

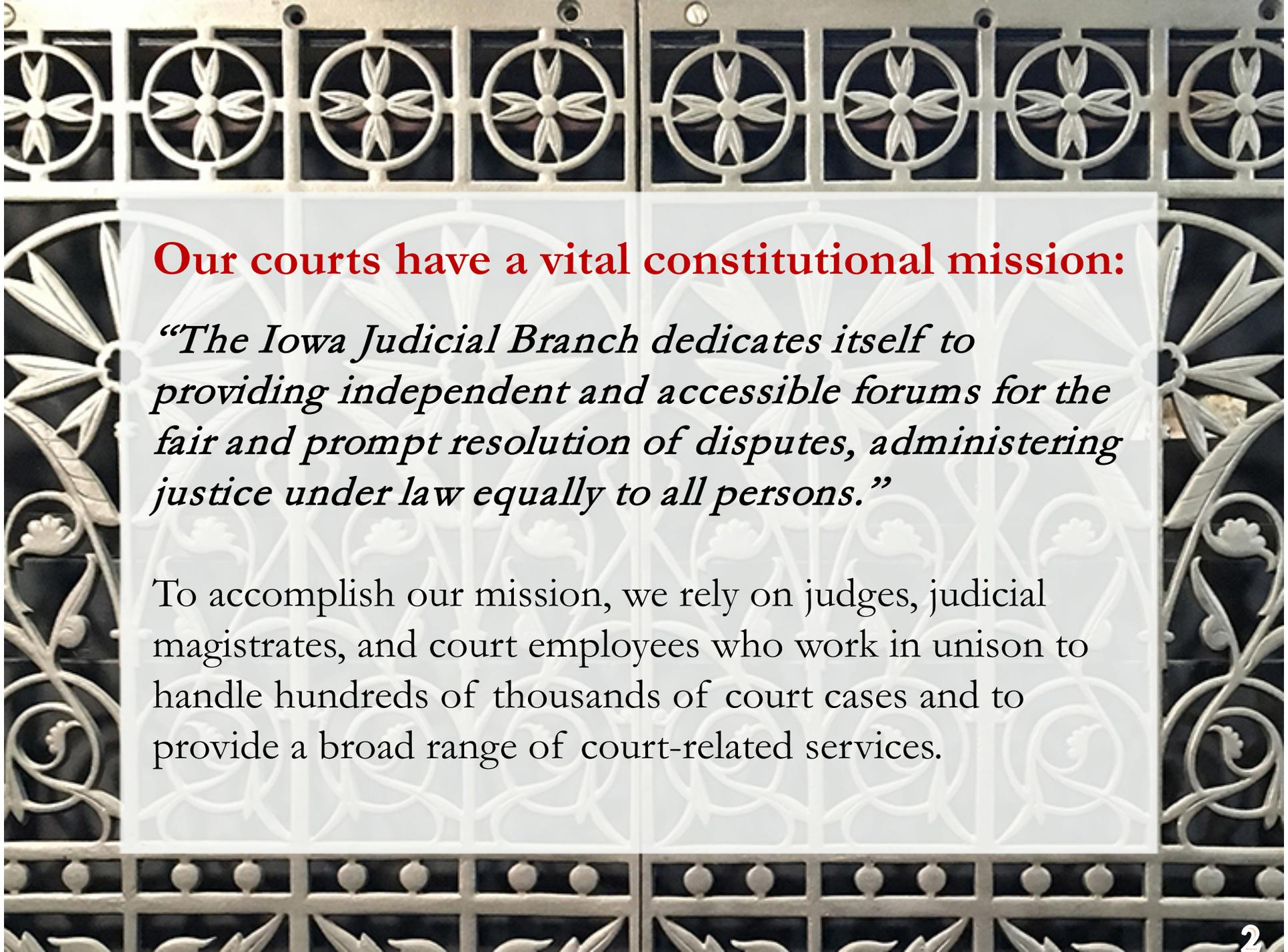
Iowa Judicial Branch Budget Presentation

