

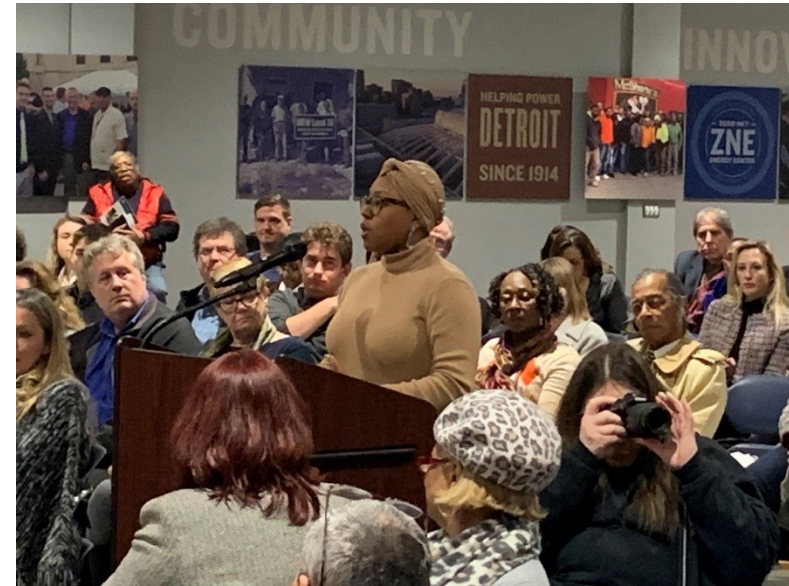
# House Appropriations Subcommittee on Judiciary



## Michigan's Judiciary

### FY 2024 Budget Presentation

***GOAL: “An Innovative,  
Transparent, and Efficient Justice  
System that Works for Everyone”***



*February 22, 2023*



CHIEF JUSTICE ELIZABETH T. CLEMENT

# Today's Agenda



- Justice System Principles
  - Focus on building public trust
- Highlights of Recent Progress
  - Innovation, Partnerships, and Improved Data Management
- Proposals for Change
- Continuing Service Budget Items



# Justice System Principles



- Independent
- Transparent
- Consistent
- Equitable
- Accessible
- Efficient
- Accountable
- Innovative
- Data Driven
- Engaged

Commitment to these principles builds **TRUST** with the public we serve.




