



Note: By the morning of Friday, April 10, 2015, materials will be available at:

<http://www.flcourts.org/administration-funding/court-funding-budget/trial-court-budget-commission/>

MEETING AGENDA

8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Monday, April 13, 2015

Judicial Meeting Room, Supreme Court Building, Tallahassee, FL

Welcome and Roll Call

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|------|---|-----------|
| I. | Approval of December 11, 2014, Minutes | 8:30-8:35 |
| II. | Status of FY 2014-15 Budget | 8:35-9:00 |
| A. | Salary Budgets | |
| 1. | Payroll Projections | |
| 2. | Positions Vacant for More than 180 Days | |
| 3. | Reclassification Actions | |
| B. | Operating Budgets | |
| C. | Trust Fund Cash Balances | |
| 1. | State Courts Revenue Trust Fund | |
| 2. | Administrative Trust Fund | |
| D. | End of Year Spending | |
| III. | Conflict Counsel Cases over the Flat Fee | 9:00-9:10 |
| IV. | Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative Funding | 9:10-9:30 |
| V. | Update on Technology Funding Strategies Workgroup | 9:30-9:40 |

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| Break | 9:40-10:00 |
| VI. Update on 2015 Legislative Session | 10:00-11:00 |
| A. House and Senate Budget Proposals | |
| 1. Implementing Bills | |
| 2. Conforming Bills | |
| B. Pay Issue for Judges and State Courts System Staff | |
| C. Pay and Benefits/Retirement Legislation | |
| D. Other Significant Legislation | |
| VII. Judicial Conference, TCBC, and Other Legislative Outreach | 11:00-11:10 |
| VIII. FY 2016-17 Legislative Budget Request Time Line | 11:10-11:20 |
| IX. Report from Chief Justice Designee to the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation Executive Council | 11:20-11:30 |
| Adjourn | |

Next TCBC Meeting

Friday, June 12; Orlando

Agenda Item I. Approval of December 11, 2014, Minutes

DRAFT

**Trial Court Budget Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2014**



Attendance – Members Present

The Honorable Mark Mahon, Chair	The Honorable Gregory Parker
The Honorable Robert Roundtree, Vice Chair	Ms. Kathy Pugh
The Honorable Catherine Brunson	Mr. Grant Slayden
The Honorable Jeffrey Colbath	The Honorable Elijah Smiley
The Honorable Ronald Ficarrotta	Mr. Walt Smith
Mr. Tom Genung	The Honorable Bertila Soto
The Honorable Robert Hilliard	The Honorable John Stargel
The Honorable Frederick Lauten	The Honorable Margaret Steinbeck
Ms. Sandra Lonergan	The Honorable Patricia Thomas
The Honorable Wayne Miller	Mr. Mark Weinberg
The Honorable Debra Nelson	
The Honorable Diana Moreland	

Attendance – Members Absent

The Honorable Thomas McGrady	Ms. Robin Wright
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Special Note: It is recommended that these minutes be used in conjunction with the meeting materials.

Judge Mahon called the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The roll was taken with a quorum present. Judge Mahon welcomed Judge Lauten as a newly appointed member.

Agenda Item I: Approval of August 26 and October 23, 2014, Meeting Minutes

Judge Mahon presented the draft meeting minutes from the August 26, 2014, and October 23, 2014, TCBC meetings and asked if there were any changes necessary before approval. Judge Miller moved to approve the minutes as drafted. Judge Parker seconded and the motion passed without objection.

Agenda Item II: FY 2014-15 Budget Status

A. Operating Budgets

Dorothy Wilson provided an overview of the operating budgets for FY 2014-15 as of November 30, 2014. She noted that approximately 85% of the contracted services budget includes funding for drug court expansion/treatment and veterans' court.

B. Salary Budgets

Dorothy Wilson provided an overview of the trial court salary budgets for FY 2014-15. The salary liability for the trial courts General Revenue/State Court Revenue Trust Fund was \$1.6 million under the salary appropriation. Ms. Wilson noted the data does not reflect approximately \$1 million in law clerk incentives obligated through FY 2019-20. The report will be revised to reflect the obligation.

Ms. Wilson also noted the Federal Grants Trust Fund's liability was under the appropriation by \$45,822. However, currently there are four vacancies of the sixteen positions paid by the fund that is generating lapse and as these positions are filled, the savings will diminish. Staff will continue to monitor the fund.

C. Trust Fund Cash Balances

Dorothy Wilson provided an overview of the trust fund cash balances through November 30, 2014 for FY 2014-15. She noted insufficient cash was available in the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund to meet payroll obligations in September through November and expenditures were shifted to General Revenue. Currently, a \$14 million deficit is projected at year end for that fund and staff will work with legislative staff on a solution. She noted this would be updated for the February Article V Revenue Estimating Conference.

D. Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative

Kris Slayden provided an overview of the Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative for FY 2014-15. She noted the remaining old cases are the complex cases that require more time.

Agenda Item III: FY 2015-16 Supplemental Budget Request

A. Pay Issue for Court System Employees

Eric Maclure provided an overview of the second year legislative budget request (LBR) for the equity and retention pay issue. The plan required a total of \$18,828,193 in recurring salary dollars and \$8,132,614 was funded in FY 2014-15. The FY 2015-16 LBR for the judicial branch seeks, as part of the branch's top priority, \$8,961,891 to finish addressing the employee salary issues affecting the courts system.

Blan Teagle provided a status of the position classification analysis. Mr. Maclure solicited direction and input from the members on: the position classification analysis currently being conducted, potential adjustments to the amount requested in the FY 2015-16 LBR, and strategies to advocate this budget issue to the legislature.

B. Trial Court Technology Funding Strategies Workgroup/Strategic Plan

Kris Slayden thanked and acknowledged the members of the workgroup who completed a tremendous amount of work in a short time frame. Ms. Slayden provided an overview of the workgroup's recommendations.

Access Fees for Remote Access to Court Documents – The workgroup recommended that the TCBC recommend to the Supreme Court that a fee structure not be developed for remote access to court documents based on the clerks of court position.

Walt Smith motioned to not develop a fee structure for remote access to court records. Judge Smiley seconded and the motion was passed without objection.

Strategic Plan – The workgroup defined the business needs and new business capabilities. The needs were identified and prioritized, and the draft strategic plan was distributed to the chief judges for comment. Judge Roundtree noted that the general public views all county and circuit courts as one entity and expects the same level of service regardless of location.

Judge Ficarrota made a motion to approve conceptually the draft *Florida Trial Court Technology Strategic Plan: 2015-2019*, with delegation to the Executive Committee to make and approve final revisions and submit the plan to the Supreme Court with the recommendation that the plan be adopted. Judge Nelson seconded and the motion passed without objection.

Supplemental Legislative Budget Request Cost Estimates – A placeholder issue of \$21,608,782 was submitted as a part of the FY 2015-16 Legislative Budget Request (LBR) in October 2014. The workgroup determined that, in following the draft strategic plan, a cost estimate for minimum technology service levels needed to be included in the supplemental FY 2015-16 LBR. Walt Smith remarked that as a result of ongoing conversions from paper to electronic processes, this request is not a wish list and is a must have.

Judge Nelson made a motion to recommend to the Supreme Court to submit a supplemental FY 2015-16 LBR of \$25,505,027, replacing the current placeholder amount, and approve the out year costs of \$19,654,021 in FY 2016-17, \$16,826,203 in FY 2017-18, and \$16,826,203 in FY 2018-19.

Revenue Proposals – The approved supplemental FY 2015-16 LBR issue will be requested in non-recurring general revenue in the first year to pay for technology costs. In 2016-17, it is anticipated the trial courts will need a revenue stream to maintain and sustain the technology, and possibly a 5% required reserve of revenue and 8% required general revenue service charge.

Walt Smith made a motion to approve including a 5% required reserve of revenue. Judge Thomas seconded and the motion passed without objection.

The workgroup explored redirecting general revenue and increase in recording fee and provided the following options for consideration:

Option 1: Propose an increase in the current \$2.00 recording fee and redirect the additional funds to the Administrative Trust Fund.

Option 2: Redirect all or a portion of the Ch. 2008-111 Traffic Administration Fee from general revenue to the Administrative Trust Fund.

Option 3: Redirect a combination of increased recording fees and a portion of the Ch. 2008-111 Traffic Administration Fee to the Administration Trust Fund.

Option 4: Propose implementing language in the General Appropriations Act directing any unspent funds at the close of the state fiscal year appropriated to the state courts system to be transferred for use to the Administrative Trust Fund.

The Executive Committee recommended Option 3. Walt Smith offered an alternate option and made a motion to authorize the TCBC Executive Committee to work with the legislature for the best or preferred method for a stable funding source. Tom Genung seconded and the motion passed without objection.

C. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Training

Eric Maclure provided an overview of a request submitted by Miami-Dade County Judge Steven Leifman, in his capacity as chair of the Task Force on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Issues in the Courts. The FY 2014-15 General Appropriations Act provided \$100,000 in nonrecurring general revenue to train judges and staff on how to address co-occurring disorders in the criminal justice system. Judge Liefman requests \$150,000 in the supplemental budget request for FY 2015-16 to provide ongoing training and education to judges, court staff, and justice system partners.

The Executive Committee recommended filing a request for \$100,000 in nonrecurring general revenue. Judge Thomas made a motion to recommend to the Supreme Court to

submit a supplemental FY 2015-16 LBR for \$100,000 in nonrecurring general revenue. Mark Weinberg seconded and the motion passed without objection.

Agenda Item IV: Allocation Requests and Personnel Practice

A. Judicial Conference Funding

Eric Maclure provided an overview of a request submitted by Santa Rosa County Judge Robert Hilliard, in his capacity as president of the Conference of County Court Judges. The TCBC approved authorizing use of funds from the TCBC's FY 2013-14 budget in the amount of \$20,000 to conduct a midyear business meeting of conference leaders. Judge Hilliard is requesting funding in the current fiscal year in the amount of \$18,800 from the TCBC for a similar midyear business meeting of the county conference leaders in winter/spring 2015.

Judge Smiley made a motion to approve use of \$18,800 in TCBC funds from the current fiscal year to facilitate a midyear meeting of the Conference of County Court Judges. Sandra Lonergan seconded and the motion passed without objection.

B. Fifth Circuit Due Process

Dorothy Wilson reviewed a request from the Fifth Judicial Circuit with two issues for consideration. Permit the Fifth Circuit to exchange \$130,130 in due process contractual dollars for salary and benefit dollars to fund two certified court interpreting positions transferred from the due process services contingency fund.

Tom Genung made a motion to approve the request and recommend approval from the Chief Justice to submit a budget amendment to transfer funds from the due process contractual category to the salary and benefits category and utilize 2.0 FTE from the due process services contingency fund. Judge Brunson seconded and the motion passed without objection.

The Fifth Circuit withdrew the second issue for consideration.

C. Hiring Person as Half-Time Magistrate and Half-Time Child Support Hearing Officer

Judge Roundtree provided an overview of his request on behalf of the Eighth Judicial Circuit. The Eight Circuit has open positions for a child support hearing officer and a general magistrate. The two positions primarily cover the circuit's regional counties, resulting in a considerable amount of time being spent traveling among the counties and resulting in significant expense and inefficiency. The circuit is seeking to restructure the positions to split each position into two half-time positions. Each person would serve as a half-time general magistrate and half-time child support hearing officer. Judge Roundtree addressed the issue of limitations imposed upon the duties that may be performed by a federally

funded child support hearing officer and provided the operational framework to safeguard the federal funding.

Kris Slayden reviewed the funding methodology and procedures when vacancies become available and the impact if a negative net need results in reallocation under the formula.

The Executive Committee was in favor of approval; however, it recommended seeking feedback from the Department of Revenue. Tom Genung made a motion to tentatively approve the request pending communication with the Department of Revenue and require the circuit to maintain rigorous timekeeping records. Sandra Lonergan seconded and the motion passed without objection.

Agenda Item V: Florida's Long Range Financial Outlook and State Courts Revenue Trust Fund

Kris Slayden provided an overview of Florida's Long Range Financial Outlook. The State Courts System was identified as an "Other High Priority Need" that will need to be addressed through an increase in general revenue recurring funding in FY 2015-16 due to the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund shortfall. She noted OSCA staff will continue to monitor general revenue and trust fund revenues closely and meet with legislative staff to reconcile any differences.

Agenda Item VI: Update on Revenue Estimating Conference

Kris Slayden provided an overview of the November 7, 2014, Article V Revenue Estimating Conference. For FY 2014-15, the revenue estimate was revised up to \$83.9 million, from the July 2014, estimate of \$83.2 million. OSCA staff will continue to monitor and update the TCBC.