Justice System
Appropriations Subcommittee

February 21, 2017

David K. Boyd
State Court Administrator

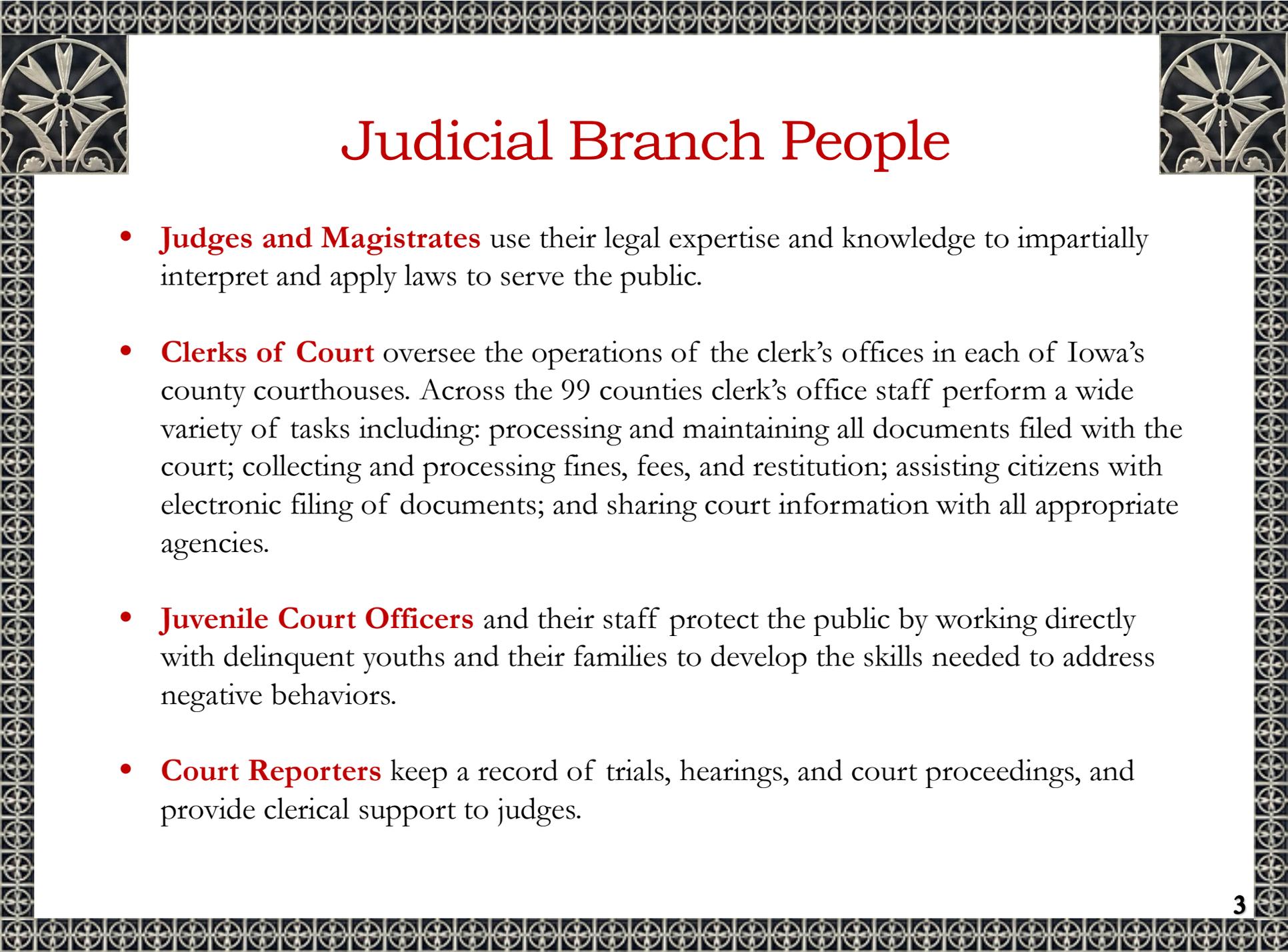
www.iowacourts.gov



Our courts have a vital constitutional mission:

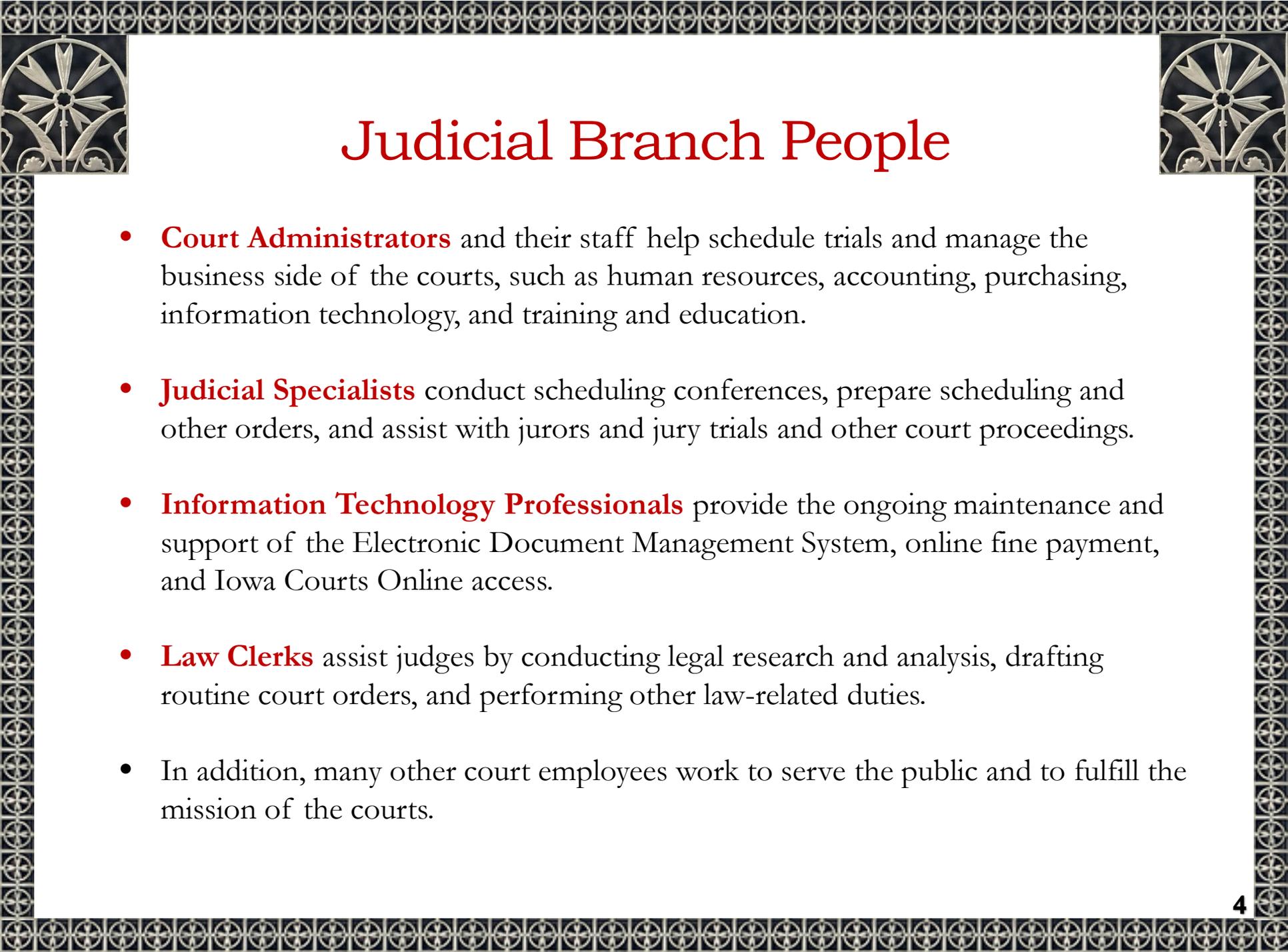
“The Iowa Judicial Branch dedicates itself to providing independent and accessible forums for the fair and prompt resolution of disputes, administering justice under law equally to all persons.”

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.



