



JUDICIAL BRANCH

BRANCH PURPOSE

- To resolve disputes involving civil or personal rights and to determine the guilt of persons accused of crimes.
- To maintain secure and safe conditions in courthouses and other Judicial Branch facilities.
- To create and sustain a full range of alternatives to incarceration for both pre- and post-conviction adult and juvenile populations.
- To advocate for victims of crime and arrange for or provide services and financial compensation.
- To effectively resolve family and interpersonal conflicts through a comprehensive program of negotiation, mediation, evaluation and education.
- To provide safe and secure custody, treatment and rehabilitative services for children and families through the juvenile justice system.
- To enforce, review and adjust child support orders.
- To monitor and supervise persons who have been placed on probation.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Enhancing Court Security

Recent events in Connecticut and throughout the nation have caused the Judicial Branch to again carefully review courthouse security. To ensure the safeguarding of our courts, additional Judicial Marshals will be hired. Training classes have been scheduled since April of 2005, and by June of 2006 an additional 150 Marshals will have been added.

The Judicial Branch is also making use of computer-based technologies to improve security including standardizing judge and employee identification card readers and upgrading and expanding closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems through the use of digital color cameras and recorders. Additionally, the Judicial Branch is updating metal detection equipment throughout the state and installing x-ray machines in every courthouse to more thoroughly screen for weapons.

Judicial Marshal Training Academy

In July 2005, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. (CALEA) granted accredited status to the Branch's Judicial Marshal Academy. The Academy is one of five such accredited academies in the United States, and currently the only CALEA-accredited public safety training academy in Connecticut.

Judicial Branch Facilities

90 Washington Street, Hartford

In January 2005, the Judicial Branch opened a new court facility at 90 Washington Street for family and other non-jury matters. This new facility contains ten courtrooms and has alleviated overcrowding at the Judicial District Courthouse at 95 Washington Street, as all family and family support magistrate matters for the Hartford Judicial District were moved out of that building to the new facility. The building also now houses offices for Judicial Branch administrative staff.

Appellate Court, 75 Elm Street, Hartford

Since its inception in 1983, Connecticut's Appellate Court was housed on the fourth floor of the Hartford Judicial District Courthouse at 95 Washington Street, in cramped and inadequate quarters. The Judicial Branch's facility at 75 Elm Street was being used for administrative offices. Over the past year and a half, this facility was totally renovated, converting it into a quality facility with ample and appropriate space to serve as the home of the Connecticut's Appellate Court. The Court moved into this new facility in August 2005.

Stamford Courthouse Garage

The long-awaited Stamford Courthouse garage opened on September 27, 2005, with room for 525 vehicles.

The Connecticut Judicial Branch Website/E-filing

The excellence of the Judicial Branch's website was again recognized by the National Center for State Courts as being one of the top court websites. The Branch's website offers multiple services including case lookup providing information on civil, family, expanding housing session information and small claims matters; civil and family short calendar markings; information for jurors who have been summoned to jury duty; family support magistrate decisions; a school curriculum that teaches students about the role of Connecticut's state courts; and a variety of services for lawyers. In addition, in July 2004 the Branch implemented e-filing which allows court pleadings to be filed via the internet. This past year, this service has been expanded by allowing attorneys to file pleadings in all tort cases.

Demystifying the Courts

In an effort to bring the Supreme Court to Connecticut's students, this past year, the Supreme Court held sessions "on the road" at Post University and at Housatonic Community College.

Also, the Judicial Branch hosted its first conference for secondary school social studies teachers to allow them an opportunity to learn more about the role and function of Connecticut's judiciary. This day-long seminar also allowed participating teachers to receive CEU credit.