Agenda Item VII: Preparing for 2015 Legislative Session

A. Leadership Appointments

Sarah Naf provided an overview of legislative leadership and high profile issues.

B. Session Coverage

Judge Mahon informed the member that a schedule of TCBC member coverage during legislative session was developed to provide a minimum level of coverage and coordination with judicial conference leaders. Judge Steinbeck reminded members planning to visit legislators to coordinate with Sarah Naf.

C. Judicial Branch Substantive Legislative Agenda

Sarah Naf provided an overview of the annual judicial branch agenda to include benefit-related issues, appellate administration, and estimating conference for due process costs.

Agenda Item VIII: Report from Chief Justice Designee to Clerks of Court

Operations Corporation

Judge Ficarrotta reported attendance at the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation Executive Committee meeting, pre-legislative session meetings with clerk leadership, together with TCBC leadership.

Agenda Item IX: Other Business

For informational purposes, Kris Slayden provided an overview of data for amounts paid over the flat fee for conflict counsel criminal cases. She stated the budget is no longer house in the State Courts System; however, the information is provided for monitoring purposes.

Judge Roundtree recognized Eight Judicial Circuit Trial Court Administrator Ted McFetridge and announced his retirement as of December 31, 2014.

Adjournment

With no other business before the commission, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Agenda Item II.A. Status of FY 2014-15 Budget: Salary Budgets

Agenda Item II.A.: Salary Budgets

**FY 2014-15 Trial Courts Salary Budget
General Revenue and State Courts Revenue Trust Fund
MARCH 2015**

CIRCUIT	1	Projected Full Employment Payroll Liability through June 30, 2015	266,959,088
	2	Projected Law Clerk Below Minimum Pay Plan Liability through June 30, 2015	28,984
	3	Projected Law Clerk Incentives Pay Plan Liability through June 30, 2015	55,934
	4	Law Clerk Payroll Liability FY 15-16 through FY 19-20	981,937
	5	Remaining Chief Judge Discretionary Funds for retention, equity and recruitment issues	303,259
	6	Total Projected Payroll Liability through June 30, 2015	268,329,202
	7	Salary Appropriation	(267,028,137)
	8	Projected Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	1,301,065
	9	Actual Payroll Adjustment through March 31, 2015	(3,351,999)
	10	Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(2,050,934)
	11	Estimated Leave Payouts (based on two year average)	459,112
	12	Final - Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(1,591,822)
COUNTY	13	Projected Full Employment Payroll Liability through June 30, 2015	83,222,818
	14	Salary Appropriation	(83,277,038)
	15	Projected Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(54,220)
	16	Actual Payroll Adjustment through March 31, 2015	(906,460)
	17	Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(960,680)
	18	Estimated Leave Payouts (based on two year average)	21,721
	19	Final - Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(938,959)
Trial Court Summary	19	Projected Full Employment Payroll Liability through June 30, 2015	350,181,906
	20	Projected Law Clerk Below Minimum Pay Plan Liability through June 30, 2015	28,984
	21	Projected Law Clerk Incentives Pay Plan Liability through June 30, 2015	55,934
	4	Law Clerk Payroll Liability FY 15-16 through FY 19-20	981,937
	22	Remaining Chief Judge Discretionary Funds for retention, equity and recruitment Issues	303,259
	23	Total Projected Payroll Liability through June 30, 2015	351,552,020
	24	Salary Appropriation	(350,305,175)
	25	Projected Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	1,246,845
	26	Actual Payroll Adjustment through March 31, 2015	(4,258,459)
	27	Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(3,011,614)
	28	Estimated Leave Payouts (based on two year average)	480,833
29	Final - Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(2,530,781)	

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Agenda Item II.A.: Salary Budgets

FY 2014-15 Trial Courts Salary Budget
Administrative Trust Fund
MARCH 2015

1	Projected Full Employment Payroll Liability through June 30, 2015	144,943
2	Salary Appropriation	(193,061)
3	Projected Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(48,118)
4	Actual Payroll Adjustments through March 31, 2015	(31,419)
5	Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(79,537)
6	Estimated Remaining Leave Payouts (based on two year average)	0
7	Final - Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(79,537)

FY 2014-15 Trial Courts Salary Budget
Federal Grants Trust Fund
MARCH 2015

1	Projected Full Employment Payroll Liability through June 30, 2015	5,912,333
2	Salary Appropriation	(5,950,436)
3	Projected Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(38,103)
4	Actual Payroll Adjustments through March 31, 2015	(58,469)
5	Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(96,573)
6	Estimated Leave Payouts (based on two year average)	17,232
7	Final - Adjusted Liability OVER/(UNDER) Salary Appropriation @ Full Employment	(79,341)

Agenda Item II. A.2.: Vacancies over 180 days as of 03/30/15

Circuit	Cost Center	Cost Center Name	Position #	Class Title	FTE	# of Days Vacant	Date Position Vacant	Base Rate
11th Circuit	210	Court Administration	009436	TRIAL COURT TECHNOLOGY OFFICER ¹	1.00	689	05/11/2013	\$90,250.08
11th Circuit	210	Court Administration	010320	BUDGET ANALYST ²	1.00	207	09/05/2014	48,359.52
13th Circuit	129	Court Reporting Services	010519	SCOPIST ³	1.00	423	02/01/2014	\$34,599.04
13th Circuit	131	Court Interpreting Services	011716	COURT INTERPRETER - CERTIFIED ⁴	1.00	304	05/31/2014	\$43,331.16
15th Circuit	129	Court Reporting Services	010611	DIGITAL COURT REPORTER ⁵	1.00	242	08/01/2014	\$31,664.64
17th Circuit	210	Court Administration	009461	TRIAL COURT TECHNOLOGY OFFICER ⁶	1.00	204	09/08/2014	\$90,250.08
17th Circuit	131	Court Interpreting Services	010706	COURT INTERPRETER ⁷	1.00	181	10/01/2014	\$37,756.20

¹ Despite the efforts made to address the minimum pay for this position, there still appears to be a pay issue affecting recruitment. The Circuit is advertising the position again.

² The 11th Circuit are conducting the final set of interviews this week (4/7/2015), and are hoping to make an employment offer in approximately two weeks.

³ A candidate for the Scopist position has been identified from the pool of contractual digital court reporting service providers. However, due to attrition in the contractual digital court reporter area, the 13th Circuit has been unable to move the identified candidate into the scopist position. The 13th Circuit anticipates that it may be able to place the candidate in the position on or about May 2015.

⁴ The 13th Circuit extended an offer of employment to a Florida State Certified interpreter candidate on February 4, 2015. Unfortunately, the candidate responded and denied acceptance of the circuit's offer of employment on February 5, 2015. As a result, the circuit continues to advertise its certified interpreter vacancy and is hopeful that with the release of the most recent interpreter examinations test results in the next 2-3 weeks this will produce additional candidates meeting the certification requirements to apply for the position.

⁵ This position has been reclassified from Electronic Transcriber to Digital Court Reporter effective 10/10/2014, and the 15th Circuit is currently working toward filling it by the end of April 2015.

⁶ The 17th Circuit has extended an offer of the Trial Court Technology Officer position to a candidate; however, the acceptance of the salary is still being negotiated.

⁷ The 17th Circuit has filled this position as a Court Interpreter - Certified, with an effective date of April 1, 2015.

**Agenda Item II. A. 3.: Trial Court FY 2014-15
 Reclassifications and Other Personnel Actions
 as of March 30, 2015**

Circuit	Number of Reclasses Requested	Dollar Amount of Requests	Status of Requests as of March 30, 2015	Dollar Amount of Approved Requests	Dollar Amount of Pending Reclass Requests
1					
2	1	10,390	1 approved	10,390	
3					
4	4	32,193	4 approved	32,193	
5					
6	2	6,666	2 approved	6,666	
7	2 (1 had been pending from FY 13/14)	15,195	2 approved	15,195	
8	3	18,145	2 approved; 1 pending classification analysis	8,300	9,845
9					
10	3	35,246	1 approved; 2 pending approval	10,622	21,564
11	1*	(6,280)	1 approved	(6,280)	
12	2	7,114	2 approved	7,114	
13					
14	1	24,040	1 pending classification analysis		24,040
15	6	35,015	5 approved; 1 pending classification analysis	29,698	5,317
16					
17	1	2,531	1 approved	2,531	
18	2 (2 had been pending from FY 13/14)	30,725	2 approved	30,725	
19					
20	1	4,822	1 approved	4,822	
Total	6	215,802		151,976	60,766
Total Approved and Pending				212,742	

Other Personnel Actions: \$1,902 for 1 Lead Worker in the 2nd (approved); \$6,720 for 2 Lead Workers in the 6th (approved); \$2,526 for 1 Lead Worker in the 9th (pending from FY 13/14 - approved); \$1,902 for 1 Lead Worker in the 19th (pending from FY 13/14 - approved); \$3,175 for 1 Lead Worker in the 20th (approved); and \$405 for 1 Demotion Retain Salary in the 2nd; \$181 for 1 Demotion Retain Salary in the 10th; \$130 for 1 Demotion Retain Salary (partial) in the 11th; \$1,026 for 2 Demotion Retain Salary (1 partial) in the 15th; and \$1,518 for 2 Demotion Retain Salary (partial) in the 17th. (Two of the seven "Demotion Retain Salary" actions, in the amount of \$586, were from Circuit JAs demoted to County JA.) *The 11th Circuit requested a reclassification (downgrade of a Court Operations Manager - PG 271 - \$53,028.86 to an Assistant Supervising Court Interpreter - PG 251 - \$47,568.91, which resulted in a gain/save of \$6,280 in dollars).

Agenda Item II.B. Status of FY 2014-15 Budget: Operating Budgets

Trial Court Budget Commission
April 13, 2015
Tallahassee, Florida

Agenda Item II.B.: Operating Budgets

The data below represents the status of the FY 2014-15 operating budgets as of March 31, 2015.

Category	Budget Entity	Appropriation	Expended/ Encumbered	Remaining Balance	% Expended/ Encumbered
Other Personnel Services	Circuit	1,329,762	739,369	590,394	55.60%
Expenses	Circuit	6,858,142	3,430,002	3,428,140	50.01%
	County	2,874,912	1,891,960	982,952	65.81%
	Total	9,733,054	5,321,962	4,411,092	54.68%
Operating Capital Outlay	Circuit	376,201	243,696	132,505	64.78%
Contracted Services	Circuit	10,674,055	2,539,754	8,134,301	23.79%
	County	204,000	67,604	136,396	33.14%
	Total	10,878,055	2,607,359	8,270,696	23.97%
Lease/Lease Purchase	Circuit	178,347	91,350	86,997	51.22%
	County	78,792	26,759	52,033	33.96%
	Total	257,139	118,109	139,030	45.93%
Other Data Processing Services	Circuit	97,902	97,902	0	100.00%

Note: Operating Budget excludes foreclosure funds.

Trial Court Budget Commission
April 13, 2015
Tallahassee, Florida

Agenda Item II.B.: Operating Budgets

The data below represents the status of the FY 2014-15 operating budgets as of March 31, 2015.

Category	Appropriation	Expended/ Encumbered	Remaining Balance	% Expended/ Encumbered
Additional Compensation to County Judges	75,000	44,487	30,513	59.32%
Civil Traffic Infraction Hearing Officers	2,123,854	1,215,324	908,530	57.22%
Mediation Services	3,082,718	1,931,112	1,151,606	62.64%
Due Process - Expert Witness	7,362,267	4,987,057	2,375,210	67.74%
Due Process - Court Reporting	8,761,183	5,541,954	3,219,229	63.26%
Due Process - Court Interpreting	3,221,542	2,029,862	1,191,680	63.01%
Total Due Process	19,344,992	12,558,873	6,786,119	64.92%

Note: Operating Budget excludes foreclosure funds.

Agenda Item II.B.: Operating Budgets

The data below represents the status of the FY 2014-15 operating budgets as of March 31, 2015.

Senior Judge Activity Summary						
Regular Senior Judge Allocation						
March 2015						
Circuit	Initial Days Allotted	Previous Month Remaining Allotment Balance	Current Month Days Transferred	Current Month Days Served	Current Month Ending Allotment Balance	Percent Remaining
1	238	166		0	166	69.75%
2	144	80		17	63	43.75%
3	91	32		2	30	32.97%
4	532	389		29	360	67.67%
5	556	365		16	349	62.77%
6	442	220		51	169	38.24%
7	280	158		3	155	55.36%
8	142	78		18	60	42.25%
9	605	347		41	306	50.58%
10	302	150		6	144	47.68%
11	887	290		50	240	27.06%
12	194	88		30	58	29.90%
13	407	234		8	226	55.53%
14	132	106		2	104	78.79%
15	338	167		26	141	41.72%
16	51	22		0	22	43.14%
17	583	404		9	395	67.75%
18	274	186	20	38	168	61.31%
19	182	124	(20)	5	99	54.40%
20	363	199		26	173	47.66%
Reserve	50	50		0	50	100.00%
TOTAL	6,793	3,855	0	377	3,478	51.20%

Agenda Item II.B.: Operating Budgets

The data below represents the status of the FY 2014-15 operating budgets as of March 31, 2015.

