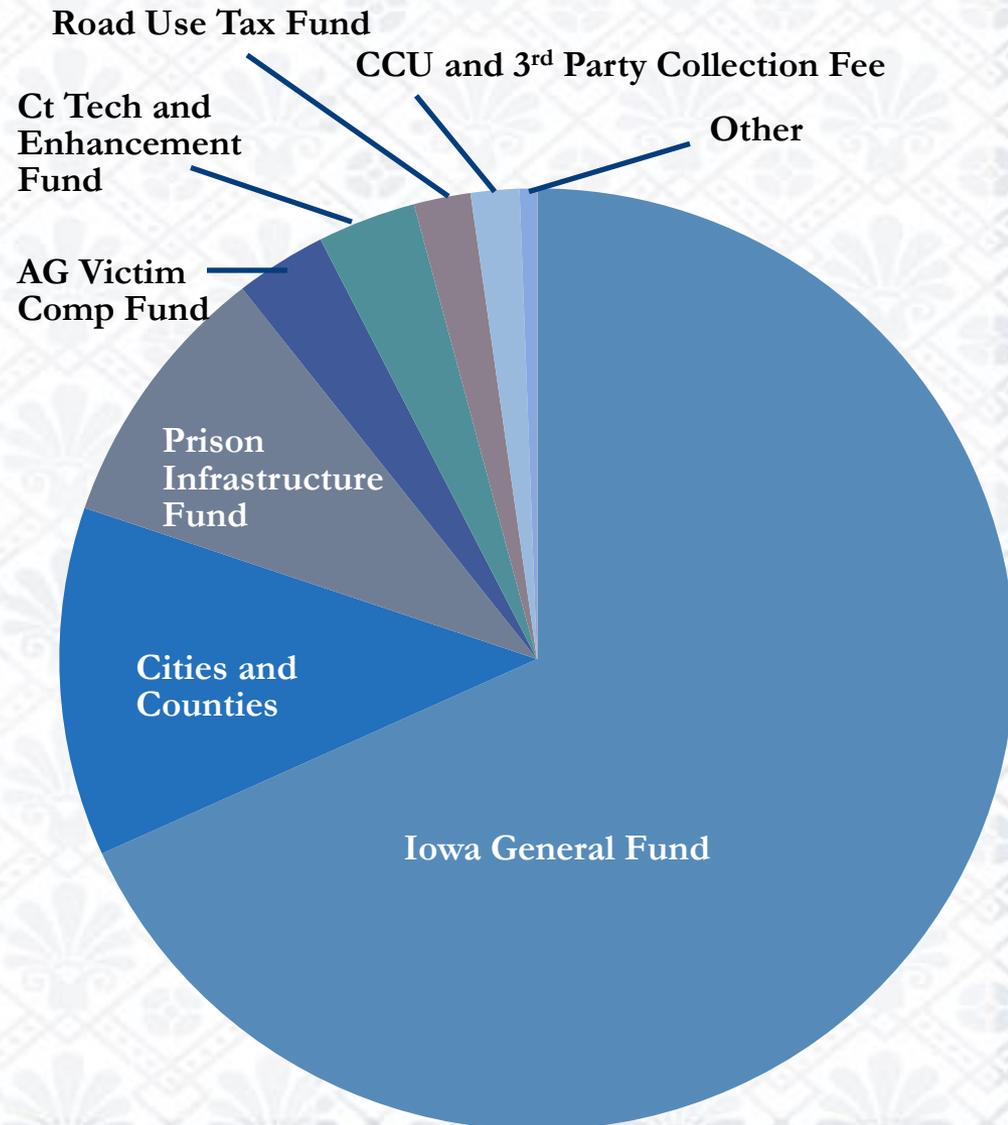
To accomplish our mission, we rely on judges, judicial magistrates, and court employees who work in unison to handle hundreds of thousands of court cases and to provide a broad range of court-related services.



# In 2015, Iowa Courts Collected \$155.9 Million in Revenue

Each year, with the aid of several state and local government entities, Iowa courts collect millions of dollars in fines and fees that directly benefit state and local government. **In FY 2015, the \$155.9 million collected by Iowa's courts** was distributed as follows:

- \$105.5 million**—Iowa General Fund
- \$18.5 million** —Cities and Counties
- \$15.0 million** —Prison Infrastructure Fund
- \$4.9 million** — Attorney General Victim Compensation Fund
- \$5.4 million** — Court Technology and Enhancement Fund
- \$3.3 million** — Road Use Tax Fund
- \$3.5 million** — CCU Collection/Third Party Collection Fee





# General Fund Appropriations (FY 2016)

2.5%

*Iowa Judicial Branch Appropriations —  
\$181.8 million\* or 2.5%*

*General Fund Appropriations—\$7.2 billion*

*FY 15 Iowa Judicial Branch Appropriations = \$181.8 million\* or 2.5% of all General Fund Appropriations—\$7.2 billion.*

*\*\$178.7 million for operations and \$3.1 million for the Jury and Witness Revolving Fund.*



# Maintaining Current Level of Service

<b>Base Operating Budget</b>	<b>\$178,686,612</b>
<b>Base Jury and Witness Fee Budget</b>	<b>\$3,100,000</b>
<b>Total Base FY 17 Budget</b>	<b>\$181,786,612</b>

## **Decision Package #1:**

**Current Service Level** **\$5,659,898**

This funds the operations of the judicial branch, allowing all 99 county courthouses and clerk's offices to remain open on a full-time basis. This also funds the operations of all the current problem-solving courts such as family treatment courts, juvenile drug courts, and mental health courts.



# FY 17 Budget Request

## **Decision Package #2**

### **Judicial Salary Increase**

**\$2,264,325**

This funds a 5% salary increase for all judges and magistrates.

### **Total Decision Packages for Operating Budget:**

**\$7,924,223**

### **Total Request for Operating Budget**

**\$186,610,835**



# Maintaining Current Level of Service

**Decision Package for Jury and Witness Fund Request** **\$400,000**

This funds the increased cost in payment of jury and witness fees, interpreter services, and includes funds necessary to update the jury management system.

**Total Jury and Witness Fund Request** **\$3,500,000**

**Total FY 17 Budget Request** **\$190,110,835**

**Percent Increase** **4.6%**