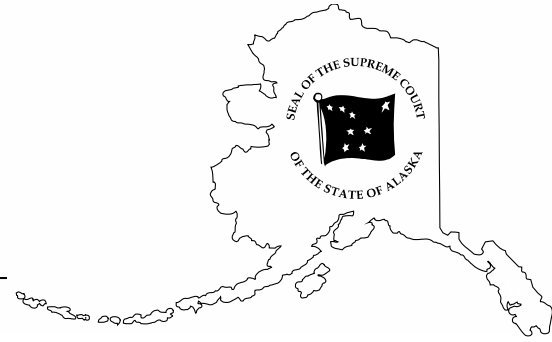


Alaska Court System

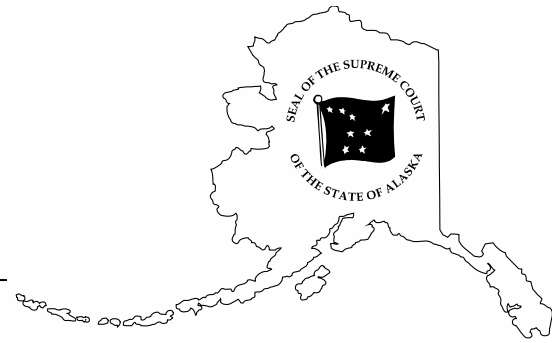


House Finance Subcommittee Alaska Court System Overview

Doug Wooliver,
Deputy Administrative Director
February 5, 2015



Alaska Court System

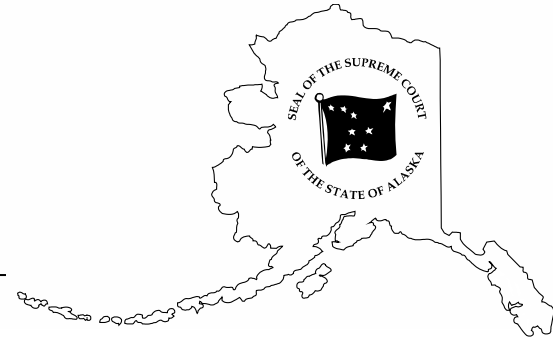


Mission Statement

The mission of the Alaska Court System is to provide an accessible and impartial forum for the just resolution of all cases that come before it, and to decide such cases in accordance with the law, expeditiously and with integrity.



Alaska Court System

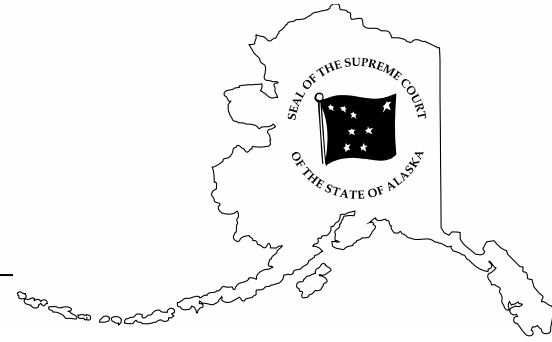


Four Levels of Courts

- Supreme Court – 5 Justices
- Court of Appeals – 3 Judges
- Superior Courts – 42 Judges
- District Courts – 23 Judges & 52 Magistrate Judges



Alaska Court System

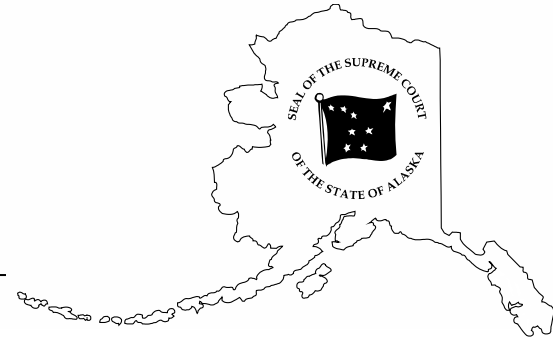


Court System Non-Judicial Employees

- 723 Permanent Staff (GF-Funded)
 - In-Court Clerks
 - Customer Service Clerks
 - Judicial Assistants
 - Law Clerks
 - Administrative Staff (HR, Fiscal, Computer Services, Facilities)



Alaska Court System

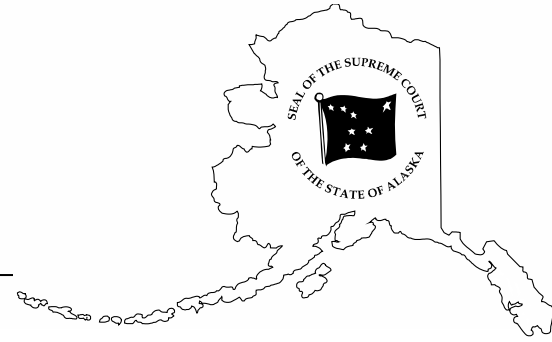


Distinguishing Characteristics of the Alaska Court System

- State Funded
- Unified Judiciary— No County or Municipal Courts
- Administrative Director Position Established in the Constitution



Alaska Court System

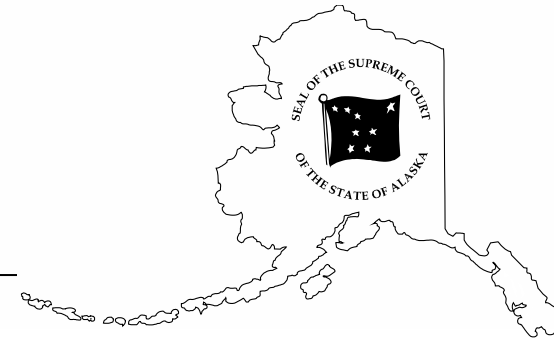


Factors Impacting Workloads

- Population
- Police
- Economy
- Other



Alaska Court System

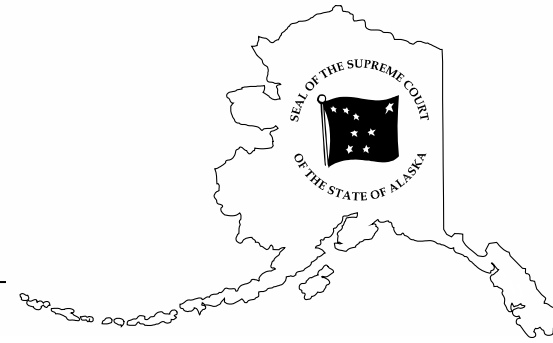


Trial Court Caseloads – FY14

- 132,032 New Cases Filed in FY14
 - 59% of All Cases Originated in the Anchorage/Palmer/Kenai Courts
- Superior Court – 22,523 Cases
 - Felony Cases – 29%
 - Probate Cases – 25%
 - Domestic Relations – 23%
- District Court – 109,509 Cases