Judicial Branch People

- **Judges and Magistrates** use their legal expertise and knowledge to impartially interpret and apply laws to serve the public.
- **Clerks of Court** oversee the operations of the clerk's offices in each of Iowa's county courthouses. Across the 99 counties clerk's office staff perform a wide variety of tasks including: processing and maintaining all documents filed with the court; collecting and processing fines, fees, and restitution; assisting citizens with electronic filing of documents; and sharing court information with all appropriate agencies.
- **Juvenile Court Officers** and their staff protect the public by working directly with delinquent youths and their families to develop the skills needed to address negative behaviors.
- **Court Reporters** keep a record of trials, hearings, and court proceedings, and provide clerical support to judges.



Judicial Branch People

- **Court Administrators** and their staff help schedule trials and manage the business side of the courts, such as human resources, accounting, purchasing, information technology, and training and education.
- **Judicial Specialists** conduct scheduling conferences, prepare scheduling and other orders, and assist with jurors and jury trials and other court proceedings.
- **Information Technology Professionals** provide the ongoing maintenance and support of the Electronic Document Management System, online fine payment, and Iowa Courts Online access.
- **Law Clerks** assist judges by conducting legal research and analysis, drafting routine court orders, and performing other law-related duties.
- In addition, many other court employees work to serve the public and to fulfill the mission of the courts.

Judicial Branch Districts



Fiscal Year 2017

For fiscal year 2017, beginning July 1, 2016, the legislature appropriated the same amount of funding as the judicial branch received the previous year, more than \$5 million less than what was needed to maintain services to Iowans. Unfortunately, this has caused the Iowa Supreme Court to make some very difficult decisions.

The Iowa Supreme Court decided to:

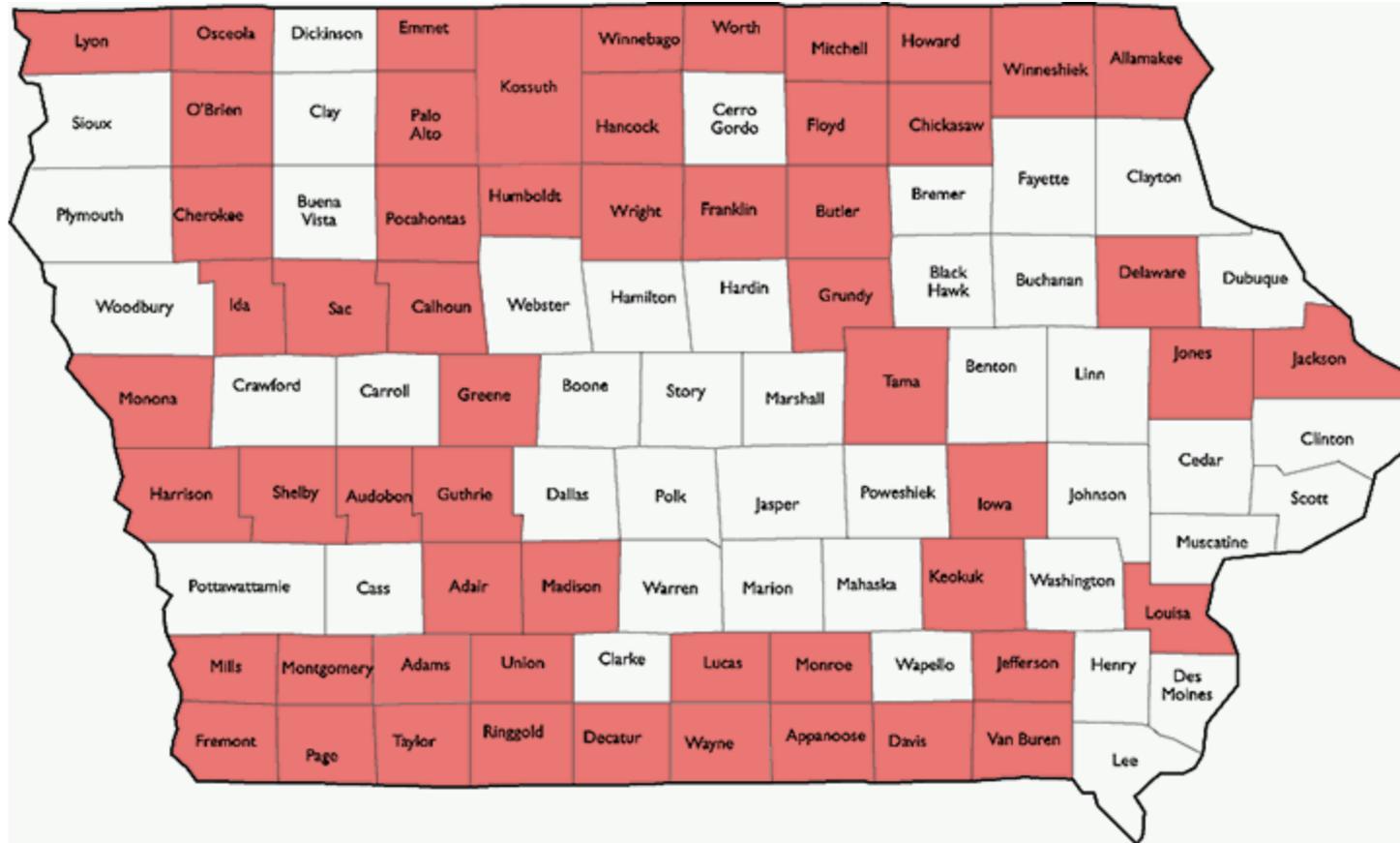
- Establish a **hiring freeze** for all vacancies in the judicial branch. There will be a very few, limited exceptions to the hiring freeze.
- Hold open **judicial vacancies** for an average of six months.
- **Reduce judicial branch travel** expenses by 10%.
- Reduce furniture and non-IT equipment expenses by 50%.
- Shift some funding for IT operations to the Court Technology Fund.
- Institute a **moratorium on the expansion** of specialty courts.