# Online Proceedings Boost Access/Transparency



## MiCOURT Virtual Courtroom Directory



**Search**

**BY LOCATION**  
Locate a virtual courtroom by county or current location (click )

Oakland County

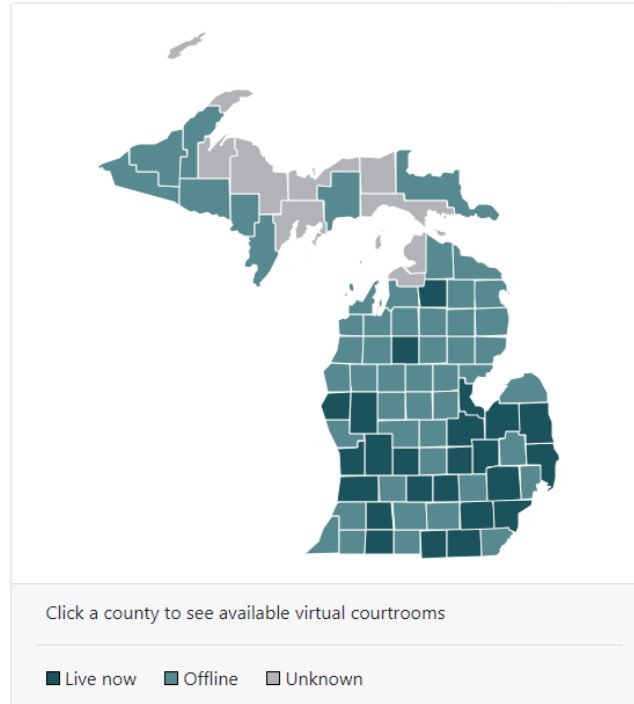
OR

**BY JUDGE**  
Locate a virtual courtroom by Judge or Hearing Officer

Enter Judge or Hearing Officer

Results only include existing Virtual Courtrooms

**COVID-19** Each court's local administrative order for *Return to Full Capacity* can be found [here](#).



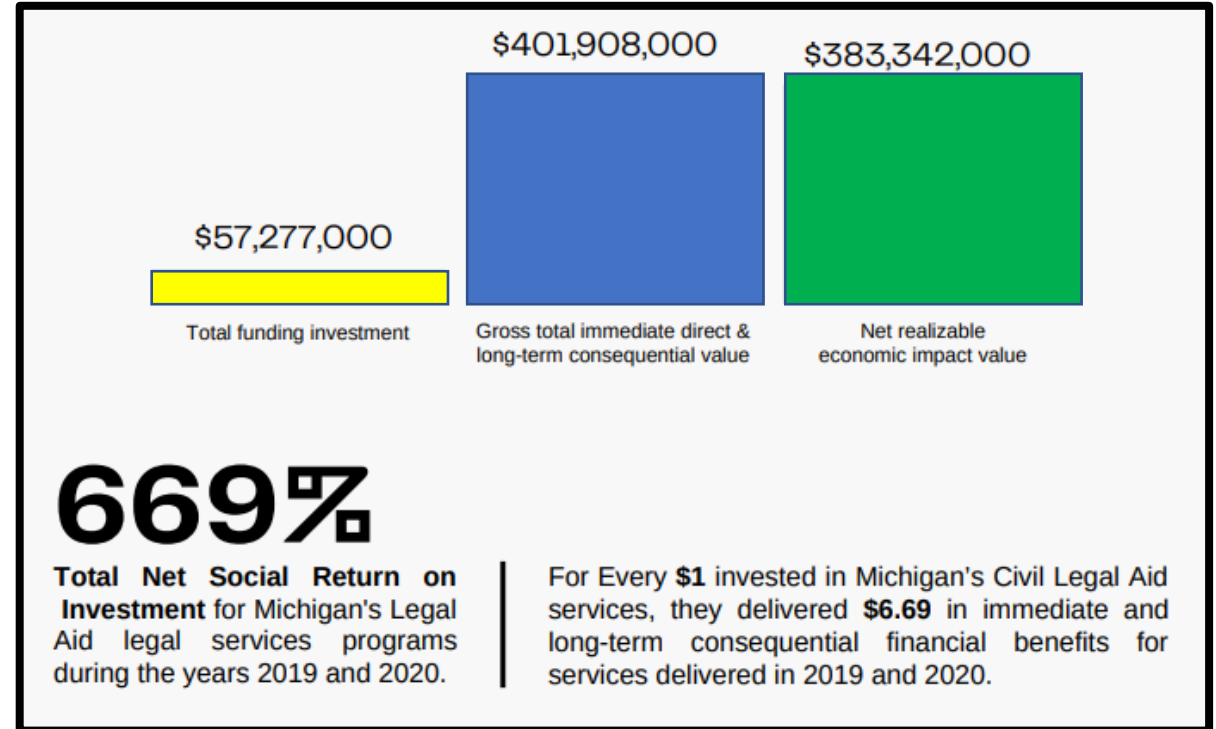
- Virtual Courtroom Directory has been used nearly 700,000 times.
- Trial court YouTube channels have more than 280,000 subscribers.
- YouTube hearings have been viewed by millions.
- Nearly 1,000 court officers have presided over more than EIGHT MILLION HOURS of remote hearings



# Justice for All Recent Progress



- Justice for All Commission published two major studies:
  - Social Return on Investment in legal aid is substantial – 669%. That’s nearly \$7 for each \$1.
  - Debt collection lawsuits dominate Michigan courts.
  - JFAC adopted debt collection process simplification recommendations.
- Early in 2023, distributing \$500,000 in grants to expand number of legal self-help centers.
- Forms committee has partnered with national experts to develop simplification plan, including recommendations from debt collection report.



NOTE: Given the effectiveness of civil legal aid, we are also asking for FY23 supplemental funding to make up for the shortfall in the State Court Fund. The pandemic really took a bite out of this fund, and we are asking for \$1 million to make up a portion of the difference.



