

Judiciary
FY26 Midyear Status Report

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
1	Alaska Court System / Trial Courts	Increased Maintenance and Operating Expenses for Trial Court Facilities	Total: \$250.0 \$250.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	What, if any, services were discontinued as a result of not receiving the additional \$113.5 of this request? Was the Utqiagvik lease maintained?
	Agency Response <p>The \$113.5 unfunded amount was for contractual services for a statewide DOT facilities maintenance agreement. Absent a specific funding source, rather than discontinue critical maintenance services, funding for these costs will likely be achieved by holding positions vacant in excess of the current 30-day vacancy savings requirement. The final negotiated amount for the Utqiagvik lease was also \$50,000 less than projected at the time the FY26 funding for this facility was requested. Additionally, a delay in reopening the Hooper Bay court resulted in \$34,000 in savings that may offset the unfunded amount. Finally, on June 16, 2025 the court system learned that the contractual services chargeback rates for services provided by the executive branch in FY26 will be \$57,300 less in FY26 than actual costs incurred in FY25. The additional one-time savings will provide the majority of the offset for the requested operating and maintenance funding that the Court System did not receive in FY26. The Utqiagvik lease was maintained. For FY27 the court system is again requesting an operating and maintenance increment, including base budget funding for recurring operating and maintenance costs not funded in FY26, but the increment was not included in the governor's proposed FY27 budget.</p>			
2	Alaska Court System / Trial Courts	Denied Request for Funding to Address Increased Court Visitor Caseload and Backlog	N/A	A request for \$365.3 UGF was denied. Please describe the effects of not receiving this funding. Has the Court Visitor Caseload backlog increased or decreased since this funding was denied?
	Agency Response <p>The demand for Court Visitor services continues to be great. Because of the periodic nature of court visitor reviews —after the initial visitor report, statutes require visitor reviews once every three years— the Court System has targeted the backlog incrementally to avoid workload variances in visitor appointments for three-year reviews. The significant underfunding is challenging and the court system is endeavoring to schedule and manage the assignment of these services within the existing budgeted amount. Management in this manner may result in delays in addressing the needs of this vulnerable population. Addressing this caseload is a court system priority and if other funding becomes available within the court's budget, these savings will be reallocated to support this important initiative.</p>			

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3	Alaska Court System / Trial Courts	Add One Attorney Position to Support Access to Justice Initiatives Using Federal Funding from Child Support Services	Total: \$200.0 \$200.0 I/A Rcpts (Other) 1 PFT Position Inc	Has this position been recruited for and filled? Please provide details of progress and the hiring date if applicable.
				<p>Agency Response</p> <p>This position was authorized on 9/18/2025 which coincided with the receipt of the Reimbursable Services Agreement from the Child Support Enforcement Division. This position is filled and works with the Access to Justice Division and provides services in support of the Early Resolution Program in an effort to expeditiously resolve family law matters for self-represented parties without going to trial.</p>
4	Alaska Court System / Trial Courts	Funding for Inflationary Increases to Lease, Utility, and Services Payments	Total: (\$170.8) (\$170.8) Gen Fund (UGF) Veto	Were any leases canceled as a result of this veto? If not, what other impacts resulted from not receiving this funding?
				<p>Agency Response</p> <p>No leases were cancelled as a result of this veto and the Utqiagvik lease was maintained. Absent a specific funding source, rather than closing courts, funding for these lease, utility, and services costs will likely be achieved by holding positions vacant in excess of the current 30-day vacancy savings requirement. Fortunately, the final negotiated amount for the Utqiagvik lease was \$50,000 less than projected at the time the FY26 funding for this facility was requested. Additionally, a delay in reopening the Hooper Bay court resulted in \$34,000 in savings that offset these vetoed funds. Finally, on June 16, 2025 the court system learned that the contractual services chargeback rates for services provided by the executive branch in FY26 will be \$57,300 less in FY26 than actual costs incurred in FY25. The additional one-time savings will provide the majority of the offset for the requested operating and maintenance funding that the Court System did not receive in FY26. For FY27 the court system is again requesting an operating and maintenance increment, including base budget funding for the recurring operating and maintenance costs vetoed in FY26, but the increment was not included in the governor's proposed FY27 budget.</p>