FY 2017 Midyear \$3 million De-appropriation

- The judicial branch began fiscal year 2017 with **70 court staff vacancies**.
- By January 27, 2017, there were **111 court staff vacancies** (7.5% of workforce).
- Since July 1, 2016, **12 judicial vacancies went unfilled** for an average of six months.
- All **clerk of court offices will be closed** May 26, and all judicial branch employees will take one day of unpaid leave.
- One day of unpaid leave for all judicial employees except judges and magistrates **(1,446 people)** reduces expenditures by **\$364,573**.

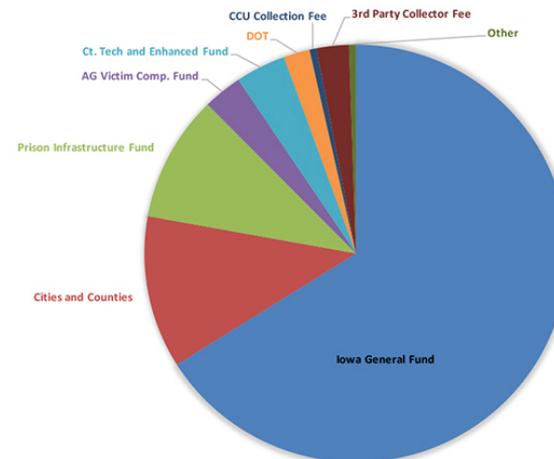
Counties with Three or Fewer Clerks Staff