# Eviction Diversion Success



- Partnership with MSHDA and other housing agencies allowed for resources to flow where needed most.
  - Nearly \$1 billion in rental and other assistance.
  - More than 250,000 people were provided assistance through CERA.
- With additional access to counsel and resources, eviction rate plunged.
- After substantial stakeholder engagement and input MSC is considering rules that reflect “lessons learned” from the pandemic, allowing for more families to remain in the homes and for more landlords to get paid.

## Eviction Rate by Calendar Year

Year	New Filing Count	Eviction Count	Eviction Rate
2019	147,147	38,592	26%
2020	70,056	11,997	17%
2021	75,257	8,197	11%
2022	122,168	19,483	16%



# Technology Improvements Boost Efficiency



## Judicial Information Services is Technology Leader

- Web-based case management tools for all JIS courts.
  - Moved more than 5,000 users.
  - Migrated 43 circuit courts to modernized WebTCS
  - Moved 3 district courts to JIS
- Focus on integration
  - Calendar
  - Court displays
  - Court forms
  - Criminal history reporting
  - Prosecutor interface
  - SOS & LEIN
- Email and text reminders for the public
- Case search for authorized background check users.
- Expanded data analytics
  - Internal juvenile data
  - Caseload dashboard



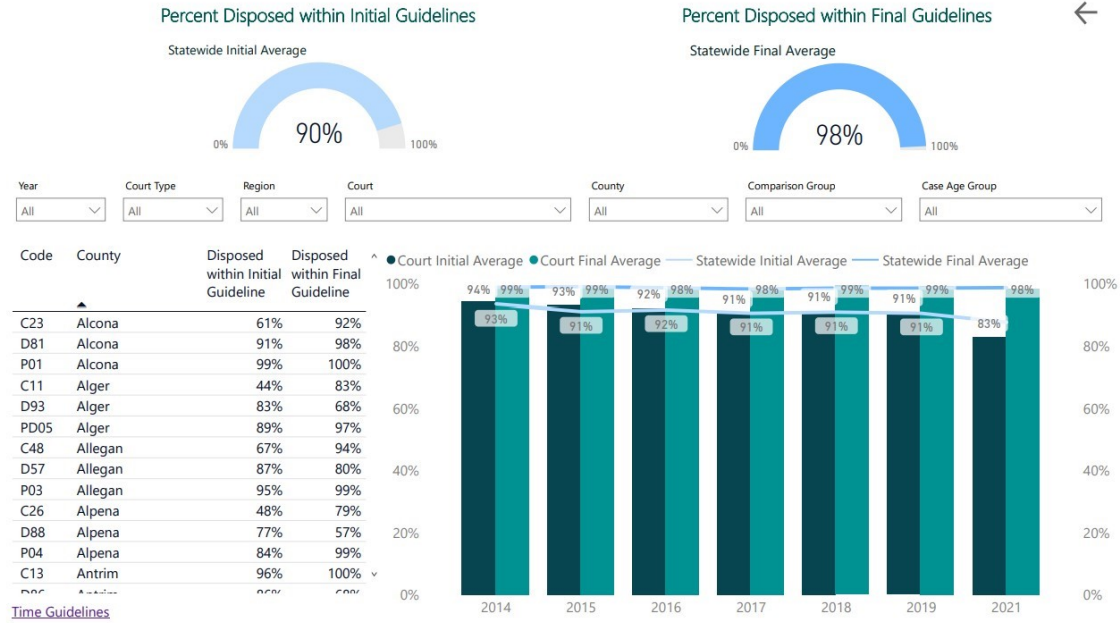
- Statewide e-filing infrastructure continues to expand.
- Focused on reducing integration time and expanding number of courts.
- System makes courts more efficient and saves time and resources for public.