Senior Judge Activity Summary Foreclosure Senior Judge Allocation March 2015						
Circuit	Initial Days Allotted	Previous Month Remaining Allotment Balance	Current Month Days Transferred	Current Month Days Served	Current Month Ending Allotment Balance	Percent Remaining
1	207	54		0	54	26.09%
2	74	24		5	19	25.68%
3	0	0		0	0	0.00%
4	960	230		114	116	12.08%
5	287	77		26	51	17.77%
6	232	0		0	0	0.00%
7	194	62		10	52	26.80%
8	0	0		0	0	0.00%
9	571	132		66	66	11.56%
10	127	18		16	2	1.57%
11	364	19		19	0	0.00%
12	254	91		24	67	26.38%
13	709	204		66	138	19.46%
14	102	42		9	33	32.35%
15	398	117		45	72	18.09%
16	122	57		10	47	38.52%
17	381	65		22	43	11.29%
18	216	63		18	45	20.83%
19	127	36		11	25	19.69%
20	292	92		37	55	18.84%
TOTAL	5,617	1,383	0	498	885	15.76%

Agenda Item II.B.: Status of FY 2014-15 Budget – Operating Budgets

Remote Interpreting Regional Pilot – Request by the 15th Circuit

In March 2014, a remote interpreting regional pilot went live among the 7th, 9th, 14th, 15th and 16th circuits, via a statewide call manager housed in OSCA. While nearing its one-year mark, the pilot has produced interpreting services based on the shared model concept in over 425 cases. To continue the regional remote interpreting pilot into FY 2014-15, the TCBC approved an allocation of \$81,428, in Other Data Processing Services funds. As shown in the table below, these funds are provided to ensure fail-safe backup support to the statewide call manager, upgrades to the statewide network, and on-going maintenance. Further, the funds are providing remote interpreting equipment in three additional courtrooms and one interpreter office in the 3rd and 7th circuits.

CONTINUATION OF THE REGIONAL PILOT	FY 2014-2015 ALLOTMENT	FY 2014-2015 EXPENDITURES	OVER/UNDER ALLOTMENT
Backup Statewide Call Manager (non-recurring):	\$11,322.00	\$11,635.05	(\$313.05)
Additional Statewide Network Bandwidth (recurring):	\$15,526.00		
Pilot Equipment On-going Maintenance/Support (recurring):	\$12,314.00		
3rd Circuit - 2 Courtrooms (non-recurring):	\$24,984.00	\$24,945.00	\$39.00
7th Circuit - 1 Courtroom, 1 Interpreter Office (non-recurring):	\$17,282.00	\$15,504.15	\$1,777.85
	\$81,428.00	\$52,084.20	\$1,503.80
REMAINING BALANCE:		\$29,343.80	

Note: Additional statewide network bandwidth and on-going maintenance will begin to incur in May 2015.

Recently, the Due Process Technology Workgroup (DPTW) received a request from the 15th Circuit to purchase equipment for one courtroom as part of the pilot. Originally, the 15th Circuit’s participation in the pilot was based on using loaned equipment from Cisco for three courtrooms. Recently, Cisco retrieved their loaned equipment. Thus, the circuit is reviewing end of year spending options to purchase the necessary hardware and software. Recently, they were able to secure county funds for two courtrooms. They have requested the DPTW to fund the purchase of remote interpreting equipment for one courtroom.

On February 26, 2015, the DPTW held a meeting via conference call to review the status of the FY 2014-15 allocation as well as the 15th Circuit’s request. As a result of this meeting, the Workgroup developed the following recommendation.

Recommendation by the Due Process Technology Workgroup

Approve \$12,225 to be utilized by the 15th Circuit for the purchase of an additional courtroom endpoint within the remote interpreting regional pilot.

Decision Needed:

- Option 1: Approve the Due Process Technology Workgroup recommendation.
- Option 2: Do not approve.

**Agenda Item II.C. Status of FY 2014-15
Budget: Trust Fund Cash Balances**

Agenda Item II.C.1.: Status of FY 2014-15 Budget – Trust Fund Cash Balances – State Courts Revenue Trust Fund

General Revenue Estimating Conference

Florida’s state economists revised current year revenue estimates (FY 2014-15) and Long Range Financial Outlook (FY 2015-16 through FY 2017-18) estimates on March 10, 2015. Anticipated revenues for FY 2015-16 were revised slightly upward by \$145.4 million. After taking into account FY 2015-16 anticipated expenditures and \$1.0 billion set aside for reserve, it is estimated there will be an available balance over \$1 billion for FY 2015-16.

Article V Revenue Estimating Conference

The Article V Revenue Estimating Conference (REC) met on February 17, 2015, to review and revise revenue estimates related to Article V funds, including those funds directed to the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund (SCRTF). Estimates were revised downward due primarily to decreasing revenues associated with foreclosure filings.

	FY 2014/15	FY 2015/16	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
November 7, 2014 Conference (Old)	\$83.9	\$86.5	\$88.6	\$86.9	\$85.4	\$84.0
February 17, 2015 Conference (New)	\$81.4	\$84.1	\$86.1	\$86.0	\$81.2	\$81.1

State Court Revenue Trust Fund Shortfall

At the previous TCBC meeting, the Commission discussed the anticipated shortfall in revenue to the SCRTF. As part of their proposed budgets, both the House and the Senate have provided funding through back-of-the-bill appropriations (see attached chart) for FY 2014-15 to repay the loan that was received to address the shortfall. The House (HB 5001) and the Senate (SB 2500) also provide funding to the SCRTF in FY 2015-16 by shifting funds from the SCRTF and instead providing additional General Revenue funding.

Decision Needed:

None. The OSCA will continue to monitor GR and trust fund revenues.

State Courts System
State Courts Revenue Trust Fund - Monthly Cash Analysis
Fiscal Year Reporting 2014-2015 (Official Estimates)

Based on Actual Revenues and Expenditures for July -
 March and REC Revenues and Estimated Expenditures for
 April - June

Article V Revenue Estimating Conference Projections

1	July 18, 2014	6,225,972	6,791,341	7,054,936	6,645,955	6,986,637	6,451,851	6,510,407	6,807,654	7,379,306	7,562,310	7,124,526	7,688,104	83,229,000
2	November 7, 2014	7,480,000	7,240,000	6,590,000	6,640,000	7,130,000	6,410,000	6,470,000	6,720,000	7,250,000	7,530,000	6,880,000	7,570,000	83,910,000
3	February 17, 2015	7,479,536	7,244,756	6,587,880	6,640,961	6,904,337	5,669,189	6,349,659	6,202,866	7,016,144	7,451,771	6,886,621	7,009,002	81,442,720
4	State Courts Revenue Trust Fund	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Year-To-Date Summary*
5	Beginning Balance	2,060,034	1,014,191	548,768	359,609	125,687	117,208	87,721	165,016	147,721	4,269,154	3,058,686	1,777,128	2,060,034
6	Fee and Fine Revenue Received*	7,554,051	7,252,656	6,596,300	6,664,811	6,945,186	5,672,762	6,354,335	5,943,179	6,592,039	7,451,771	6,886,621	7,009,002	80,922,713
7	Cost Sharing (JAC transfers/\$3,695,347 due annually)	842,913	83,409	10,173	923,940	469	245	817,095			1,017,104			3,695,347
8	Refunds/Miscellaneous	1,959	4,061	423										6,442
9	Total Revenue Received	8,398,923	7,340,126	6,606,896	7,588,750	6,945,655	5,673,007	7,171,430	5,943,179	6,592,039	8,468,875	6,886,621	7,009,002	84,624,501
10	Available Cash Balance	10,458,956	8,354,318	7,155,664	7,948,359	7,071,342	5,790,215	7,259,151	6,108,194	6,739,760	12,738,028	9,945,306	8,786,130	86,684,535
11	Staff Salary Expenditures	(7,505,690)	(7,571,922)	(8,235,790)	(7,754,740)	(7,753,909)	(7,800,124)	(7,715,935)	(7,833,242)	(7,783,054)	(8,166,248)	(8,166,248)	(8,166,248)	(94,453,151)
12	Staff Salary Expenditures - GR Shift			1,500,000	1,640,000	800,000	2,100,000	2,172,000	1,875,000	(10,087,000)				0
13	Prior Year Certified Forwards - Staff Salary	(101,824)	(36,061)											(137,885)
14	Prior Year Certified Forwards - Mortgage Foreclosure Settlement	(117,622)	(194,995)	(57,157)										(369,774)
15	Refunds	(2,070)	(2,571)	(3,109)	(2,355)	(225)	(2,370)	(1,884)	(2,231)	(553)	(1,930)	(1,930)	(1,930)	(23,157)
16	SCRTF Loan in accordance with 215.18(2), F.S.									15,400,000				15,400,000
17	Total SCRTF Operating Expenditures	(7,727,206)	(7,805,550)	(6,796,055)	(6,117,095)	(6,954,134)	(5,702,494)	(5,545,819)	(5,960,473)	(2,470,606)	(8,168,178)	(8,168,178)	(8,168,178)	(79,583,966)
18	<i>8% General Revenue Service Charge</i>	(1,717,559)			(1,705,577)			(1,548,316)			(1,511,164)			(6,482,616)
19	Ending Cash Balance	1,014,191	548,768	359,609	125,687	117,208	87,721	165,016	147,721	4,269,154	3,058,686	1,777,128	617,952	617,952

* Note: Actual revenues received reported by REC and OSCA differ due to the timing of reporting by the Department of Revenue and FLAIR posting to the SCRTF.

Estimated 8% GRSC for July 2015 (1,707,791)

STATE COURTS REVENUE TRUST FUND
OSCA Projected Deficit Compared to House and Senate Proposed GAA
FY 2014/15 and FY 2015/16

FY 2014/15		House (HB 5001)	Senate (SB 2500)
1	Beginning Balance July 1, 2014	2,060,034	
2	Add: FY 2014/15 Official Revenue Projections ¹	80,929,155	
3	Add: Cost Sharing	3,695,347	
4	Estimated Total Revenue	86,684,536	
5	Less: Estimated Expenditures ²	(94,983,966)	
6	Less: Estimated Mandatory GR 8% Service Charge	(6,482,616)	
7	Estimated Total Expenditures	(101,466,582)	
8	Estimated Ending Cash Balance June 30, 2015	(14,782,046)	
9	Add: Loan Received in Accordance with s. 215.18(2) F.S.	15,400,000	
10	Add: Back of the Bill Non-recurring Appropriations	15,000,000	15,400,000
11	Less: Payback of Loan	(15,400,000)	
12	Estimated Ending Cash Balance June 30, 2015	217,954	617,954

FY 2015/16		House (HB 5001)	Senate (SB 2500)
13	Beginning Balance July 1, 2015	0	217,954
14	Add: FY 2015/16 Official Revenue Projections ¹	84,100,000	84,100,000
15	Add: Cost Sharing	3,695,347	3,695,347
16	Estimated Total Revenue	87,795,347	88,413,301
17	Current Estimated Expenditures ³	(99,303,698)	(99,303,698)
18	Adjustment: Fund Shift from SCRTF to GR		18,500,000
19	Less: Adjusted Estimated Expenditures	(80,803,698)	(81,303,698)
20	Less: Estimated Mandatory GR 8% Service Charge	(6,753,792)	(6,753,792)
21	Estimated Total Expenditures	(106,057,490)	(88,057,490)
22	Estimated Ending Cash Balance June 30, 2016	(18,262,143)	455,811

¹ Official Article V Revenue Estimating Conference revenue projections, February 17, 2015 (FY 2014/15 includes official revenue projection of \$81,400,000, adjustment for actual revenue received through March 2015, and refunds).

² FY 2014/15 Estimated Expenditures are based on actual expenditures through March 2015 and estimated expenditures in April 2015 through June 2015.

³ FY 2015/16 Estimated Expenditures are based on the FY 2014/15 Authorized Budget.

