

JUDICIARY
FY19 - Summary of Significant Budget Issues

Governor's Budget Items Approved as Requested

Item #	Approp/Allocation	Description	Amount/Fund Source	Comment
1	Alaska Court System/ Trial Courts	Increases in the Cost of Jury Pay and Jury Travel	\$510.0 UGF	Given the increase in prosecutors and other factors, the number of cases going to trial has increased and is expected to continue to increase. The \$510.0 request by Trial Courts is 0.6 percent above the FY18 budget (and 2.5% below FY17 actual expenditures). The funding is expected to be expended in the following categories: • Jury Pay: \$360.0 UGF. • Jury Travel: \$150.0 UGF. To increase the jury pool, jurors may be drawn from a 50-mile radius of a hub court. When jurors are required to travel to the hub court, the Court System is required to provide meals and lodging for the duration of their jury services. On average, 81% of all juror travel costs are attributable to trials held in Dillingham and Bethel.
2	Therapeutic Courts/ Therapeutic Courts	Add a position in the Anchorage Veterans' Court to Align with National Standards and Address Increased Utilization	\$96.3 UGF 1 PFT Position	The Anchorage Veterans' Court, which started in 2004, is a specialized court designed to facilitate the rehabilitation of eligible veterans charged with criminal offenses. In addition to connecting veterans with U.S. Department of Military and Veterans Affairs housing, employment, rehabilitation, and treatment services, the Veterans' Court collaborates with prosecutors, defense attorneys, and the State of Alaska Department of Veterans' Affairs to monitor conditions of alternative sentencing plea agreements. According to Therapeutic Courts, these agreements are designed to help eligible veterans succeed in returning to a productive and law-abiding lifestyle. Prior to FY19, non-veterans' and veterans' court cases were distributed among existing Therapeutic Courts staff. This increment adds funding for a project coordinator position focused on providing services to veterans and to align Veterans' Court practices with recently established national standards.

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Governor's Budget Items Approved as Requested (continued)

Item #	Approp/Allocation	Description	Amount/Fund Source	Comment
3	Therapeutic Courts / Therapeutic Courts	Programs in Therapeutic Courts	\$219.4 MHTAAR (Other)	The legislature fully funded the Mental Health Trust Authority's recommendation of \$219.4 MHTAAR to sustain the following programs: • \$204.4 to continue Juneau Mental Health Court funding (IncOTI) • \$15.0 training for Therapeutic Court Staff (IncOTI)

Legislative Deletions

Item #	Approp/Allocation	Description	Amount/Fund Source	Comment
4	Alaska Court System/ Trial Courts and Administration and Support	Delete Excess Federal Receipts	(\$250.0) Federal Receipts	To align federal expenditure authority with anticipated expenditures, the legislature removed \$175.0 of federal receipts from the Trial Courts allocation and \$75.0 from the Administration and Support allocation.
5	Alaska Court System/ Trial Courts	Delete 16 of 32 Unfunded Positions	(16) PFT Positions	The legislature deleted 16 (of 32) long-term vacant positions for which there is no funding. Although 16 unfunded positions remain in the budget, the Alaska Court System would like to retain them in order to speed response if the legislature adds funding for services.