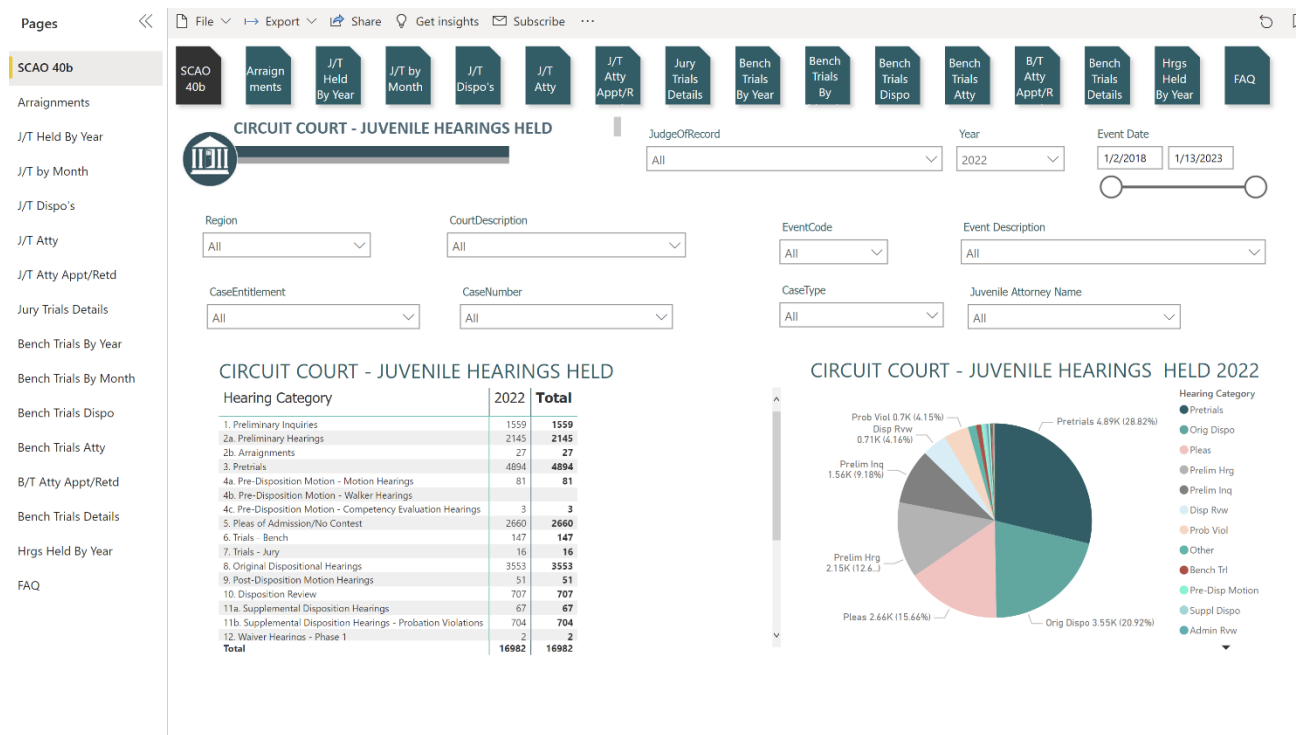
# Improved Data Management



## Caseload Dashboard



## Juvenile Dashboard





# Expanded Online Mediation/Dispute Resolution



[www.courts.mi.gov/miresolve](http://www.courts.mi.gov/miresolve)

- Michigan is the first state with Online Dispute Resolution services available statewide – MI-Resolve.
- System designed to resolve money disputes, minor landlord/tenant matters (like the return of a damage deposit), contract matters, and neighborhood disputes.
- Piloting kiosks to reach parties without computers or Internet access.
- Recently expanded to include parenting time.



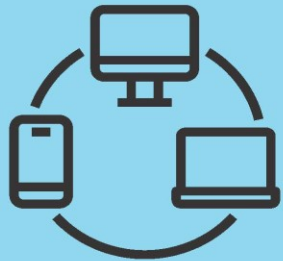


# Proposals for Change

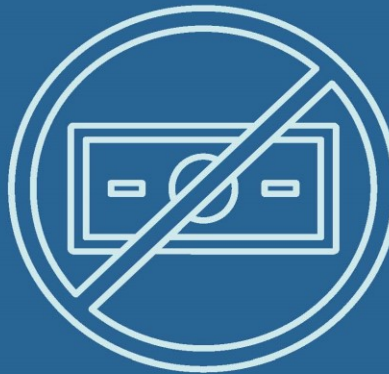


# Budget Priority: Statewide Case Management System

## \$12,500,500



Enabling broader use of online court services and resource sharing (e.g., interpreters, secure digital court recording, transcription)