**Trial Court Budget Commission
April 13, 2015
Tallahassee, Florida**

Agenda Item II.C.: Trust Fund Cash Balances - ATF

**State Courts System
FY 2014-15 Cash Statement
Administrative Trust Fund
As of March 31, 2015**

22300100-Circuit Courts	Beginning Balance	Revenue Received	Expenditures	Refunds	Ending Balance
Cost Recovery	1,127,049.34	587,089.68	(374,381.92)	(1,200.75)	1,338,556.35
Service Charge	0.00	0.00	(45,209.47)	0.00	(45,209.47)
Prior Year Warrant Cancel/Refunds	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Refunds	0.00	0.00	(2,455.30)	0.00	(2,455.30)
Circuit Courts Ending Cash Balance	1,127,049.34	587,114.68	(422,046.69)	(1,200.75)	1,290,916.58

**Agenda Item II.D. Status of FY 2014-15
Budget: End of Year Spending**

Agenda Item II.D.: End of Year Spending

There are no materials for this agenda item.

Agenda Item III. Conflict Counsel Cases over the Flat Fee

Agenda Item III.: Conflict Counsel Cases over the Flat Fee

Background:

A court-appointed private attorney assigned to represent a criminal defendant is entitled to payment of a flat fee not to exceed those prescribed in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) based on the case type. The attorney, however, may receive a fee in excess of the flat fee upon a showing, to the chief judge or a designee, of the need for extraordinary and unusual efforts.

During the 2011 and 2012 sessions, the Florida Legislature raised concerns that the expenditures paid by the Justice Administrative Commission (JAC) for criminal conflict cases in excess of the statutory flat fee had increased significantly over the last few years. The FY 2012/13 GAA created a special category appropriation in the JAC budget of \$3,000,000 for court ordered payments for attorney fees in criminal conflict cases in excess of the flat fee. Proviso language for the appropriation specified that “if funds in this category are insufficient to pay the amounts ordered by the court above the flat fees, the amounts ordered above the flat fees shall be paid from the due process funds or other funds as necessary appropriated to the state courts system in the General Appropriations Act.”

The FY 2013/14 GAA once again included the proviso language mentioned above; however, the Legislature appropriated an increase in the amount of funds in the JAC budget dedicated to criminal conflict counsel payments in excess of the flat fees from \$3,000,000 to \$3,650,000, increasing the threshold to be reached before responsibility for payment of these bills was transferred to the courts. In addition, the Legislature appropriated additional recurring funding to the courts in the amount of \$1,000,000 (\$500,000 in general revenue funds and \$500,000 in trust authority) for FY 2013/14 to address expenditures in excess of the flat fee.

For FY 2014/15, the Legislature removed the courts’ responsibility for payment of cases exceeding the flat fee from the GAA and retained the responsibility in the JAC budget. The FY 2014/15 GAA also increased the flat fees for Capital – Death Penalty, Capital – Death Penalty Waived, Capital Sexual Battery, Capital Appeals, Felony – Life, Felony – Life (RICO), Felony – PBL (RICO), and Felony – 1st Degree (RICO) case types, increasing the threshold to be reached before payment in excess of the flat fee is to be considered.

FY 2014/15 Expenditures

Taking into account the Legislature’s previous concerns of increased expenditures, the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) directed OSCA staff to continue monitoring payments in excess of the flat fee. Currently, FY 2014/15 expenditures for payments in excess of the flat fee are estimated to be approximately \$7.2 million, an increase of over \$363,669 from FY 2013/14 expenditures. If payments of attorney fees in excess of the flat fees continue at their current levels, FY 2014/15 expenditures will represent the highest expenditures since the establishment of the flat fees (see **Attachment A**). The majority of FY 2014/15 expenditures are related to Capital and RICO cases, with 69.7% of fiscal year to date expenditures associated with these case types.

Decision Needed:

None. The OSCA will continue to monitor expenditures.

Trial Court Budget Commission

April 13, 2015 Meeting

Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee for Conflict Counsel Criminal Cases
FY 2008/09 through FY 2014/15 Annualized

Circuit	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2008/09	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2009/10	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2010/11	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2011/12	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2012/13	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2013/14	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2014/15 Annualized*	Difference between FY 2014/15 and FY 2013/14
1	\$37,405	\$32,048	\$148,368	\$296,281	\$243,023	\$180,179	\$305,090	\$124,911
2	\$9,328	\$46,778	\$2,250	\$25,370	\$22,310	\$0	\$8,920	\$8,920
3	\$14,880	\$3,345	\$4,215	\$99,388	\$12,623	\$40,069	\$0	(\$40,069)
4	\$175,782	\$508,102	\$1,082,531	\$569,386	\$418,630	\$642,221	\$445,713	(\$196,508)
5	\$23,240	\$64,141	\$71,200	\$445,559	\$93,359	\$396,199	\$236,853	(\$159,345)
6	\$6,058	\$72,676	\$186,588	\$112,345	\$219,744	\$430,558	\$332,587	(\$97,971)
7	\$126,160	\$69,819	\$76,698	\$178,148	\$282,231	\$173,850	\$402,273	\$228,423
8	\$21,363	\$68,572	\$98,770	\$48,669	\$67,165	\$44,373	\$164,656	\$120,283
9	\$10,104	\$45,547	\$18,828	\$72,658	\$29,235	\$47,664	\$199,620	\$151,956
10	\$50,735	\$62,727	\$221,063	\$616,746	\$62,162	\$339,451	\$56,880	(\$282,571)
11	\$161,635	\$526,888	\$1,008,927	\$1,410,618	\$1,644,640	\$2,160,616	\$2,951,662	\$791,046
12	\$37,034	\$38,087	\$96,825	\$167,775	\$263,017	\$247,416	\$38,812	(\$208,604)
13	\$14,705	\$113,070	\$502,964	\$571,502	\$356,374	\$258,900	\$592,858	\$333,958
14	\$34,527	\$10,203	\$66,055	\$93,279	\$85,469	\$2,280	\$12,747	\$10,467
15	\$65,875	\$154,345	\$454,039	\$1,039,109	\$498,671	\$353,865	\$247,270	(\$106,595)
16	\$0	\$0	\$1,078	\$0	\$0	\$7,141	\$0	(\$7,141)
17	\$232,890	\$504,275	\$572,326	\$974,248	\$410,698	\$647,871	\$818,255	\$170,384
18	\$1,500	\$11,491	\$5,028	\$50,398	\$17,527	\$56,319	\$124,731	\$68,412
19	\$16,283	\$75,354	\$23,708	\$123,060	\$211,494	\$388,841	\$120,501	(\$268,340)
20	\$30,855	\$197,284	\$239,775	\$174,358	\$419,605	\$391,395	\$113,448	(\$277,947)
Total	\$1,070,356	\$2,604,750	\$4,881,233	\$7,068,895	\$5,357,975	\$6,809,207	\$7,172,876	\$363,669

Source: Data provided by the Justice Administrative Commission.

* Annualized using data from July 2014 through March 2015.

Trial Court Budget Commission
April 13, 2015 Meeting
Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee for Conflict Counsel Criminal Cases
Monthly FY 2014/15

Circuit	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee July 2014	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee August 2014	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee September 2014	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee October 2014	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee November 2014	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee December 2014	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee January 2015	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee February 2015	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee March 2015	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee April 2015	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee May 2015	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee June 2015	Total Amount Paid Over the Flat Fee FY 2014/15 YTD
1	\$0	\$2,108	\$21,620	\$0	\$142,948	\$15,388	\$39,320	\$7,435	\$0				\$228,818
2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,690	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$6,690
3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$0
4	\$16,250	\$56,150	\$7,238	\$0	\$76,216	\$0	\$0	\$20,373	\$158,060				\$334,285
5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$71,512	\$106,128	\$0	\$0				\$177,640
6	\$10,955	\$9,442	\$0	\$60,480	\$2,500	\$47,486	\$13,798	\$0	\$104,780				\$249,440
7	\$71,038	\$7,598	\$0	\$21,763	\$44,470	\$102,273	\$27,389	\$17,065	\$10,110				\$301,705
8	\$29,556	\$42,252	\$0	\$0	\$14,255	\$0	\$0	\$37,430	\$0				\$123,492
9	\$25,179	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,593	\$67,396	\$6,547	\$0				\$149,715
10	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,898	\$5,700	\$9,808	\$17,255				\$42,660
11	\$190,655	\$153,160	\$284,964	\$498,314	\$159,737	\$175,787	\$113,027	\$419,062	\$219,042				\$2,213,747
12	\$2,906	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,390	\$17,813	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$29,109
13	\$23,521	\$6,983	\$0	\$118,898	\$24,063	\$10,158	\$0	\$259,438	\$1,585				\$444,644
14	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,560	\$0	\$0				\$9,560
15	\$63,221	\$14,454	\$21,963	\$14,195	\$0	\$15,000	\$6,148	\$6,745	\$43,728				\$185,452
16	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$0
17	\$28,765	\$214,201	\$35,463	\$77,050	\$13,461	\$89,420	\$91,160	\$7,308	\$56,865				\$613,691
18	\$7,388	\$3,710	\$0	\$3,358	\$16,368	\$10,635	\$0	\$15,013	\$37,078				\$93,548
19	\$83,114	\$0	\$1,000	\$6,263	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$90,376
20	\$0	\$13,453	\$5,463	\$8,211	\$0	\$13,023	\$17,870	\$16,538	\$10,530				\$85,086
Total	\$552,548	\$523,508	\$377,709	\$815,219	\$502,405	\$628,983	\$497,495	\$822,758	\$659,031	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,379,657

Source: Data provided by the Justice Administrative Commission.

Agenda Item IV. Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative Funding

Item IV. Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative

State Courts System
FY 2014-2015 Foreclosure Backlog Reduction Initiative
Cost Center 375 - General Revenue
As of March 31, 2015

Circuit	Allotment	Expenditures/Encumbrances							Remaining Balance	% of Allotment Expended/Encumbered
		Other Personal Services 030000	Expenses 040000	Compensation to Senior Judges 100630	Contracted Services 100777	Lease/Lease Purchase 105281	Data Processing Services 210014	Total		
0	36,004	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36,004	0.00%
1	440,788	122,427	0	54,326	0	0	153,407	330,160	110,628	74.90%
2	360,002	55,103	0	17,754	0	0	66,559	139,415	220,587	38.73%
3	170,627	43,135	21,936	0	0	0	55,000	120,071	50,556	70.37%
4	531,567	122,533	3,843	259,205	0	0	0	385,581	145,986	72.54%
5	989,032	170,334	222	78,472	0	0	230,547	479,575	509,457	48.49%
6	832,438	423,833	19,744	81,667	0	0	81,730	606,974	225,464	72.92%
7	854,351	111,780	2,549	46,160	0	0	82,353	242,842	611,509	28.42%
8	296,958	38,531	0	0	47,740	0	192,173	278,443	18,515	93.77%
9	614,422	226,581	0	171,856	0	0	0	398,438	215,984	64.85%
10	250,557	115,890	1,770	42,609	0	3,399	0	163,667	86,890	65.32%
11	1,733,979	452,113	58,231	125,697	0	2,088	62,356	700,485	1,033,494	40.40%
12	372,718	122,628	18,965	58,232	0	0	0	199,825	172,893	53.61%
13	611,934	136,620	702	178,603	17,261	0	416	333,602	278,332	54.52%
14	230,460	45,780	2,353	21,305	0	0	6,948	76,386	154,074	33.14%
15	664,842	261,357	5,270	108,986	8,666	0	46,080	430,360	234,482	64.73%
16	146,763	13,616	10,775	23,080	11,156	0	0	58,627	88,136	39.95%
17	893,434	410,717	0	108,653	0	0	41,209	560,578	332,856	62.74%
18	430,403	204,548	7,256	57,167	0	0	264	269,235	161,168	62.55%
19	366,124	132,735	343	33,377	0	0	38,783	205,237	160,887	56.06%
20	406,305	184,883	4,280	71,370	0	0	0	260,533	145,772	64.12%
Total	11,233,708	3,395,145	158,239	1,538,518	84,823	5,487	1,057,823	6,240,036	4,993,672	51.03%

**FY 2014/15 Foreclosure Initiative
January 2015 Status Report
Number of Foreclosure Initiative Pending Cases
By Circuit**

Circuit	Pending Cases as of June 2012 ¹	Pending Cases as of June 2013 ²	Pending Cases as of June 2014 ³
1	9,929	9,556	4,930
2	3,463	3,689	1,840
3	1,260	1,236	631
4	19,742	19,828	9,252
5	14,686	13,640	8,849
6	28,806	28,611	16,261
7	18,462	17,867	7,185
8	1,902	1,836	1,287
9	33,512	27,336	11,584
10	9,171	8,977	4,727
11	52,211	36,389	17,303
12	16,629	14,109	6,337
13	27,939	21,992	13,470
14	3,400	3,359	1,790
15	32,977	27,651	11,671
16	1,723	1,533	500
17	45,118	40,373	20,206
18	27,723	25,391	8,079
19	13,699	10,791	4,370
20	15,355	15,007	9,219
Total	377,707	329,171	159,491

Pending Cases as of December 2014
3,577
1,650
593
7,182
7,120
13,106
5,276
1,141
8,893
3,670
12,600
4,689
10,551
1,443
7,290
403
12,171
5,560
3,184
6,593
116,692

Foreclosure Initiative Statistics ⁴ (Run date: April 2, 2015)			
Amendments since the December 2014 Status Report	January 2015 Filings	January 2015 Dispositions	Pending Cases as of January 2015 ⁵
19	237	350	3,483
7	99	164	1,592
8	38	48	591
14	341	693	6,844
33	327	688	6,792
-53	413	1,090	12,376
45	267	464	5,124
3	88	60	1,172
95	489	1,429	8,048
22	223	387	3,528
71	616	834	12,453
45	172	383	4,523
5	329	816	10,069
8	82	52	1,481
35	356	949	6,732
1	22	39	387
93	476	1,518	11,222
63	257	775	5,105
11	185	392	2,988
-911	272	758	5,196
-386	5,289	11,889	109,706

¹ Pending cases as of June 2012 was determined by subtracting the number of SRS Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure dispositions from the number of filings from August 2006 through June 2012.