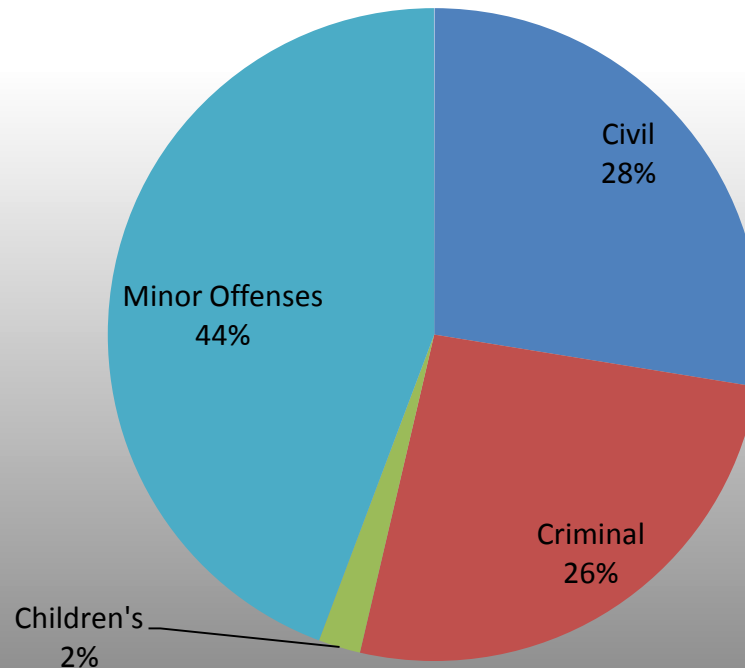


Alaska Court System

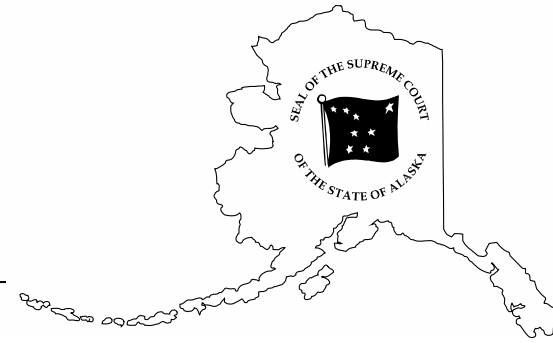


FY14 Trial Court Case Filings

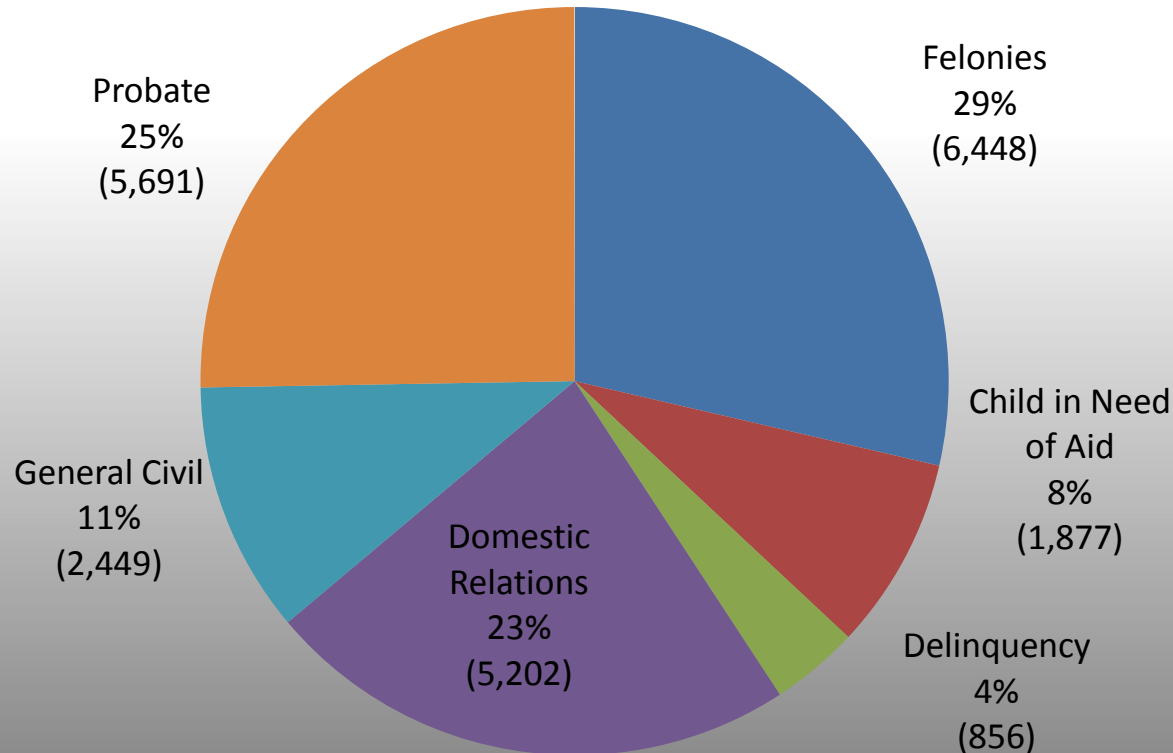
Superior & District Courts Combined
(132,032 total trial court cases filed in FY14)