Eliminating the cost to trial courts for providing those services

Eliminating the need for trial court staff to prepare data reports



# Budget Priority: Statewide Case Management System

## \$12,500,500



### \$3M

for 16 FTEs to provide ongoing support for users and continued infrastructure maintenance as the statewide system increases in size



### \$6.5M

to eliminate the User Fee revenue that we currently collect from the courts and replace that with General Funds

### \$3M

for other hardware and software needs



# Budget Priority: Juvenile Justice Services Division

## \$2,025,000

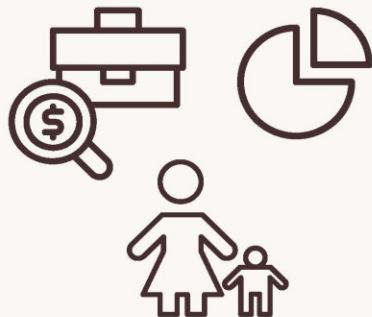


Coordinating the statewide implementation of risk/needs and detention screening and assessment tools

Offering annual certification for juvenile and district probation officers (recommended by Juvenile Justice Task Force)



Providing technical assistance and quality assurance for local implementation of research-based policies, programs, and practices



Helping to coordinate statewide court policies, funding, data collection, and reporting, including Child Care Fund performance measures, such as the use of structured decision-making tools, overrides, and equity



# Budget Priority: Juvenile Justice Services Division



## \$2,025,000



SCAO may partner with a third party, such as a Michigan university, to support technical assistance and quality-assurance activities.

## \$25,000

to fund an annual, in-depth, in-person certification program



## \$2M

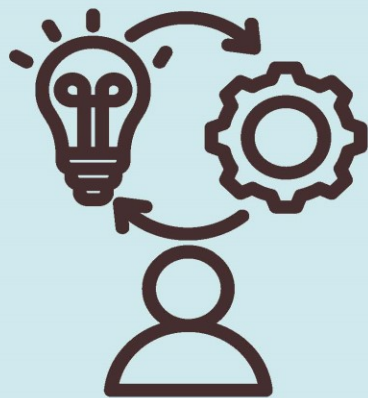
to hire 13 FTEs to operate the division



# Budget Priority: Justice for All Initiative



**\$475,000**



Continuing to  
engage in process  
improvement efforts

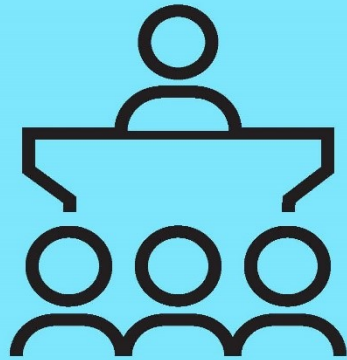
Planning and launching pilot projects  
experimenting with different models of  
delivery, access, and making  
courthouses more welcoming



# Budget Priority: Justice for All Initiative



**\$475,000**



Training and empowering community leaders and reaching out to the public about the availability of resources and solutions for civil legal issues



Developing training materials for court personnel on critical access to justice topics as outlined in the JFA Strategic Plan





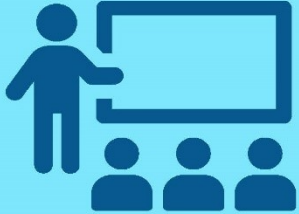
# Budget Priority: Justice for All Initiative

**\$475,000**



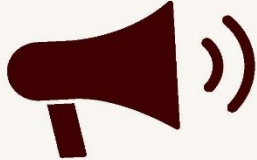
**\$100,000**

to develop and implement training modules



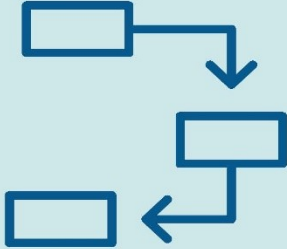
**\$75,000**

to educate stakeholders and the public



**\$300,000**

for process improvement, pilot projects, non-lawyer practice pilots, welcoming courthouses