² Pending cases as of June 2013 was determined by subtracting the number of SRS Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure dispositions from the number of filings from August 2006 through June 2013.

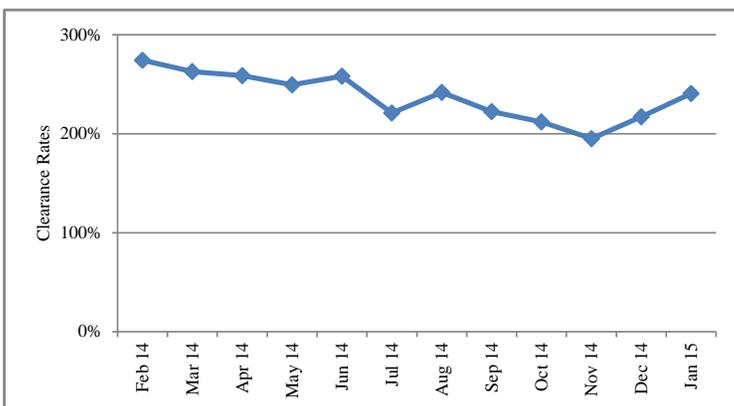
³ Pending cases as of June 2014 was determined by subtracting the number of SRS Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure dispositions from the number of filings from August 2006 through April 2014. Pending cases for May and June 2014 are based on dynamic data reported as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan.

⁴ Foreclosure initiative statistics are based on dynamic data reported by each Clerk of Court to the Office of the State Courts Administrator as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan and do not include reopen or inactive cases. Included are commercial, homestead residential, and non-homestead residential foreclosure cases. Foreclosure initiative statistics are also based on Summary Reporting System filings and dispositions data for other real property actions (i.e., quiet title, condemnation, ejectment, and similar matters). Additionally, these statistics are subject to amendments by the Clerk of Court. The result of these amendments are provided in the column labeled Data Amendments since the December 2014 Status Report.

⁵ Pending cases as of January 2015 was determined by subtracting the number of January 2015 dispositions from the sum of pending cases as of December 2014, January 2015 filings, and Clerk of Court amendments.

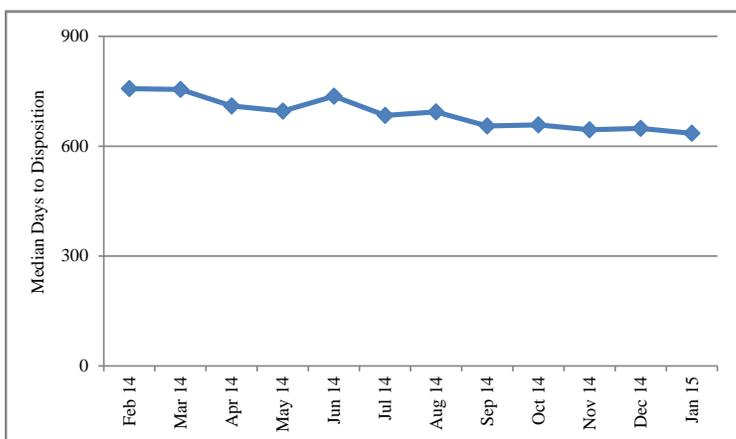
**FY 2014/15 Foreclosure Initiative
January 2015 Status Report
State Total
(Run Date: April 2, 2015)**

Clearance Rates (does not include reopened and inactive cases)



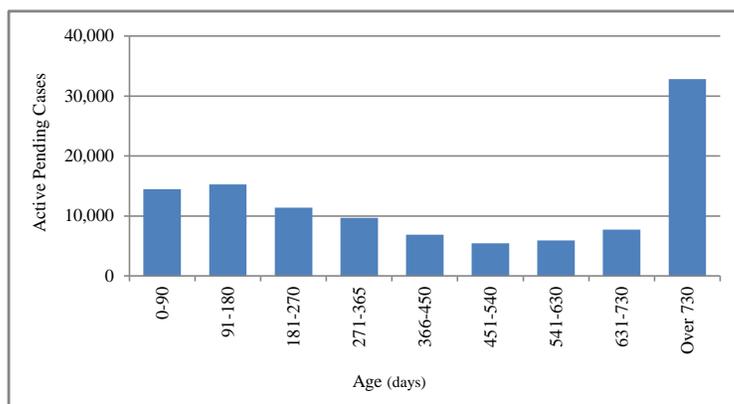
Report As of	Clearance Rate
2/28/2014	274%
3/31/2014	263%
4/30/2014	259%
5/31/2014	249%
6/30/2014	258%
7/31/2014	221%
8/31/2014	242%
9/30/2014	222%
10/31/2014	212%
11/30/2014	195%
12/31/2014	217%
1/31/2015	241%

Mean Days to Disposition (does not include reopened and inactive cases)



Report As of	Mean Days to Disposition
2/28/2014	757
3/31/2014	755
4/30/2014	710
5/31/2014	696
6/30/2014	736
7/31/2014	684
8/31/2014	694
9/30/2014	655
10/31/2014	658
11/30/2014	645
12/31/2014	649
1/31/2015	635

Age of Active Pending Cases (does not include reopened and inactive cases)



Age (days)	Active Pending Cases	Percent of Total
0-90	14,475	13%
91-180	15,260	14%
181-270	11,411	10%
271-365	9,678	9%
366-450	6,904	6%
451-540	5,482	5%
541-630	5,922	5%
631-730	7,752	7%
Over 730	32,822	30%
Total	109,706	100%

Note: Foreclosure initiative statistics are based on dynamic data reported by each Clerk of Court to the Office of the State Courts Administrator as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan and do not include reopen or inactive cases. Included are commercial, homestead residential, and non-homestead residential foreclosure cases. Foreclosure initiative statistics are also based on Summary Reporting System filings and dispositions data for other real property actions (i.e., quiet title, condemnation, ejectment, and similar matters). Additionally, these statistics are subject to amendments by the Clerk of Court.

**FY 2014/15 Foreclosure Initiative
January 2015 Status Report
Clearance Rates¹**

By Circuit (Run Date: April 2, 2015)

Circuit	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15
1	220%	186%	173%	132%	130%	163%	148%
2	136%	112%	137%	116%	157%	148%	166%
3	103%	95%	169%	103%	90%	130%	126%
4	145%	178%	187%	146%	178%	213%	203%
5	171%	181%	160%	187%	148%	168%	210%
6	201%	200%	182%	189%	174%	219%	264%
7	197%	229%	208%	167%	158%	165%	174%
8	77%	160%	170%	81%	125%	143%	68%
9	214%	255%	277%	240%	183%	212%	292%
10	155%	165%	145%	168%	161%	179%	174%
11	176%	269%	228%	194%	159%	219%	135%
12	212%	164%	195%	343%	222%	180%	223%
13	203%	245%	207%	197%	221%	206%	248%
14	140%	219%	197%	118%	183%	166%	63%
15	314%	242%	289%	212%	224%	235%	267%
16	112%	145%	156%	236%	278%	109%	177%
17	315%	321%	238%	248%	215%	303%	319%
18	244%	276%	217%	264%	225%	171%	302%
19	179%	200%	171%	167%	182%	157%	212%
20	199%	214%	211%	250%	249%	223%	279%
Total	221%	242%	222%	212%	195%	217%	217%

¹ Foreclosure initiative statistics are based on dynamic data reported by each Clerk of Court to the Office of the State Courts Administrator as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan and do not include reopen or inactive cases. Included are commercial, homestead residential, and non-homestead residential foreclosure cases. Foreclosure initiative statistics are also based on Summary Reporting System filings and dispositions data for other real property actions (i.e., quiet title, condemnation, ejectment, and similar matters).

FY 2014/15 Foreclosure Initiative
January 2015 Status Report
Mean Number of Days from Filing to Disposition¹
By Circuit (Run Date: April 2, 2015)

Circuit	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15
1	522	509	496	527	445	479	406
2	444	415	409	544	481	501	515
3	332	328	312	388	337	320	359
4	473	501	560	479	524	571	512
5	553	521	483	516	520	541	497
6	722	706	732	729	771	718	713
7	589	677	544	582	586	566	516
8	347	370	351	342	329	340	320
9	711	700	694	648	587	574	565
10	511	518	529	486	523	432	490
11	545	568	553	555	552	590	550
12	717	661	737	720	663	651	593
13	827	849	813	817	866	834	815
14	500	522	558	600	457	587	498
15	774	742	716	762	738	705	710
16	661	611	475	470	646	668	694
17	978	1,076	920	963	882	895	893
18	785	786	772	644	637	712	660
19	468	459	432	442	474	440	446
20	527	592	580	593	595	560	621
Total	683	693	655	657	644	648	648

¹ Foreclosure initiative statistics are based on dynamic data reported by each Clerk of Court to the Office of the State Courts Administrator as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan and do not include reopen or inactive cases. Included are commercial, homestead residential, and non-homestead residential foreclosure cases. Foreclosure initiative statistics are also based on Summary Reporting System filings and dispositions data for other real property actions (i.e., quiet title, condemnation, ejectment, and similar matters).

**FY 2014/15 Foreclosure Initiative
January 2015 Status Report
Age of Active Pending Cases and Percent of Cases Over 730 Days¹
By Circuit (Sorted by percent of cases over 730 days), Run Date: April 2, 2015**

Circuit	Number of Cases										Percent of Cases Over 730 Days
	0 to 90 Days	91 to 180 Days	181 to 270 Days	271 to 365 Days	366 to 450 Days	451 to 540 Days	541 to 630 Days	631 to 730 Days	Over 730 Days	Total Cases	
9	1,006	951	722	526	349	230	266	319	3,679	8,048	46%
13	937	969	761	643	565	494	510	685	4,505	10,069	45%
17	1,256	1,335	1,012	890	645	533	621	811	4,119	11,222	37%
6	1,210	1,515	1,200	1,051	765	620	799	879	4,337	12,376	35%
4	1,076	984	538	401	261	222	380	642	2,340	6,844	34%
12	515	512	397	366	282	287	306	420	1,438	4,523	32%
15	848	903	734	597	450	364	345	526	1,965	6,732	29%
20	724	805	548	463	333	241	269	398	1,415	5,196	27%
5	907	963	688	648	478	452	401	543	1,712	6,792	25%
18	754	779	578	476	389	274	304	371	1,180	5,105	23%
19	506	557	383	298	220	103	121	122	678	2,988	23%
14	232	243	186	195	78	61	68	83	335	1,481	23%
16	67	64	52	49	22	16	20	15	82	387	21%
3	117	135	94	41	30	17	20	18	119	591	20%
11	1,768	1,947	1,570	1,349	923	706	722	1,042	2,426	12,453	19%
1	649	655	378	395	236	155	137	207	671	3,483	19%
7	781	787	694	564	376	316	319	357	930	5,124	18%
10	624	615	470	377	265	205	168	188	616	3,528	17%
2	270	276	183	161	120	128	113	105	236	1,592	15%
8	228	265	223	188	117	58	33	21	39	1,172	3%
Total	14,475	15,260	11,411	9,678	6,904	5,482	5,922	7,752	32,822	109,706	30%

¹ Foreclosure initiative statistics are based on dynamic data reported by each Clerk of Court to the Office of the State Courts Administrator as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan and do not include reopen or inactive cases. Included are commercial, homestead residential, and non-homestead residential foreclosure cases. Foreclosure initiative statistics are also based on Summary Reporting System filings and dispositions data for other real property actions (i.e., quiet title, condemnation, ejectment, and similar matters).

