

# SUPERIOR COURT 2024 BUDGET REQUESTS



## 1. Spanish Language Interpreter – add 1 FTE

To perform in court interpretation, customer service interpretation and document translation. **Access to Justice issue**

**Request: \$76,170**

(Total salary and benefits is \$108,670 with Court covering \$32,500 from existing interpreter budget)

## 2. Translation of Court Forms and Documents

Continue to translate local court forms into the most frequently used languages (Spanish, Tagalog, Russian, Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, Arabic) to improve **access to justice**. Update forms as law changes.

**Request: \$10,000**

## 3. Enhance Nursing Services at Juvenile Detention

To gain 312 hours of opiate withdrawal and psychiatric nursing services

**Request: \$50,000 X 2**

## 4. Coordinated Therapeutic Response Project

Continue project to improve coordination and effectiveness of all treatment courts in Superior and District Courts.

**Request: \$150,000**

## 5. Law Clerk Reclassification

Law Clerks perform legal research and analysis, prepare orders, and act as bailiff, manage juries, and perform scheduling for each Judge. Request to increase compensation to \$82,808 annual salary per the results of the Compensation Study for 17 law clerks. Current salary of \$63,196 is significantly below market rates for attorneys and makes it very difficult to recruit and retain these vital employees.

**Request: \$19,612 annual increase per FTE.**

(Total budget increase is approx. \$480,779)

## 6. Improvements to 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Courtrooms

These are the last 4 courtrooms to receive upgrades. (This work hasn't been done for many years due to the new courthouse project that was eventually cancelled). Replace carpet, paint, new jury chairs, new gallery seating (largest expense), demo casework and replace workstation for law clerk.

**Request: \$500,000 (\$125,000 per courtroom)**

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## **7. Staff Recruiting and Retention**

Add funds to attend pay for registration at job fairs, print signage and marketing pieces. Add funding for facilitated mentor training and employee awards.

**Request: \$13,650**

## **8. Legal Process Asst. II Reclassification**

Reclass will fix a disparity between Superior Court and District Court positions. (Reclass approved in 2022 in District Court. These positions were inadvertently left out of the increase). The issue is in collective bargaining but we support approving it now. There are six staff at Juvenile Court affected by this issue.

**Request: \$36,000** (\$6,600 per position)

## **9. Campus Security–Interfund Account**

We support the Sheriff's Request. Increasing this fund will provide a ready pool of funds from which to respond to immediate threats and improve safety and security on campus and in the courthouse.