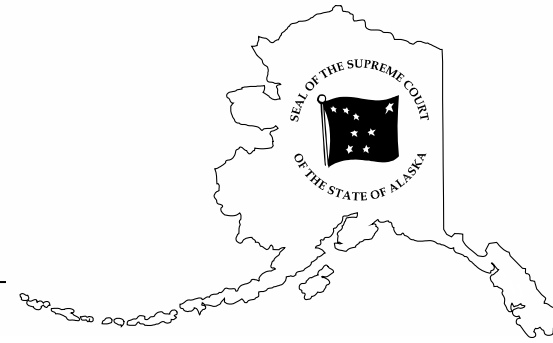
Alaska Court System



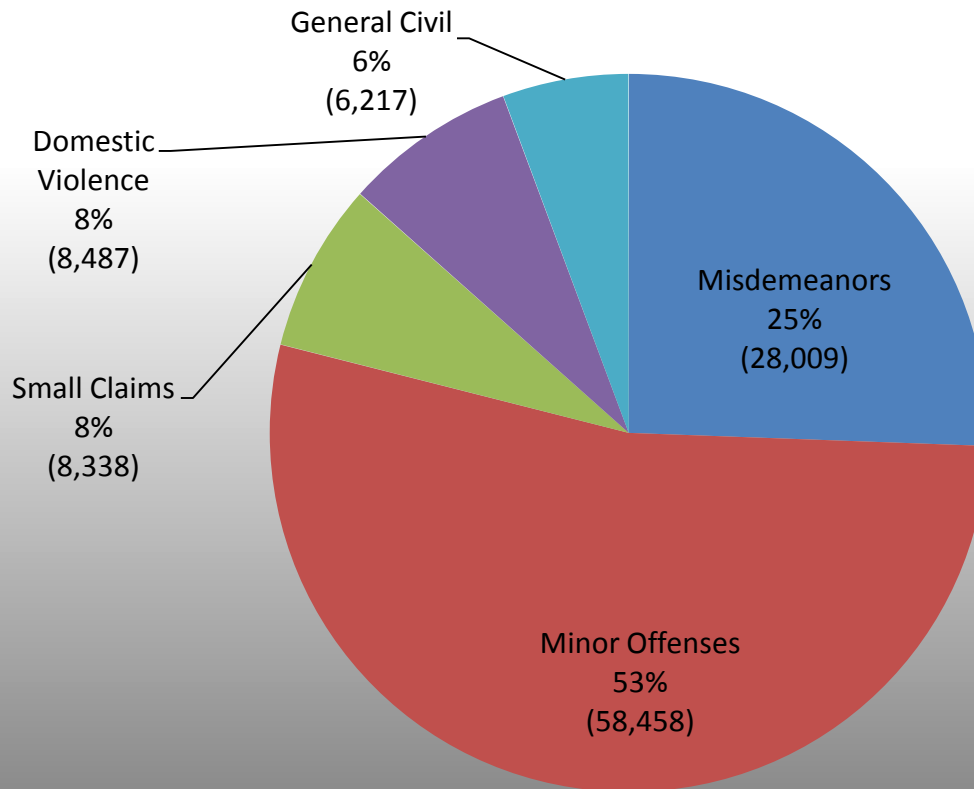
FY14 Superior Court Case Filings (42 Judges) (22,523 superior court cases filed)



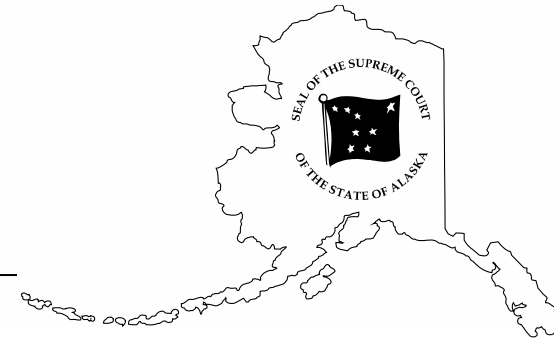
Alaska Court System



FY14 District Court Case Filings
(23 Judges & 52 Magistrate Judges)
(109,509 district court cases filed)



Alaska Court System

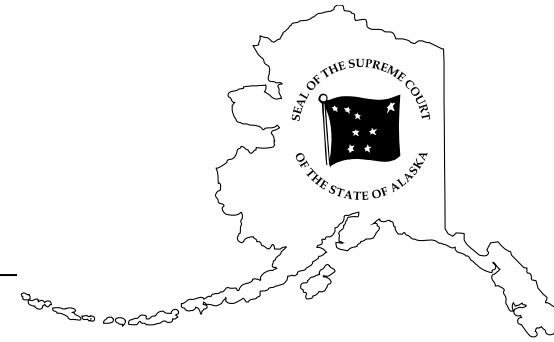


Criminal Jury Trials FY12 – FY14

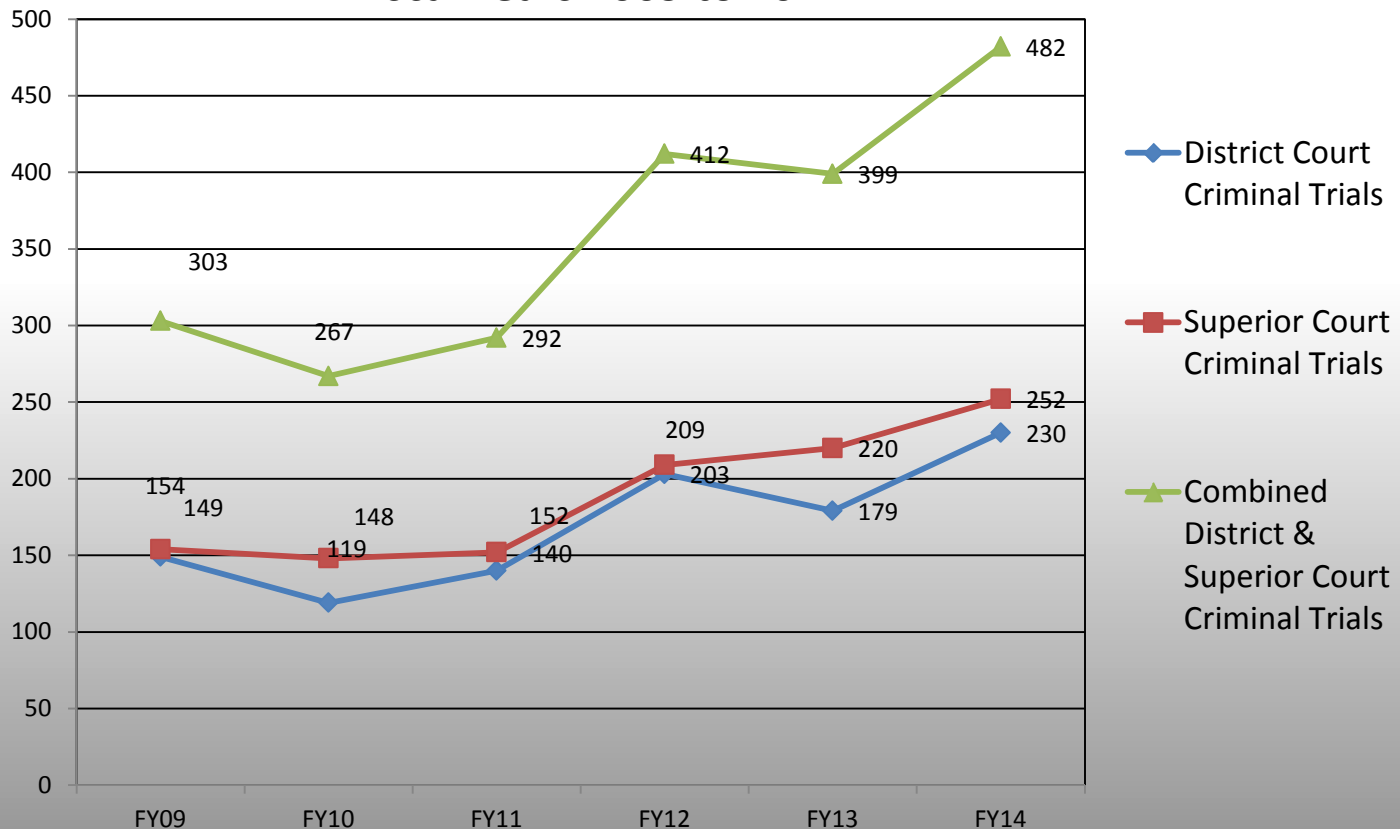
- Superior Court Felony Trials for FY14 are up 21% from FY12 Trial Totals and up 15% from FY13 Trial Totals
- District Court Misdemeanor Trials for FY14 are up 13% from FY12 Trial Totals and up 28% from FY13 Trial Totals