**FY 2014/15 Foreclosure Initiative
January 2015 Status Report
Number of Foreclosure Initiative Filings¹
By Circuit (Run Date: April 2, 2015)**

Circuit	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15
1	257	250	273	308	243	247	237
2	108	112	99	118	86	101	99
3	70	57	42	63	39	47	38
4	514	453	463	494	384	399	341
5	363	407	403	452	328	364	327
6	615	581	579	624	450	465	413
7	368	339	300	338	294	309	267
8	100	111	89	123	71	88	88
9	797	651	597	707	543	537	489
10	329	261	256	261	225	229	223
11	861	776	797	818	623	701	616
12	262	227	232	210	206	222	172
13	430	373	413	457	325	397	329
14	131	81	93	119	81	88	82
15	477	451	444	504	372	382	356
16	34	22	25	22	18	34	22
17	710	680	678	713	583	580	476
18	365	332	313	341	255	311	257
19	337	312	301	335	232	245	185
20	419	375	364	381	284	325	272
Total	7,547	6,851	6,761	7,388	5,642	6,071	5,289

¹ Foreclosure initiative statistics are based on dynamic data reported by each Clerk of Court to the Office of the State Courts Administrator as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan and do not include reopen or inactive cases. Included are commercial, homestead residential, and non-homestead residential foreclosure cases. Foreclosure initiative statistics are also based on Summary Reporting System filings and dispositions data for other real property actions (i.e., quiet title, condemnation, ejectment, and similar matters). Additionally, these statistics are subject to modification by the Clerk of Court.

FY 2014/15 Foreclosure Initiative
January 2015 Status Report
Number of Foreclosure Initiative Dispositions¹
By Circuit (Run Date: April 2, 2015)

Circuit	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15
1	565	465	472	407	315	402	350
2	147	125	136	137	135	149	164
3	72	54	71	65	35	61	48
4	743	806	868	723	684	851	693
5	620	738	645	847	486	610	688
6	1,234	1,162	1,054	1,179	784	1,019	1,090
7	726	777	625	564	464	509	464
8	77	178	151	100	89	126	60
9	1,704	1,661	1,651	1,696	994	1,136	1,429
10	511	431	370	439	362	411	387
11	1,516	2,087	1,819	1,590	989	1,532	834
12	555	373	453	721	457	399	383
13	873	915	855	899	717	818	816
14	183	177	183	140	148	146	52
15	1,499	1,093	1,282	1,070	832	897	949
16	38	32	39	52	50	37	39
17	2,237	2,183	1,614	1,768	1,254	1,755	1,518
18	891	915	680	901	574	533	775
19	604	623	515	558	422	385	392
20	835	803	768	954	706	724	758
Total	15,630	15,598	14,251	14,810	10,497	12,500	11,889

¹ Foreclosure initiative statistics are based on dynamic data reported by each Clerk of Court to the Office of the State Courts Administrator as outlined in the FY 2013/14 Foreclosure Initiative Data Collection Plan and do not include reopen or inactive cases. Included are commercial, homestead residential, and non-homestead residential foreclosure cases. Foreclosure initiative statistics are also based on Summary Reporting System filings and dispositions data for other real property actions (i.e., quiet title, condemnation, ejectment, and similar matters). Additionally, these statistics are subject to modification by the Clerk of Court.

CAPS Viewer Implementation by Circuit and County

Circuit	County	CAPS Viewer	Current CAPS Viewer Implementation Date		Implemented
			Civil	Criminal	Go-Live Date
1	Escambia	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	September 2014
	Okaloosa	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	September 2014
	Santa Rosa	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	April 2012
	Walton	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	November 2013
2	Franklin	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	March 2014
	Gadsden	Mentis	June 2015	June 2015	
	Jefferson	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	March 2014
	Leon	Mentis	April 2015	May 2015	
	Liberty	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	March 2014
	Wakulla	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	March 2014
3	Columbia	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2014
	Dixie	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2014
	Hamilton	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2014
	Lafayette	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2014
	Madison	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2014
	Suwannee	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2014
	Taylor	Mentis	April 2015	Implemented	July 2014
4	Clay	CORE	August 2015	August 2015	
	Duval	CORE	Implemented	Implemented	November 2012
	Nassau	CORE	December 2015	December 2015	
5	Citrus	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	November 2014
	Hernando	Mentis	April 2015	April 2015	
	Lake	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2013
	Marion	Mentis	August 2015	August 2015	
	Sumter	Mentis	March 2015	March 2015	
6	Pasco	JAWS	April 2015	December 2015	
	Pinellas	JAWS	March 2015	December 2015	
7	Flagler	Pioneer	April 2015	April 2015	
	Putnam	Pioneer	August 2015	August 2015	
	St. Johns	Pioneer	April 2015	April 2015	
	Volusia	Pioneer	June 2015	June 2015	
8	Alachua	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	1999
	Baker	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	1999
	Bradford	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	1999
	Gilchrist	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	1999
	Levy	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	1999
	Union	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	1999

Circuit	County	CAPS Viewer	Current CAPS Viewer Implementation Date		Implemented
			Civil	Criminal	Go-Live Date (civil/criminal)
9	Orange	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	November 2014
	Osceola	Mentis	April 2015	April 2015	
10	Hardee	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	July 2013
	Highlands	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	July 2013
	Polk	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	August 2014
11	Dade	Mentis	April 2015	2018	
12	Desoto	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	September 2014
	Manatee	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	January 2012
	Sarasota	Pioneer	Implemented	Implemented	July 2013
13	Hillsborough	JAWS	Implemented	Implemented	April 2013/April 2014
14	Bay	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	February 2014
	Calhoun	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	January 2014
	Gulf	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	January 2014
	Holmes	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	January 2014
	Jackson	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	January 2014
	Washington	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	January 2014
15*	Palm Beach	ICMS	Implemented	Implemented	2009
16	Monroe	JAWS	TBD	TBD	
17	Broward	In-House	Implemented	Implemented	June 2013
18	Brevard	ICMS	April 2015	April 2015	
	Seminole	In-House	Implemented	Implemented	September 2014
19	Indian River	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	July 2014
	Martin	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	December 2013
	Okeechobee	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	December 2013
	St. Lucie	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	September 2014
20	Charlotte	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	November 2014
	Collier	Mentis	April 2015	April 2015	
	Glades	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	February 2014
	Hendry	Mentis	Implemented	Implemented	February 2014
	Lee	Mentis	April 2015	April 2015	

* 15th Circuit modified ICMS to meet unique requirements but is not CAPS compliant

 In-House systems not CAPS compliant

 Awaiting implementation status from circuit - date may be modified

Note: Implementation dates are subject to change due to available funding

Agenda Item V. Update on Technology Funding Strategies Workgroup



Supreme Court of Florida

500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

JORGE LABARGA
CHIEF JUSTICE
BARBARA J. PARIENTE
R. FRED LEWIS
PEGGY A. QUINCE
CHARLES T. CANADY
RICKY POLSTON
JAMES E.C. PERRY
JUSTICES

JOHN A. TOMASINO
CLERK OF COURT

SILVESTER DAWSON
MARSHAL

February 26, 2015

The Honorable Mark Mahon
Chair, Trial Court Budget Commission
Duval County Courthouse
501 W. Adams Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Dear Judge Mahon:

On January 14, 2015, the Supreme Court met to consider the comprehensive technology recommendations of the Trial Court Budget Commission. The Court approved all four recommendations, thereby agreeing not to develop a fee structure for electronic remote access to court records; adopting the *Florida Trial Court Technology Strategic Plan: 2015 – 2019*; approving the supplemental legislative budget request for the 2015 legislative session; and approving the development of a revenue structure to fund trial court technology.

The Court appreciates the significant contribution of the Trial Court Technology Funding Strategies Workgroup members in creating this important technology roadmap for Florida's trial courts and the work you have done in support of the plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jorge Labarga", written over a large, stylized blue oval.

Jorge Labarga

JL/lh

cc: Members of the Trial Court Technology Funding Strategies Workgroup
Ms. Patricia (PK) Jameson, State Courts Administrator
Mr. Eric Maclure, Deputy State Courts Administrator



Supreme Court of Florida

500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

JORGE LABARGA
CHIEF JUSTICE
BARBARA J. PARIENTE
R. FRED LEWIS
PEGGY A. QUINCE
CHARLES T. CANADY
RICKY POLSTON
JAMES E.C. PERRY
JUSTICES

JOHN A. TOMASINO
CLERK OF COURT

SILVESTER DAWSON
MARSHAL

February 26, 2015

The Honorable Joseph E. Smith
President, Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers
3544 Maclay Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

Dear Mr. Smith:

On March 20, 2014, the Supreme Court charged the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) with considering the issue of charging fees for remote access to court documents and to include a proposed fee structure, if any, in its recommendations to the Court. As you know, the TCBC's Trial Court Technology Funding Strategies Workgroup Joint Judge/Clerk Subgroup met on July 29, 2014, to consider the matter. The Court acknowledges receipt of your letter, dated August 7, 2014, notifying the chair of the subgroup of the recommendation of the clerks of court to allow electronic remote access to records without the public being charged. Based on the desire to ensure that justice is accessible to all persons, the TCBC recommended that a fee structure not be developed for remote access to, or viewing of, court documents. On January 14, 2015, the Court approved the recommendation of the TCBC.

We appreciate your input on this issue and look forward to continuing to work with the clerks of court in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jorge Labarga", written over a printed name.

Jorge Labarga

JL/lh

cc: The Honorable Mark Mahon, Chair, TCBC
Ms. Patricia (PK) Jameson, State Courts Administrator
Mr. Eric Maclure, Deputy State Courts Administrator

Agenda Item VI.A. Update on 2015
Legislative Session: House and Senate
Budget Proposals

Agenda Item VI.A.: House and Senate Budget Proposals

State Courts System
FY 2015-16

updated 4/9/15		State Courts System Legislative Budget Request						House (HB 5001)					Senate (SB 2500E1)					
Budget Entity/Issues		Issue Code	Category (FCO)	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust
1	BRANCH WIDE																	
2	Equity and Retention Pay Issue for State Courts System Employees	4401A80			5,524,009		378,579	5,902,588					0					0
3	Fund Shift - Adjust for SCRTF Revenue Shortfall - Deduct - Based on February Revenue Estimating Conference (includes the corresponding \$2.0M in N/R trust)	3400310										(18,500,000)	(18,500,000)				(18,000,000)	(18,000,000)
4	Fund Shift - Adjust for SCRTF Revenue Shortfall - Add Based on February Revenue Estimating Conference	3400320							18,500,000	2,000,000			18,500,000		18,000,000			18,000,000
5	TOTAL BRANCH WIDE																	
					5,524,009	0	378,579	5,902,588		18,500,000	2,000,000	(18,500,000)	0		18,000,000	0	(18,000,000)	0
6	SUPREME COURT - 22010100																	
7	Death Penalty Case Processing			1.0	33,102			33,102					0					0
8	eFACTS Technical Support	3001700		1.0	32,688			32,688					0					0
9	Case Processing Support			1.0	31,600			31,600						0				0
10	Law Library Operations				17,554			17,554						0				0
11	Appellate Court Travel Expenses	4100020			209,930			209,930					0		209,930			209,930
12	Supreme Court - Meet Acceptable Security Standards	6800600		3.0	220,111	12,339		220,111					0					0
13	Interior Space Refurbishing	7000260			237,360			237,360					0					0
14	HVAC Component Replacement	7000310			30,113	30,113		30,113		30,113	30,113		30,113		30,113			30,113
15	TOTAL SUPREME COURT																	
				6.0	812,458	42,452	0	812,458	0.0	30,113	30,113	0	30,113	0.0	240,043	0	0	240,043
16	EXECUTIVE DIRECTION - 22010200																	
17	Replacement Hardware for SCS Network Infrastructure	24010C0			1,846,682	1,846,682		1,846,682		1,486,121	1,348,393		1,486,121					0
18	Court Services Workload	3003015		4.0	516,942	121,895		516,942	4.0				987,076	4.0	516,942			516,942
19	eFACTS Application Support			3.0	338,801	12,474		338,801	3.0	987,076	151,001		987,076	3.0	338,801			338,801
20	Technology Resource and Planning Support			1.0	103,064	4,158		103,064	1.0					1.0	103,064			103,064
21	Court Education Workload			1.0	86,857	4,158		86,857					0	1.0	86,857			86,857
22	Payroll and Benefits Support			1.0	71,445	4,158		71,445					0	1.0	71,445			71,445
23	General Services Support		1.0	100,364	4,158		100,364					0	1.0	100,364			100,364	
24	TOTAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTION																	
				11.0	3,064,155	1,997,683	0	3,064,155	8.0	2,473,197	1,499,394	0	2,473,197	11.0	1,217,473	0	0	1,217,473
25	ADMINISTERED FUNDS																	
26	Small County Courthouses - Liberty (\$200,000) and Levy (\$41,000) County Courthouses	5401234													241,000	241,000		241,000
27	County Courthouse Expansion - Charlotte County Justice Center	5401237													1,000,000	1,000,000		1,000,000
28	TOTAL ADMINISTERED FUNDS																	
				0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1,241,000	1,241,000	0	1,241,000