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

Reductions

- Eliminate Justice Education Center

2006-2007

-220,371

Technical Adjustments

- Increase Medical and Mental Health Funding to Comply with Emily J Settlement Agreement
- Transfer Funds to Public Defenders for the Commission on Child Protection
- Transfer Funds for Objective Job Evaluation
- Provide Funds for Increased Energy Costs

1,836,686

-9,512,000

824,724

2,438,364

Expansion Adjustments

- Pick-up of Expiring Federal Grants

1,939,640

*\$1,253,640 for Court Diversion for Girls to support two 6 bed programs in Waterbury and New Haven;
\$187,000 for Multi-Systemic Therapy for Juvenile Offenders to support 225 slots through community service providers delivering clinical services with medical oversight to children in need of intensive intervention;
\$499,000 for Juvenile Risk Reduction Centers to support 224 slots for medium risk populations serving New Haven, New London, Hartford and Bridgeport.*

- GPS Monitoring for Sex Offenders

1,293,065

Provide 15 Adult Probation Officers, associated expenses and contract costs to implement a sexual offender Geographic Positioning System pilot program for up to 250 offenders.

- Fund 2% COLA for Private Grant-Funded Providers

583,677

A 2% COLA is being recommended for private providers effective October 1, 2006. \$583,677 is recommended in the agency's Midterm Budget. In addition, \$504,065 will be transferred to the agency from OPM's Contingency Needs account in FY 2007.

AGENCY SUMMARY

<i>Personnel Summary</i>	2004-2005 Authorized	2005-2006 Estimated	2006-2007 Appropriated	2006-2007 Net Adjustments	2006-2007 Revised Recommended
<u>Permanent Full-Time Positions</u>					
General Fund	4,119	4,165	4,170	10	4,180
<i>Financial Summary</i>	2004-2005 Actual	2005-2006 Estimated	2006-2007 Appropriated	2006-2007 Net Adjustments	2006-2007 Revised Recommended
Personal Services	243,377,092	257,228,750	264,587,663	1,184,274	265,771,937
Other Expenses	63,491,447	67,276,783	70,431,499	-5,811,149	64,620,350
<u>Capital Outlay</u>					
Equipment	2,140,000	2,104,482	2,061,364	45,000	2,106,364
<u>Other Current Expenses</u>					
Alternative Incarceration Program	38,249,617	42,465,450	42,862,613	892,305	43,754,918
Justice Education Center, Inc.	201,100	208,512	220,371	-220,371	0
Juvenile Alternative Incarceration	19,275,361	21,239,804	21,573,626	3,068,716	24,642,342
Juvenile Justice Centers	2,975,373	3,077,358	3,107,235	25,010	3,132,245
Truancy Services	333,034	0	0	0	0
Insurance Recovery	235,960	0	0	0	0
TOTAL - Other Current Expenses	61,270,445	66,991,124	67,763,845	3,765,660	71,529,505
TOTAL - General Fund	370,278,984	393,601,139	404,844,371	-816,215	404,028,156
<u>Other Current Expenses</u>					
Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund	1,425,000	2,025,000	2,025,000	0	2,025,000
TOTAL - Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund	1,425,000	2,025,000	2,025,000	0	2,025,000
TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	371,703,984	395,626,139	406,869,371	-816,215	406,053,156



PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION

AGENCY PURPOSE

- Ensure the constitutional administration of criminal justice within the state criminal court system, by maintaining a public defender office at all court locations throughout the state.
- Provide legal representation to indigent accused in criminal trials and appeals, extradition proceedings, habeas corpus proceedings arising from a criminal matter, delinquency matters, Psychiatric Security Review Board cases and post-conviction petitions for DNA testing.
- Provide social work services to clients to assist them in addressing and resolving personal and social problems which lead to arrest and prosecution within the criminal justice system.
- Contribute to crime prevention by participation in specialized programs, including Domestic Violence Courts, Community Courts, Diversionary Programs, Drug Intervention, Alternatives to Incarceration and Team Case Management.
- Provide a balanced perspective within the criminal justice community by participation on state policy boards, task forces, and committees involved in addressing criminal justice issues.
- Fulfill the State's constitutional obligation to provide counsel for indigent accused in a professional, effective and cost efficient manner.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Connecticut Innocence Project

In 2005 the Division established the Connecticut Innocence Project for the purpose of assisting individuals who have been wrongfully convicted of crimes that they did not commit. Based upon strict criteria, cases are reviewed and proceedings will be initiated if new evidence exists to establish that the person is actually innocent of the crime for which they were sentenced. Representation will be provided by attorneys and support staff on a volunteer basis.