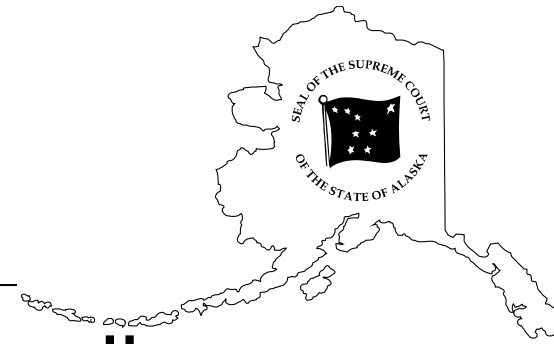
Alaska Court System



**Criminal Case Dispositions by Jury Trial
Fiscal Years 2009 to 2014**

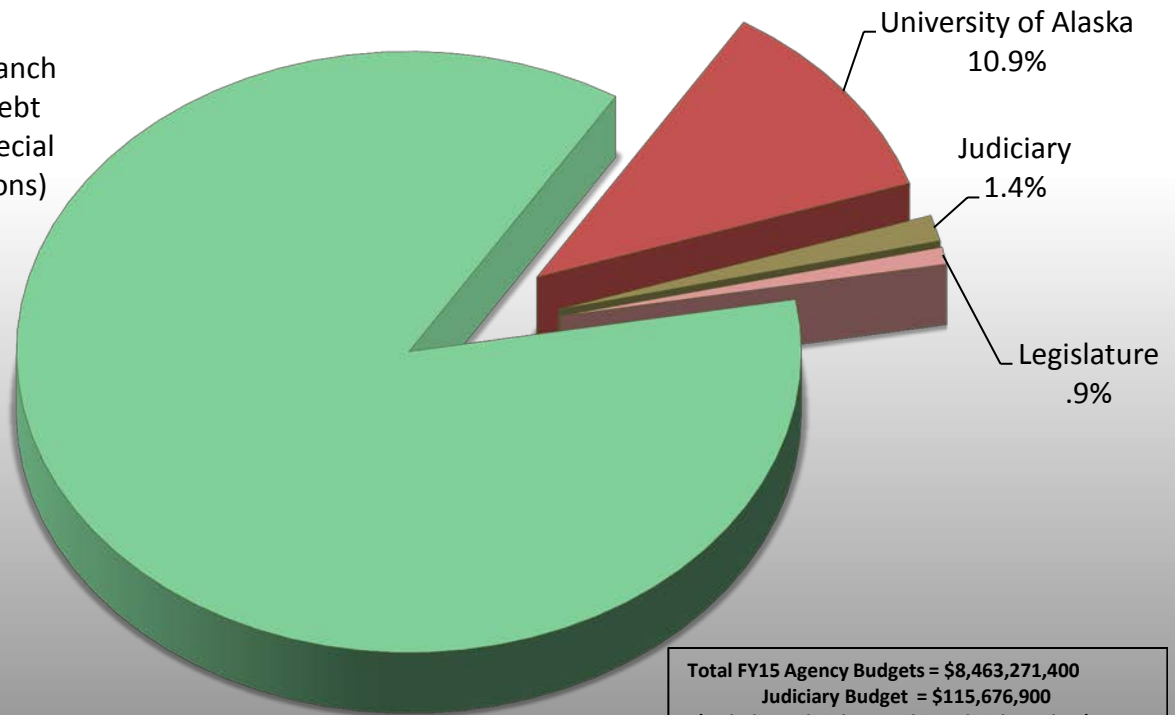


Alaska Court System



FY15 State of Alaska Funding – All Sources

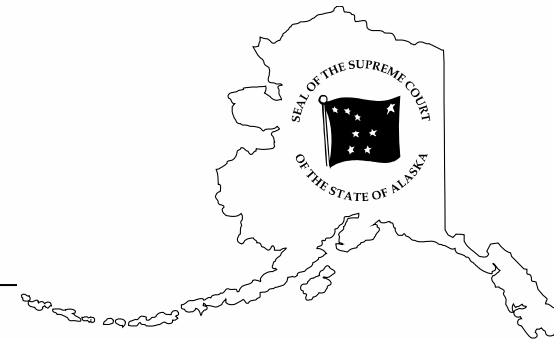
Executive Branch
(excludes debt
service & special
appropriations)
86.8%