**State Courts System
FY 2015-16**

updated 4/9/15		State Courts System Legislative Budget Request						House (HB 5001)					Senate (SB 2500E1)					
Budget Entity/Issues		Issue Code	Category (FCO)	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust
29	DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL - 22100600																	
30	Appellate Court Travel Expenses	4100020			143,881			143,881					0		143,881			143,881
31	Building, Facilities Maintenance and Operational Upkeep	7000210			400,000			400,000					0					0
32	2nd DCA Additional Lease Space - Tampa	7000220			293,800	114,500		293,800					0					0
33	CIP - 3rd DCA Court Remodeling for Security and Building Systems Upgrades (House: for 2nd phase of 3 phase plan)	990M000	080179		9,134,036	9,134,036		9,134,036		2,700,000	2,700,000		2,700,000		5,000,000	5,000,000		5,000,000
34	CIP - 5th DCA HVAC Renovation (House proposal: to complete the two-phase plan to replace HVAC)	990M000	080184		642,506	642,506		642,506		642,506	642,506		642,506					0
35	CIP - 2nd DCA Courthouse Acquisition	990S000	080021		100,000	100,000		100,000					0					0
36	CIP - 4th DCA Courthouse Construction (House proposal: for 2nd phase of the original 3 phase plan)	990S000	080071		16,784,446	16,784,446		16,784,446		6,508,689	6,508,689		6,508,689		16,784,446	16,784,446		16,784,446
37	TOTAL DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL			0.0	27,498,669	26,775,488	0	27,498,669	0.0	9,851,195	9,851,195	0	9,851,195	0.0	21,928,327	21,784,446	0	21,928,327
38	TRIAL COURTS - 22300100/22300200																	
39	Law Clerks to Support Death Penalty Legislation (funding requested for 27.5 FTE)	3000080			2,023,729	66,640		2,023,729					0					0
40	Trial Courts General Counsel Support (funding requested for 10 FTE)	3000120			1,242,440	23,800		1,242,440					0					0
41	Mental Health Diversion Program (11th Circuit criminal mental health project)	3000318						0		250,000	250,000		250,000					0
42	Case Management Resources (funding requested for 92 FTE in total) (House proposal funds 47 existing but unfunded FTE)	3001600		34.0	5,633,712	218,960		5,633,712	0.0	2,900,000			2,900,000					0
43	Increased funding for Children's Advocacy Center Contract Monitoring and Oversight	3004110													55,000			55,000
44	Senior Judge Support	3004420													120,000			120,000
45	Trial Court Technology Strategic Plan	36250C0		65.0	25,606,097	25,606,097		25,606,097					0					0
46	Problem Solving Courts Education and Training	3800010			100,000	100,000		100,000					0					0
47	Compensation to Retired Judges	4402000			950,910			950,910					0					0
48	Court Interpreting Resources	5303100			1,367,126			1,367,126		1,367,126			1,367,126					0
49	Courthouse Furnishings - Nonpublic Areas (14th and 17th Circuits)	5402000			891,699	891,699		891,699					0					0
50	Vivitrol Drug Treatment	5406020													2,000,000			2,000,000
51	Veterans' Court for Escambia County	5406030													150,000			150,000
52	TOTAL TRIAL COURTS			99.0	37,815,713	26,907,196	0	37,815,713	0.0	4,517,126	250,000	0	4,517,126	0.0	2,325,000	0	0	2,325,000
53	TOTAL JUDICIAL BRANCH			116.0	74,715,004	55,722,819	378,579	75,093,583	8.0	35,371,631	13,630,702	(18,500,000)	16,871,631	11.0	44,951,843	23,025,446	(18,000,000)	26,951,843

**State Courts System
FY 2015-16**

updated 4/9/15		State Courts System Legislative Budget Request						House (HB 5001)					Senate (SB 2500E1)					
Budget Entity/Issues		Issue Code	Category (FCO)	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust	FTE	General Revenue	GR Non-Recurring	Trust	Total GR and Trust
54	CERTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS																	
	Circuit Courts - 3 Judgeships: 2 judgeships for the 5th Circuit 1 judgeships for the 1st Circuit																	
	County Courts - 32 Judgeships: 8 judgeships for Dade 8 judgeships for Hillsborough																	
55	5 judgeships for Palm Beach 3 judgeships for Duval 2 judgeships for Lee 1 judgeship for Lake, Citrus, Orange, Osceola, Broward, and Seminole	3009310		74.0	9,918,452	176,120		9,918,452					0					0
	Executive Direction - Fl. Cases Southern 2nd Reporter: 35 Judgeships																	
56	TOTAL JUDICIAL BRANCH with Certification			190.0	84,633,456	55,898,939	378,579	85,012,035	8.0	35,371,631	13,630,702	(18,500,000)	16,871,631	11.0	44,951,843	23,025,446	(18,000,000)	26,951,843

State Courts System
Proviso and Back of Bill Language
FY 2015-16

4/9/15

PROVISO

	House (HB 5001)	Senate (SB 2500E1)
1	The moneys contained herein are appropriated from the named funds to the State Courts System as the amounts to be used to pay salaries, other operational expenditures and fixed capital outlay.	The moneys contained herein are appropriated from the named funds to the State Courts System as the amounts to be used to pay salaries, other operational expenditures and fixed capital outlay.
2	Funds in Specific Appropriation 3129 may be spent at the discretion of the Chief Justice to carry out the official duties of the court. These funds shall be disbursed by the Chief Financial Officer upon receipt of vouchers authorized by the Chief Justice.	Funds in Specific Appropriation 3129 may be spent at the discretion of the Chief Justice to carry out the official duties of the court. These funds shall be disbursed by the Chief Financial Officer upon receipt of vouchers authorized by the Chief Justice.
3		The funds in Specific Appropriation 3145A are provided for the renovation, restoration or replacement of small county courthouses: Liberty 200,000 Levy 41,000
4		The funds in Specific Appropriation 3145B shall be used to expand the Charlotte County Justice Center.
5	The positions authorized in Specific Appropriation 3146 shall be held in reserve as a contingency in the event the state courts determine that some portion of Article V due process services needs to be shifted from a contractual basis to an employee model in one or more judicial circuits. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may request transfer of these positions to the salaries and benefits appropriation category within any of the state courts budget entities, consistent with requests for transfers of funds into those same budget entities. Such transfers are subject to the notice, review, and objection provisions of section 216.177, Florida Statutes.	The positions authorized in Specific Appropriation 3146 shall be held in reserve as a contingency in the event the state courts determine that some portion of Article V due process services needs to be shifted from a contractual basis to an employee model in one or more judicial circuits. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may request transfer of these positions to the salaries and benefits appropriation category within any of the state courts budget entities, consistent with requests for transfers of funds into those same budget entities. Such transfers are subject to the notice, review, and objection provisions of section 216.177, Florida Statutes.
6	Funds in Specific Appropriation 3160 are provided for completing construction of the new Fourth District Court of Appeal courthouse. The courts are not authorized to spend any funds outside the scope of services detailed in the January 31, 2014 amended agency Legislative Budget Request and reflected in the legislative commitment in specific appropriation 3180A of chapter 2014-51, Laws of Florida. These funds represent full and final appropriation for the courthouse and any related structure.	Funds in Specific Appropriation 3160 are provided for the construction of a new courthouse for the Fourth District Court of Appeal.
7	Funds in Specific Appropriation 3160A are provided for phase two of the courthouse remodeling for security and building system upgrades of the Third District Court of Appeal courthouse. The courts are not authorized to spend any funds outside the scope of services detailed in the January 31, 2014 amended agency Legislative Budget Request and reflected in the legislative commitment in specific appropriation 3183 of chapter 2014-51, Laws of Florida. These funds represent the second phase appropriation for the courthouse and any related structure.	

State Courts System
Proviso and Back of Bill Language
FY 2015-16

4/9/15

PROVISO

	House (HB 5001)	Senate (SB 2500E1)
8	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3167, \$3,500,000 in recurring general revenue funds shall be distributed to the 26 Children's Advocacy Centers throughout Florida based on the proportion of children served by each center during calendar year 2014. This funding may not be used to supplant local government reductions in Children's Advocacy Center funding. Any reductions in local government funding for the centers shall result in the withholding of funds appropriated in this line item.	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3167, \$3,500,000 in recurring general revenue funds shall be distributed to the 26 Children's Advocacy Centers throughout Florida based on the proportion of children served by each center during calendar year 2014. This funding may not be used to supplant local government reductions in Children's Advocacy Center funding. Any reductions in local government funding for the centers shall result in the withholding of funds appropriated in this line item.
9	The Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers may spend up to \$25,000 of the funds in this line item for contract monitoring and oversight.	The Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers may spend up to \$80,000 of the funds in this line item for contract monitoring and oversight.
10		From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3167, \$100,000 in recurring general revenue funds is provided to the Walton County Children's Advocacy Center for child advocacy services.
11	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3169, \$1,000,000 in recurring general revenue funds is provided for naltrexone extended-release injectable medication to treat alcohol- or opioid-addicted offenders in court-ordered, community-based drug treatment programs. The Office of the State Courts Administrator shall use the funds to contract with a non-profit entity for the purpose of distributing the medication.	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3169, \$3,000,000 in recurring general revenue funds is provided for naltrexone extended-release injectable medication to treat alcohol- or opioid-addicted individuals involved in the criminal justice system, individuals who have a high likelihood of criminal justice involvement, or who are in court-ordered, community-based drug treatment. The Office of the State Courts Administrator shall use the funds to contract with a non-profit entity for the purpose of distributing the medication.
12	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3169, \$600,000 in recurring general revenue funds shall be distributed to Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, and Clay counties and \$200,000 each in recurring general revenue funds shall be distributed to Duval and Orange counties to create or continue, pursuant to sections 948.08(7)(a), 948.16(2)(a), and 948.21, Florida Statutes, felony and/or misdemeanor pretrial or post-adjudicatory veterans' treatment intervention programs to address the substance abuse and/or mental health treatment needs of veterans and service members charged with, or on probation or community control for, criminal offenses.	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3169, \$750,000 in recurring general revenue funds shall be distributed to Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Escambia, and Clay counties and \$200,000 each in recurring general revenue funds shall be distributed to Duval and Orange counties to create or continue, pursuant to sections 948.08(7)(a), 948.16(2)(a), and 948.21, Florida Statutes, felony and/or misdemeanor pretrial or post-adjudicatory veterans' treatment intervention programs to address the substance abuse and/or mental health treatment needs of veterans and service members charged with, or on probation or community control for, criminal offenses.

**State Courts System
 Proviso and Back of Bill Language
 FY 2015-16**

4/9/15

PROVISO

	House (HB 5001)	Senate (SB 2500E1)
13	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3169, \$250,000 in nonrecurring general revenue funds is provided to contract with the South Florida Behavioral Health Network to provide treatment services for individuals served by the 11th Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Project. The department shall submit a report on the current status of the project to the chairs of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and the House Appropriation Committee. The report shall provide an updated status of completion on all contract performance measures and is due by December 1, 2015.	
14	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3169, \$5,000,000 in recurring general revenue funds is provided for treatment services for offenders in post-adjudicatory drug court programs in Broward, Escambia, Hillsborough, Marion, Orange, Pinellas, Polk, and Volusia counties. Each program shall serve prison-bound offenders (at least 50 percent of participants shall have Criminal Punishment Code scores of greater than 44 points but no more than 60 points) and shall make residential treatment beds available for clients needing residential treatment.	From the funds in Specific Appropriation 3169, \$5,000,000 in recurring general revenue funds is provided for treatment services for offenders in post-adjudicatory drug court programs in Broward, Escambia, Hillsborough, Marion, Orange, Pinellas, Polk, and Volusia counties. Each program shall serve prison-bound offenders (at least 50 percent of participants shall have Criminal Punishment Code scores of greater than 44 points but no more than 60 points) and shall make residential treatment beds available for clients needing residential treatment.
15	The funds in Specific Appropriation 3170 are provided to the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit to continue its program to protect victims of domestic violence with Active Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.	The funds in Specific Appropriation 3170 are provided to the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit to continue its program to protect victims of domestic violence with Active Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology.
16	Funds in Specific Appropriation 3191 are to be used only for case expenditures associated with the filing and prosecution of formal charges. These costs shall consist of attorney's fees, court reporting fees, investigators' fees, and similar charges associated with the adjudicatory process.	Funds in Specific Appropriation 3191 are to be used only for case expenditures associated with the filing and prosecution of formal charges. These costs shall consist of attorney's fees, court reporting fees, investigators' fees, and similar charges associated with the adjudicatory process.