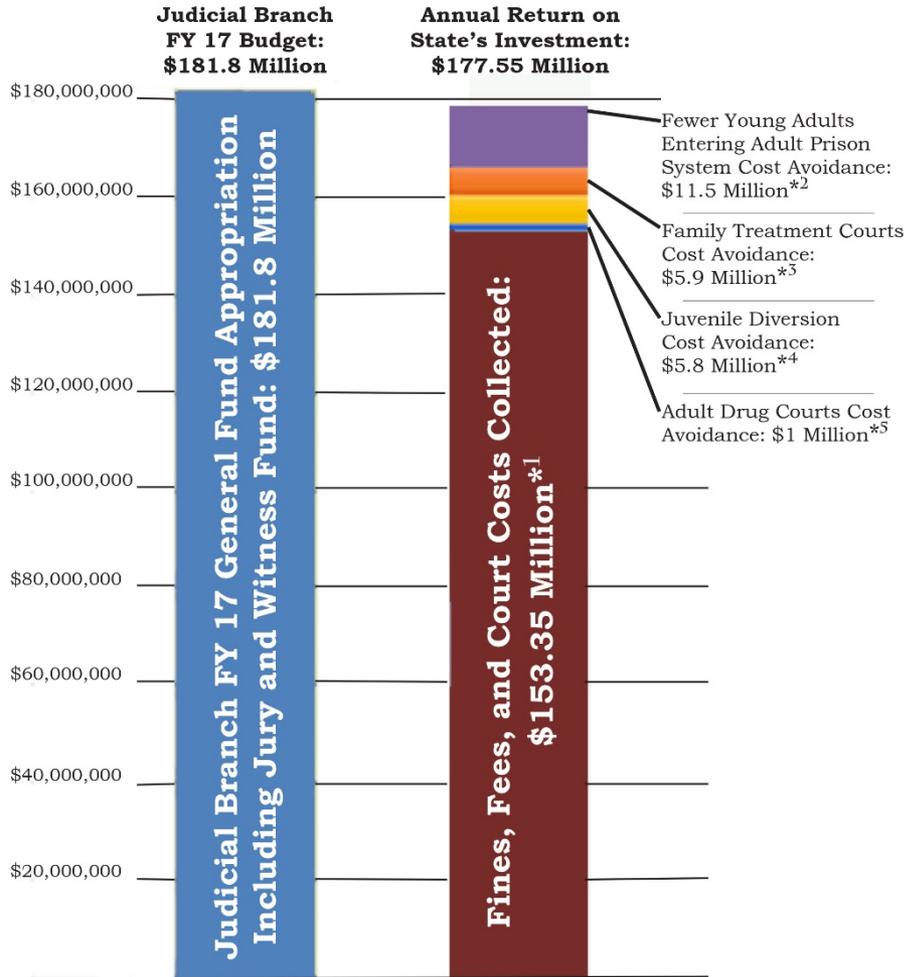
In 2016, Iowa Courts Collected \$153.35 Million in Revenue

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 fiscal year 2016, the \$153.4 million collected by Iowa's courts was distributed as follows:

- **\$101.3 million—Iowa General Fund**
- **\$18.0 million —Cities and Counties**
- **\$15.0 million —Prison Infrastructure Fund**
- **\$4.6 million — Attorney General Victim Compensation Fund**
- **\$5.9 million — Court Technology and Enhancement Fund**
- **\$3.0 million — Road Use Tax Fund**
- **\$4.6 million — CCU Collection/Third Party Collection Fee**



Return on Investment



In fiscal year 2017, \$181.8 million was appropriated to the Iowa Judicial Branch for its operating budget. The estimated annual return on this investment is approximately

\$177.55 million.



“The Iowa court system has the right vision for future success. Our vision is not only to administer justice, it is to advance justice.”

2017 Condition of the Judiciary Address
Iowa Supreme Court Chief Justice Mark Cady

Expand Juvenile Diversion Courts

*Our vision...is not just to reduce the number of young adults going to prison, it is to expand **juvenile diversion courts** to every county.*

Meet the Needs of all Iowans

*Our vision...is not just to operate 47 specialty courts, it is to operate as many **specialty courts** as Iowans call for to meet all their needs.*

21st Century Technology

*Our vision...is not just to leverage advances in technology, it is specifically to improve and upgrade our **jury management** system for the 21st century, to build an online **conservatorship reporting** system with auditing safeguards that will protect the assets of our most vulnerable populations, and to build **disaster recovery** protection for our first-in-the-nation online court filing system.*

Judicial Salaries

Our vision...is not just to recognize judges and magistrates for their work, it is to provide them with regular salary increases in line with the practices followed by other successful businesses.

Ensure Iowans' Safety

*Our vision...is not just to increase **courthouse security**, it is to ensure the safety of all Iowans in every courthouse and public building.*

Eliminate Racial Disparity

*Our vision...is not just to continue constructive approaches to **reducing implicit bias** and racial disparity, it is to eliminate them—it is to find ways for all Iowans to be treated justly, fairly, and equally under law.*