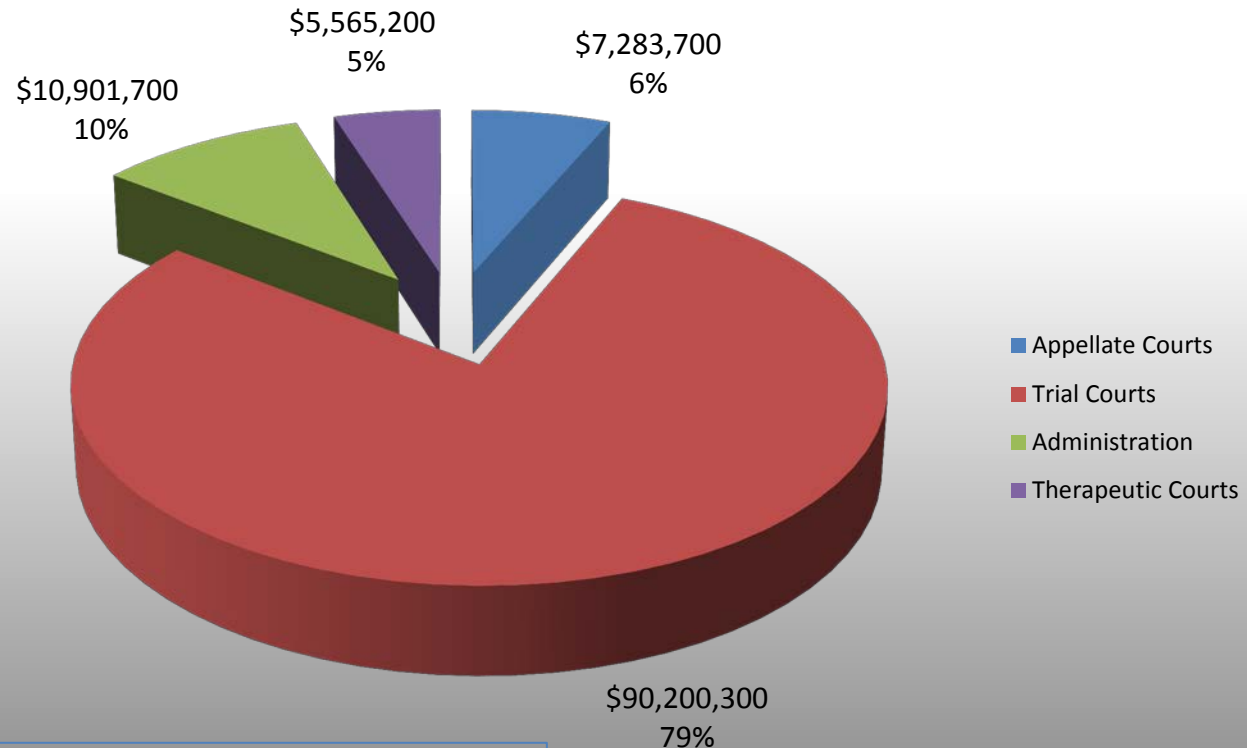
Total FY15 Agency Budgets = \$8,463,271,400
Judiciary Budget = \$115,676,900
(includes Judicial Council & Judicial Conduct)

Source: Legislative Finance Division,
Summary of Appropriations – 2014 Legislature

Alaska Court System

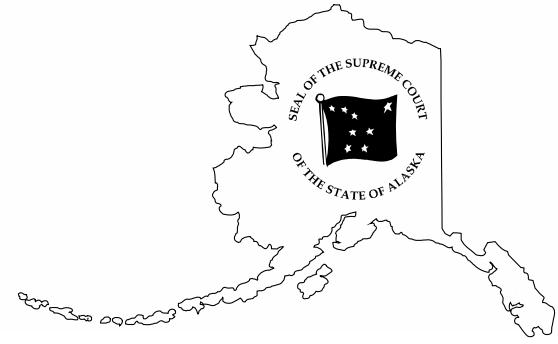


Alaska Court System FY15 Operating Budget Appropriation All Fund Types



Total FY15 Funding = \$113,950,900
(excludes Judicial Council and Judicial Conduct)

Alaska Court System

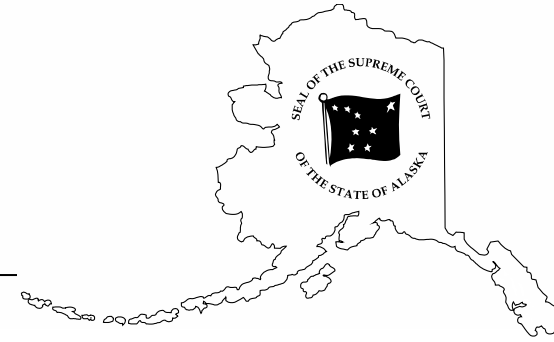


Breakdown of FY15 Funding (GF)

- ☐ Personal Services Costs – 75.6%
- ☐ Travel Costs – 1.3%
- ☐ Services – 20.0%
- ☐ Supplies/Commodities – 2.8%
- ☐ Capital Outlay - .3%



Alaska Court System

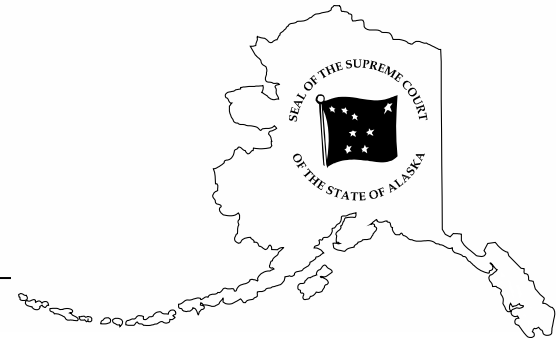


Increments Funded in FY15

- Bandwidth to Improve Network Transmission Speeds
- Facility Maintenance Costs
- Security Screening
- Court Visitors and Interpreters



Alaska Court System

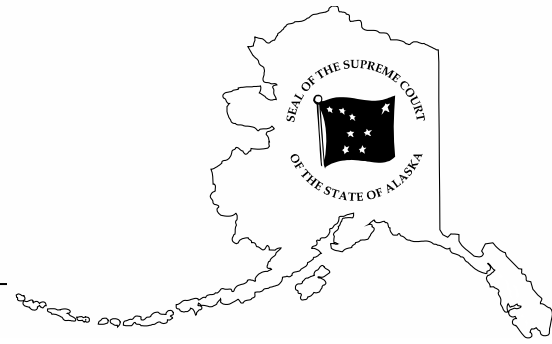


Funding Changes FY06 to FY15 Personal Services:

- Salary Adjustments
- New Judges – Eight Superior Court and Three District Court
- No Dark Courtrooms Initiative



Alaska Court System

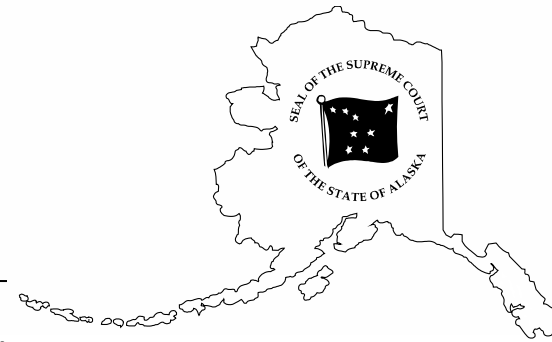


Funding Changes FY06 to FY15 Services:

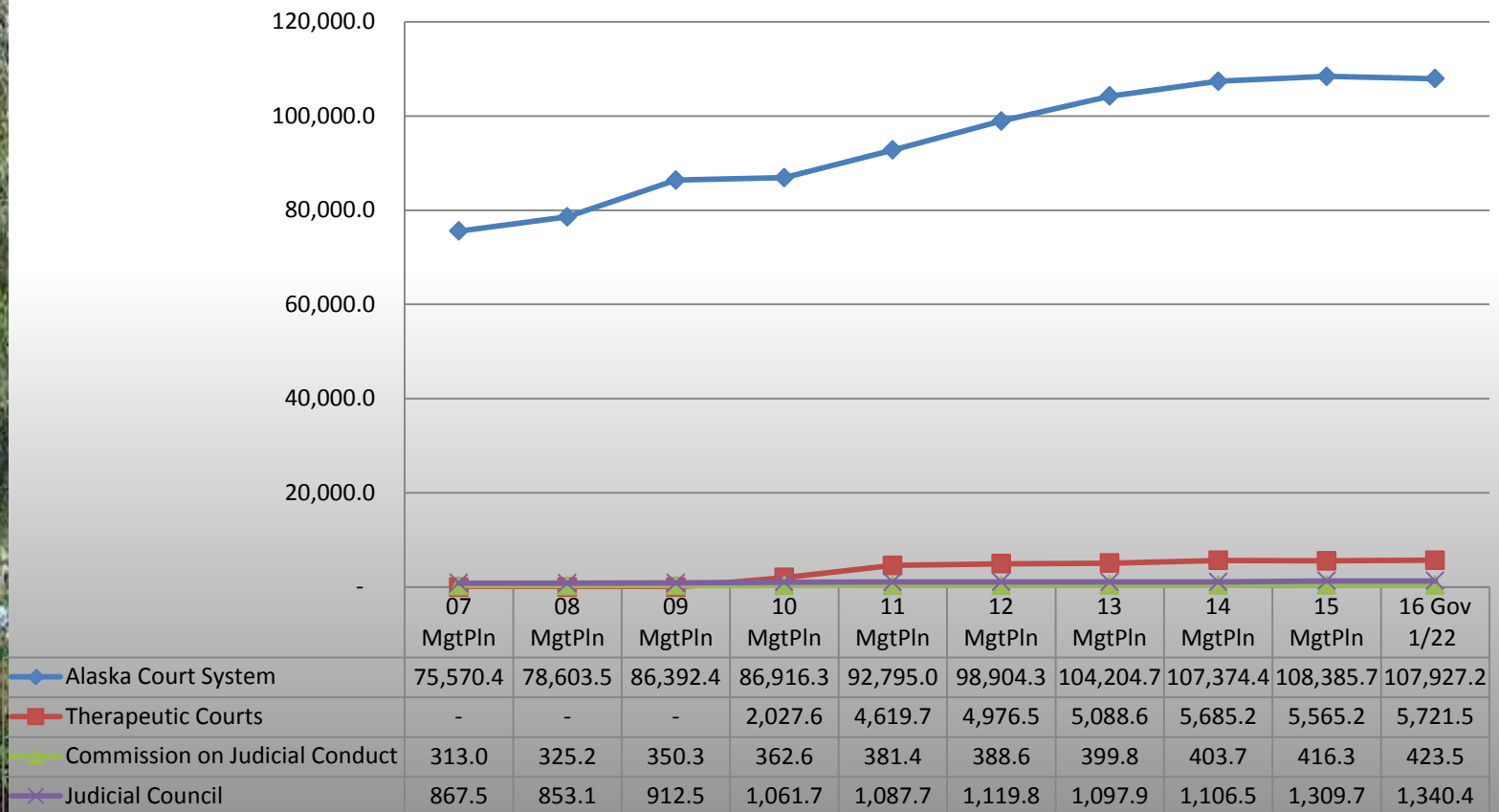
- Leased Facility Expenses including Public Building Fund Participation
- Utility and Maintenance Costs
- Software Support & Bandwidth Costs
- Therapeutic Courts



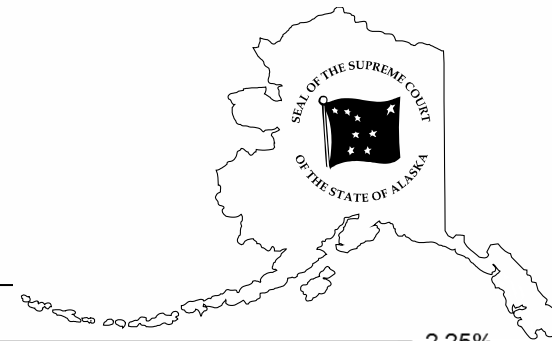
Alaska Court System



Appropriations within the Judiciary (All Funds)
(\$ Thousands)