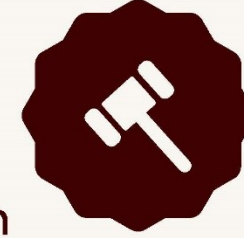


# Budget Priority: Michigan Judicial Institute

## \$482,000



Tracking  
judicial  
participation  
in mandatory  
continuing  
education  
events



Expanding training  
opportunities for  
court support staff  
through online  
learning modules



Developing a  
comprehensive  
court administration  
benchbook on  
topics of concern  
to chief judges  
and court administrators  
statewide



# Budget Priority: Michigan Judicial Institute

## \$482,000



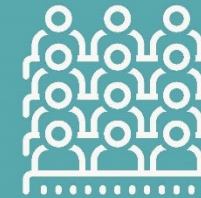
### \$152,000

to expand training opportunities by adding 1 FTE (curriculum developer)



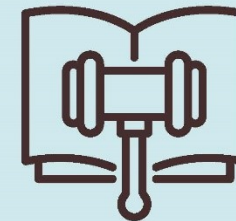
### \$30,000

to enable software to track attendance at mandatory judicial education events



### \$300,000

to contract an attorney to compile a comprehensive court administration benchbook (3-year project)



# Budget Priority: Security for MSC Justices



## \$415,000



Safeguarding MSC Justices in a time of escalating threats and potential violence against jurists with extra security beyond the Hall of Justice while they conduct official court business

Includes protection while traveling to events at other locations, as well as working remotely from their homes



# Budget Priority: Security for MSC Justices



**\$415,000**

**\$8,600**

for travel  
expenses



**\$107,100**

to provide unmarked vehicles for all 7 Justices

**\$20,500**

to provide unmarked vehicles for security detail



**\$49,500**

for home security  
systems for all 7  
justices



**\$229,300**

for salaries, benefits  
for 2 FTEs



# Budget Priority: FOCB Grant Spending Authority

## \$420,000



Increasing safe access to child support services for domestic violence victims/survivors who are not currently receiving them



Based on the 5-year Federal Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) grant awarded to the SCAO Friend of the Court Bureau



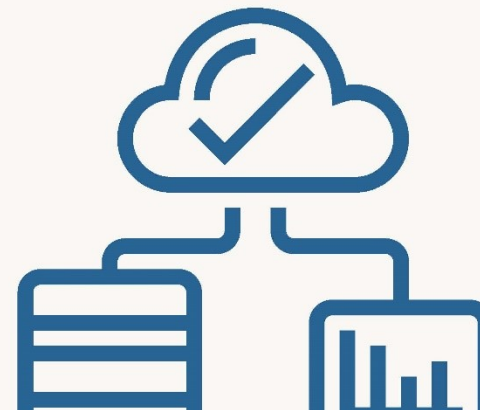
# Budget Priority: Statewide Court Data Transparency Project

## \$4,500,000



Enabling Michigan to become a leader in criminal justice system data transparency that other states will look to as an example

Conducting a pioneering data transparency project in three phases: assessing the data, publishing the data, and creating goals based on the data, such as addressing disparities or public safety issues



# Budget Priority: Statewide Court Data Transparency Project



## \$4,500,000

**\$2M**

to work with  
Measures for  
Justice on this  
project



**\$500,000**

for court  
training and  
data quality  
analysis



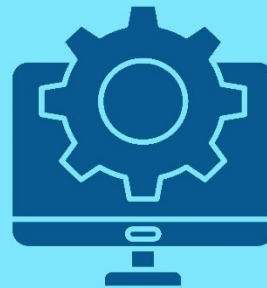
**\$500,000**

for SCAO  
Field Services  
staffing needs



**\$1M**

for SCAO Judicial Information  
Services (JIS) content  
management system (CMS)  
updates