Computerized Visual Persuasion Techniques

The Division has undertaken a new initiative to expand the use of computerized visual persuasion techniques in the courtroom. Training and equipment procurement will occur at four pilot locations, and will eventually be expanded to all trial offices after sufficient experience is gained to use the technology most effectively.

Training Conference

Through funding from the federal Byrne Grant program, the Division convened a highly successful two day training

conference in 2005 for all personnel. The theme of the conference was "Defending the Innocent," which featured several speakers of national prominence.

Director of Juvenile Delinquency Defense

The Public Defender Services Commission created the new position of Director of Juvenile Delinquency Defense to coordinate and enhance the representation of children in delinquency matters on a statewide basis.

Counsel to Children and Parents in Child Protection

Pursuant to Public Act 05-3 of the June Special session, a new state Commission on Child Protection has been created to provide counsel to children and parents in child protection proceedings and family matters. The Commission on Child Protection has been placed within the Division of Public Defender Services for administrative purposes only. The Office of Chief Public Defender will provide administrative support and assistance to the new commission in meeting its responsibilities.

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

Reductions

- | | |
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| • Achieve Efficiencies in Training and Education | <u>2006-2007</u> |
| • Implement Overtime Savings | -5,814 |
| | -5,000 |

Technical Adjustments

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| • Transfer Funds from Judicial for the Commission on Child Protection | 9,512,000 |
| • Transfer Salary Adjustment Funds for Settled Bargaining Units | 2,684,031 |
| <i>Necessary funding is transferred from the central Reserve for Salary Adjustment account to agency budgets.</i> | |
| • Annualize Deficiency in Special Public Defender Non-Contractual and Expert Witnesses | 675,000 |
| • Provide Funds for Increased Energy Costs | 13,959 |
| • Reallocate Telecommunication Expenses from Secretary of the State | 10,800 |

Telecommunication expenses previously paid for Public Defenders by the Secretary of the State's office will now be paid by Public Defenders.

Expansion Adjustments

- Pick-Up of Expiring Federal Position 63,550
Funds are provided for one Social Worker position to ensure all Geographical Area Offices have at least one Social Worker assigned and are able to provide a comparable level of legal representation and services to clients.
- Increase Public Defender Executive Pay Plan 37,642
Funds are provided to increase the salaries of the 17 Public Defenders by \$3000 effective October 1, 2006. This adjustment is consistent with the salary provisions for the Division of Criminal Justice State's Attorneys in compliance with CGS 51-293(h).

AGENCY SUMMARY

Personnel Summary	2004-2005 Authorized	2005-2006 Estimated	2006-2007 Appropriated	2006-2007 Net Adjustments	2006-2007 Revised Recommended
<u>Permanent Full-Time Positions</u>					
General Fund	367	372	374	6	380
<u>Financial Summary</u>					
	2004-2005 Actual	2005-2006 Estimated	2006-2007 Appropriated	2006-2007 Net Adjustments	2006-2007 Revised Recommended
Personal Services	27,200,441	28,371,214	28,299,723	3,092,223	31,391,946
Other Expenses	1,273,905	1,209,415	1,262,267	24,759	1,287,026
<u>Capital Outlay</u>					
Equipment	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
<u>Other Current Expenses</u>					
Special Public Defenders - Contractual	2,229,222	2,510,633	2,715,867	0	2,715,867
Spec Public Defenders - NonContractual	3,868,393	4,962,712	4,194,229	490,000	4,684,229
Expert Witnesses	1,124,195	1,793,908	1,390,904	185,000	1,575,904
Training and Education	77,823	80,283	80,283	-5,814	74,469
Commission on Child Protection	0	155,000	0	9,200,000	9,200,000
TOTAL - Other Current Expenses	<u>7,299,633</u>	<u>9,502,536</u>	<u>8,381,283</u>	<u>9,869,186</u>	<u>18,250,469</u>
TOTAL - General Fund	35,774,979	39,084,165	37,944,273	12,986,168	50,930,441