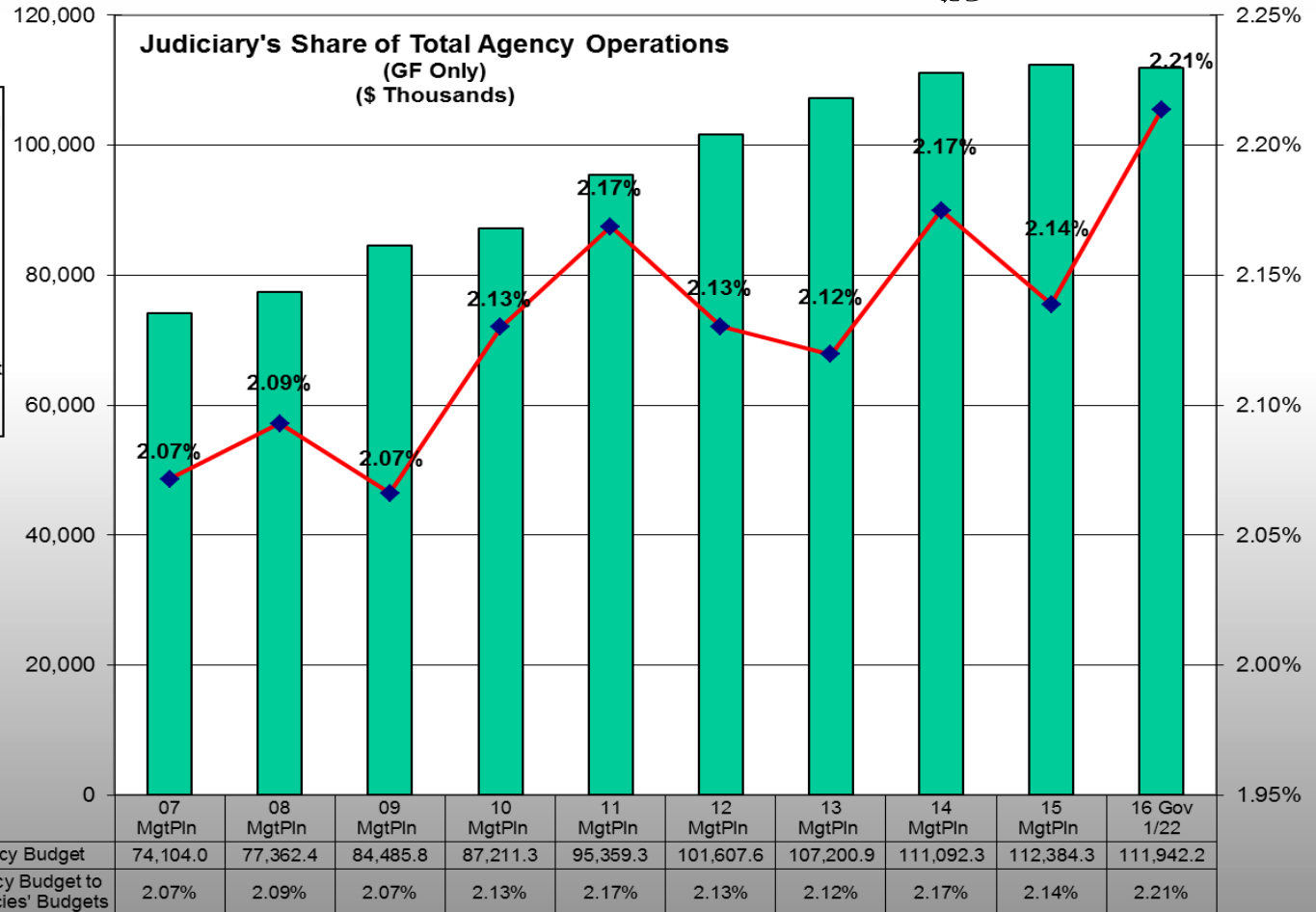


Alaska Court System



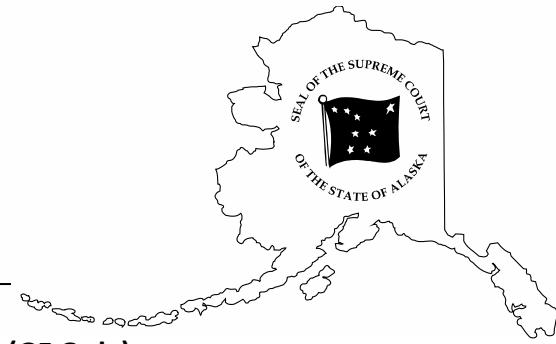
The agency's GF budget grew by \$51 million between FY07 Mgmt. Plan and FY16 Governor's Request - an average annual growth rate of 4.7%.

The agency's total FY16 Governor's Request GF budget equals \$336 per resident worker.*