**\$500,000**

for JIS staffing needs





# FY 24 - Proposals for Change/Summary



<b>PFC Requests</b>		<b>FTE's</b>	<b>GF/GP</b>	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>Ongoing or One-Time</b>
Statewide case management system		16	12,500,500	4,747,600	Ongoing
Juvenile Justice Services Division		13	2,025,000	2,025,000	Ongoing
JFA Process Improvements/Pilot Projects/Training/Outreach		-	475,000	475,000	Ongoing
MJI Curriculum Developer, Software, Trainings		1	182,000	182,000	Ongoing
MJI Contract Attorney		-	300,000	300,000	One-time
Security for Supreme Court Justices		2	415,000	415,000	Ongoing
Spending Authority for FOCB SAVES grant		-	-	420,000	Ongoing
Statewide Court Data Transparency Project		-	4,500,000	4,500,000	One-time
	<b>PFC TOTALS</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>20,397,500</b>	<b>13,064,600</b>	



# FY 24 – Current Services Baseline



## Additional Budget Goals



**\$504,900**

Increasing district court judges' salaries, per statute, to address an inequity and put district court judges at the same salary level as probate court judges

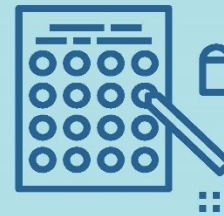


**\$105,400**

Addressing rate increases for armed court security detail, per contract with DK Security

**\$162,000**

Addressing the Board of Law Examiners' anticipated budget shortfall for FY 2024 due increasing bar exam expenses and flat revenue stream



# FY 24 – Current Services Baseline

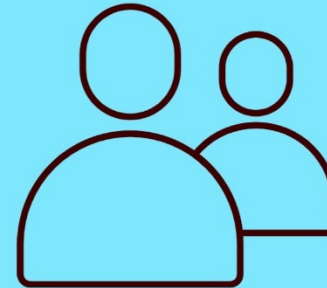
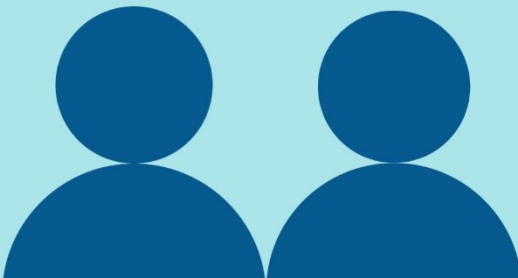


## Additional Budget Goals



**\$0**

Enabling the hiring of 2 additional FTEs to support Michigan problem-solving courts--with more than 200 programs and counting



**\$0**

Seeking budget authority to add 2 FTEs to the Michigan Judicial Institute budget



# FY 24 – Current Services Baseline/Summary



<b>CSB Requests</b>	<b>FTE's</b>	<b>GF/GP</b>	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>Ongoing or One-Time</b>
District Court Judges salary increase	-	504,900	504,900	Ongoing
DK Security contract increases	-	105,400	105,400	Ongoing
FTE budget authority for Problem Solving Courts	2	-	-	Ongoing
Board of Law Examiners Shortfall	-	162,000	162,000	Ongoing
FTE budget authority for MJJ	2	-	-	Ongoing
<b>CSB TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>772,300</b>	<b>772,300</b>	



# Highlights of Next Steps



- Data Standardization
  - Getting data right is central to our strategy
  - Statewide case management is central to getting data right
- Juvenile Justice Reform
  - Changes in law, policy, and funding to improve youth outcomes
- Problem-Solving Courts
  - Focus on problem solving in all cases
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - Develop policies and standards
  - Assist local courts with DEI plans
  - Help eliminate disparities
- Michigan Judicial Council
  - Uniform data collection and structure
  - More understandable and user-friendly courts
  - Expand educational and other resources to boost access



# Find us online and on Social Media



## ONLINE INFORMATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA

ONE COURT OF JUSTICE WEBSITE  
[courts.mi.gov](http://courts.mi.gov)

 **twitter**  
[@misupremecourt](https://twitter.com/misupremecourt)

 Find us on:  
**facebook**  
[facebook.com/misupremecourt](https://facebook.com/misupremecourt)

 **LinkedIn**  
[linkedin.com/company/michigan-supreme-court](https://linkedin.com/company/michigan-supreme-court)

 **YouTube**  
[youtube.com/MichiganCourts](https://youtube.com/MichiganCourts)

 **Instagram**  
[instagram.com/msc\\_1836](https://instagram.com/msc_1836)