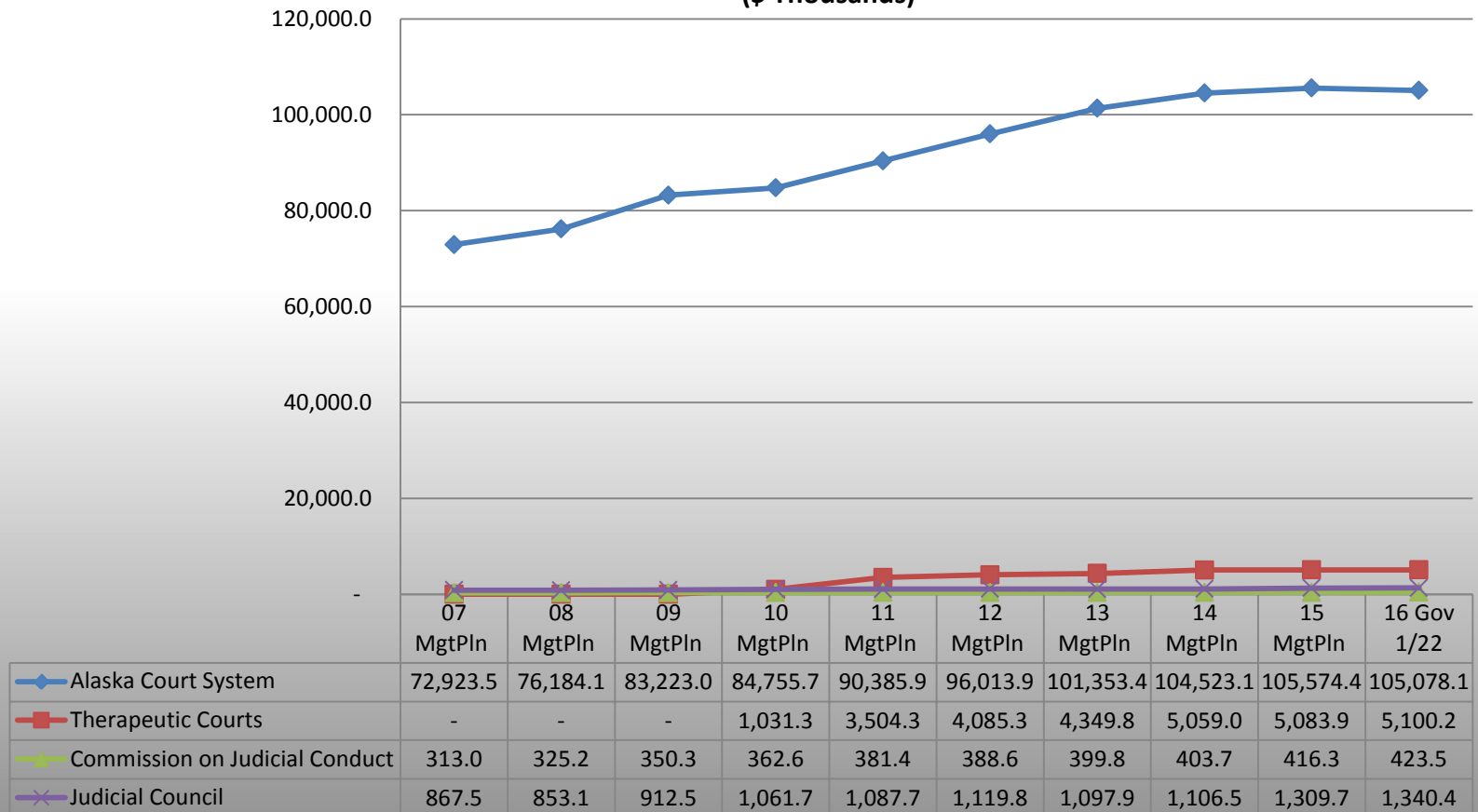


* According to the Department of Labor, there were 333,283 resident workers in Alaska in 2012

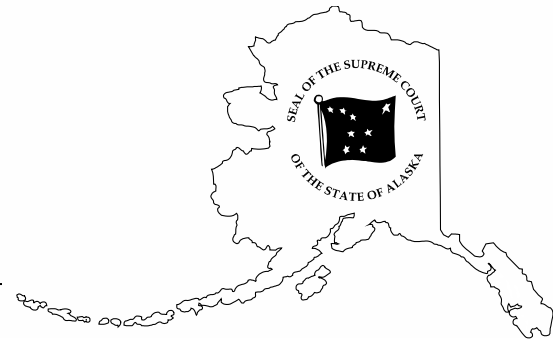
Alaska Court System



Appropriations within the Judiciary (GF Only)
(\$ Thousands)



Alaska Court System

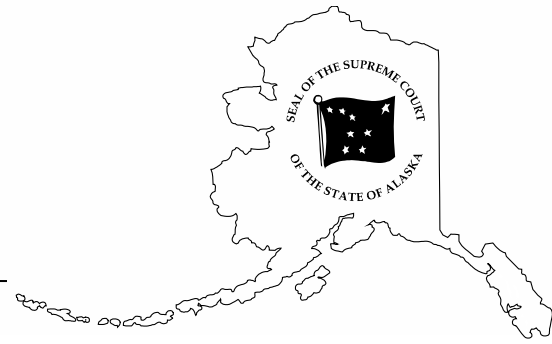


FY16 and Beyond

- Electronic Document Management (E-Filing) Project
 - Impact to All Justice Agencies
 - Improve Public Access to Data and Case Information
 - Facilitate Data Exchanges Between Justice Agencies
 - Improve Case Processing Efficiencies



Alaska Court System

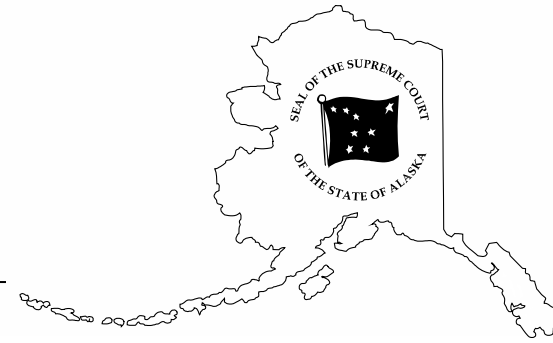


FY16 and Beyond...(Cont.)

- In the Near Term, New Superior Court Judges may be Needed for Juneau, Bethel, and Palmer Courts
- In the Long Term, New Judges may be Needed Due to Population Changes in Southcentral Alaska



Alaska Court System

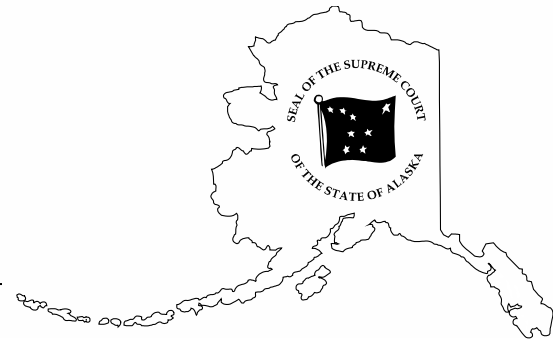


FY16 and Beyond...(Cont.)

- Improvement of Justice Facilities in Juneau, Kotzebue, Bethel, and Nome and Additional Space in Palmer
- Video Arraignment and Bandwidth Expansion



Alaska Court System

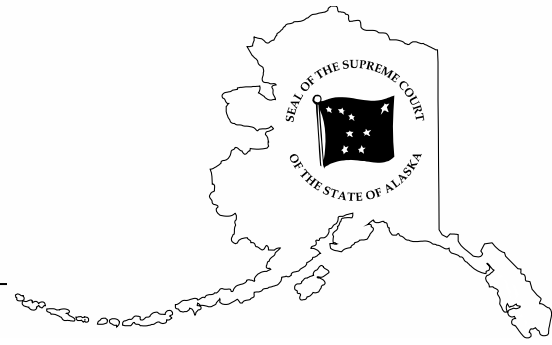


FY16 Operating Budget

- Annual Budget Development Process Commences in August
- FY16 Budget Approved by Supreme Court in October 2014 - Prior to the Severe Decline in Oil Prices
- FY16 Operating Budget Increment Requests Withdrawn and Base Budget Reduced



Alaska Court System



Thank you for your
time.

Questions?