**State Courts System
 Proviso and Back of Bill Language
 FY 2015-16**

4/9/15

BACK OF BILL PROVISIONS

	House (HB 5001)	Senate (SB 2500E1)
1		SECTION 38. The unexpended balance of funds appropriated to the state court in Specific Appropriation 3193 of chapter 2014-51, Laws of Florida, for the funding of naltrexone extended-release injectable medication shall revert and is reappropriated for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the same purpose.
2	SECTION 35. There shall be a reduction of \$15,000,000 from the funds provided from the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund in Specific Appropriation 3186 of chapter 2014-51, Laws of Florida, and \$15,000,000 is appropriated in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund for the 2014-2015 fiscal year to be used for the same purpose. This section shall take effect immediately upon becoming law.	SECTION 39. The sum of \$15,400,000 from nonrecurring general revenue funds is hereby appropriated to the State Court System for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 to address the court's projected current year revenue deficit in its State Court Revenue Trust Fund. This section shall take effect upon becoming law.

Agenda Item VI.A.1.-2.: Implementing and Conforming Bills

Implementing Bills

Both the House and the Senate have adopted bills (HB 5003 and SB 2502-1st Eng.) to implement provisions in their respective fiscal year 2015-16 general appropriations acts. Some of the implementing bill¹ provisions include:

- **Loan Authority:** Both chambers' implementing bills retain statutory authority for the Chief Justice to receive one or more trust fund loans to ensure the State Courts System has funds sufficient to meet its appropriations in the fiscal year 2015-16 General Appropriations Act.
- **Building Construction:** The House bill provides that a maximum square foot cost shall be applied for new fixed capital outlay construction of buildings constructed with state appropriations, except for certain health or science facilities and prisons. The bill directs the Department of Management Services to develop a maximum square cost plan – including design, construction, permitting, furniture and fixtures, and any appurtenances – and submit the plan to the Legislature and Governor by July 15, 2015. The chair of the House Appropriations Committee expressed his intention to implement maximum square foot costs at a committee meeting on March 19, during which members discussed the construction of the Fourth District Court of Appeal courthouse and the renovation of the Third District Court of Appeal courthouse.
- **Legislators' Salaries:** Both bills specify that legislators' salaries for fiscal year 2015-16 shall be set at the same level in effect on July 1, 2010.
- **State Employee Travel:** As in recent years, both bills limit state employee travel during fiscal year 2015-16 to activities that are critical to the state agency's mission. The bills specify that funds may not be used for travel by state employees to foreign countries, other states, conferences, staff training activities, or other administrative functions unless the agency head has approved, in writing, that such activities are critical to the agency's mission. The annual budget and pay administration memorandum applicable to the trial courts typically contains comparable language. The House bill also specifies that costs for lodging associated with a meeting, conference, or convention organized or sponsored by a state agency or the judicial branch may not exceed \$150 per day.

¹ “An implementing bill is a bill that is effective for only one fiscal year. Its purpose is to enact any language necessary to implement the budget as defined in the general appropriations bill.” Fla. House of Representatives, Office of Public Information, *OPI Pulse: Florida's Budget Process* (Feb. 7, 2012).

- **Prescription Drug Program:** Both bills reenact the statute (s. 110.12315, F.S.) that establishes and governs the state employees' prescription drug program.

Conforming Bills

At the appropriations committee level, both the House and the Senate considered conforming bills² enacting policy changes of significance to the State Courts System. However, the full chambers ultimately did not advance those particular conforming bills. It is not known if these issues will resurface during the budget conference process.

Appellate Travel (SB 2506): The bill authorizes a justice or district court of appeal judge, under specified circumstances, to have a facility in his or her county of residence designated as his or her official headquarters for travel expense purposes. This conforming bill complements appropriations in the Senate's proposed budget for travel by justices (\$209,930) and district court of appeal judges (\$143,881) between individual headquarters and court headquarters.

Sentencing (HB 5203): The bill authorizes a court to sentence certain offenders for up to 24 months in the county jail in the county where the offense was committed, if the county has a contract with the Department of Corrections governing provision of such services.

State Group Insurance Program (HB 5009): The bill requires employees hired after July 1, 2015, to enroll in a high-deductible insurance plan. The state would be prohibited from contributing to such new employees' health savings accounts but would continue to make account contributions at the current rate (\$41.66 individual/\$83.33 family) for employees already participating in a high-deductible plan before July 1, 2015.

Decision Needed

This issue is presented for informational purposes only. No action is required.

² Conforming bills "amend the Florida Statutes in order to comply or conform to an appropriations bill. In a conforming bill the change contemplated by the appropriations bill is recurring or intended to be permanent so the change in law should be permanent as well." *Id.*

Agenda Item VI.B. Update on 2015
Legislative Session: Pay Issue for
Judges and State Courts System Staff

Agenda Item VI.B.: Pay Issue for Judges and State Courts System Staff

Following is the narrative accompanying the judicial branch's fiscal year 2015-16 legislative budget request on State Courts System pay:

1. The Supreme Court requests second year funding of \$5,902,588 in recurring salary dollars branch wide, effective July 1, 2015, to complete the necessity of addressing a wide range of salary issues affecting the State Courts System (SCS).

In Fiscal Year 2014-15, in order to retain highly skilled employees and to experience more equity with other government salaries, the SCS requested \$18,828,193 in recurring salary appropriation as the first year funding request. However, recognizing the considerable size of such a request, the SCS proposed a two-year implementation period. The 2014 Legislature provided \$8,132,614 for the first year implementation period. That funding is assisting the judicial branch in making significant headway in addressing retention and salary equity between the branch and other governmental entities for similar positions and duties.

The essential need to continue to develop and retain existing employees to ensure expertise remains a priority of the branch as filling knowledge gaps ensures the continued development of efficiencies in the work of the State Courts System.

In addition, the salary appropriation for the State Courts System continues to present challenges in providing the necessary flexibility for the branch to respond to dynamic, shifting employment market factors. One-half of the branch's salary appropriation is a fixed cost needed for judicial salary obligations and the courts have no flexibility to hold those positions open or to alter the salary level to generate lapse dollars. Given these constrictions, addressing salary problems as they arise continues to present a challenge.

While it is understood that all state agencies must manage their salary budgets, the SCS is more particularly constrained in this regard. At the beginning of each fiscal year, all levels of the court have been required to develop strict policies to generate the necessary salary dollars to meet projected payroll liability. These policies have taken on various forms including such requirements as holding positions open for a specified number of days, hiring all new employees at the minimum, limiting promotional salary increases to 5% above current salary (instead of the 10% flexibility in the State Courts System's

Classification and Pay Plan), prohibiting any overlap of positions, etc. Again, the 2014 Legislative appropriation for salary adjustments should make an impact in this regard.

Challenges surrounding salary limitations in some classes and positions remain extremely varied across the levels of court and across the state. Although the SCS has been able to make some headway in addressing these salary concerns, due to the 2014-15 legislative appropriation for this purpose, the branch needs the remaining funding to adequately address its remaining salary issues. These include adjustments to specific classes as well as to geographical areas as needs arise in either or both cases due to recruitment and/or retention problems; provision of merit increases (being recognized for excellent service and performance is a motivating factor for continued improvement in support of creating efficiencies for the branch); incentivizing valuable, experienced employees whose specialized knowledge base has accumulated over a number of years, and, related to that issue, counter offers for key managers and high performers.

An example of classes that continue to need adjustments are those in the case management element. Although the Trial Court Budget Commission had these classes on its priority list, there was not sufficient funding to recommend adjustments for those classes to the Chief Justice. Classes in the trial court mediation element and in the court reporting element also need analysis in terms of equity, retention, and recruitment. Time constraints for identifying and thoroughly analyzing comparable in those classes prevented such analysis. A number of other classes branch wide also need concentrated analysis including such classes as Administrative Secretary I and II, Director of Community Relations, Finance and Accounting Manager, Secretary, Secretary Specialist, Senior Secretary, and Training Manager. In addition, continued analysis is needed for some classes that were adjusted but possibly not to the extent for maximizing retention and recruitment.

Even those classes where preliminary data did not indicate equity problems will need to be re-analyzed with updated data. As well, classes with new or continuing indications of retention and recruitment problems will require the same attention to analysis.

Although positively impacted by the 2014 legislative funding, the branch must continue its progress in reaching its Long Range Strategic Plan goal of supporting competency and quality. Success in this regard continues to depend on the branch's ability to attract, hire and retain highly qualified and competent employees. As Florida's economy continues to improve, the employment environment is sure to become increasingly competitive. The State Courts System needs to be able to retain and recruit top talent in all of its elements to ensure that justice is served in the most efficient and effective manner to the people of Florida.

2. For many of the same reasons, judicial salaries also top the branch's list of priorities. Although a specific dollar amount is not being requested as part of this LBR, it is imperative that the State of Florida be able to recruit and retain quality judges. It only makes sense that the quality of justice for Florida's citizens is directly impacted by the quality of the men and women that Florida elects or appoints as judges. And, it also seems obvious that competitive salaries are essential to the State's ability to attract a high number of highly qualified attorneys willing to run and apply for judicial openings -- or willing to stay on the bench for a full judicial career after their election or appointment. There have already been a number of qualified jurists who have left the bench early -- as well as a demonstrable drop in qualified applicants -- as salaries for Florida judges have seriously lagged behind inflation and behind attorney salaries in Florida, federal judicial salaries, and judicial salaries in comparable states.

To understand the breadth of this problem, one need only consider that in the late 1990s through the early 2000s, salaries of Florida Supreme Court justices were kept in line with the salaries of federal circuit (intermediate appeals court) judges. Now, the salaries of Florida Supreme Court justices lag behind the salaries of federal trial court magistrates, and are \$49,000 per year lower than the salary of a federal intermediate appellate court judge. Additionally, it is telling that Florida District Court of Appeal Court salaries have "lost" approximately \$43,485.84 to inflation and other cuts since the year 2000.

Ideally, one would think that a competitive wage for trial judges should compare with an average wage for more experienced lawyers in law firms. Currently, however, Florida's circuit judges make \$23,020 per year less than the 2012 median *base* salary for *eight-year* associates (non-partners), using 2012 salary figures from the National Association for Law Placement (NALP) for all size firms.

The State Court System respectfully requests that the legislature implement a multi-year strategy to fully restore judicial salaries to a competitive level, while continuing to benchmark judicial salaries in Florida consistent with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.244(b).

Decision Needed

This issue is presented for informational purposes only. No action is required.

Agenda Item VI.C. Update on 2015
Legislative Session: Pay and
Benefits/Retirement Legislation

**Proposed Fiscal Year 2015-16 GAA
 Back of the Bill Section 8 - Pay and Benefits**

HOUSE - HB 5001	SENATE - SB 2500E1
Judicial pay remains the same	Judicial pay remains the same
No special pay issue for State Courts System	No special pay issue for State Courts System
No change in state life insurance or state disability insurance	No change in state life insurance or state disability insurance
Reduction in cost to employer for health insurance premiums	No change in cost to employer for health insurance premiums
No change in premiums paid by employees for health insurance (Maintains the "enhanced benefits" premiums paid by judicial assistants and senior managers). If pending House legislation (HB 7097) on employee contribution rates does <i>not</i> become law: For the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, the annual deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums of the HMO High Deductible Health Plan are increased to the same amounts as the PPO High Deductible Health Plan and the annual deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums for the HMO Standard Plan are increased to the same amounts as the PPO Standard Plan.	No change in premiums paid by employees for health insurance (Maintains the "enhanced benefits" premiums paid by judicial assistants and senior managers).
No change in prescription drug program	No change in prescription drug program
Payment of bar dues authorized	Payment of bar dues authorized
From existing resources, merit pay increases are authorized based on the employee's exemplary performance as evidenced by a performance evaluation conducted pursuant to chapter 60L-35, Florida Administrative Code, or a similar performance evaluation applicable to other pay plans. The Chief Justice may exempt judicial branch employees from the performance evaluation requirements.	From existing resources, merit pay increases are authorized based on the employee's exemplary performance as evidenced by a performance evaluation conducted pursuant to chapter 60L-35, Florida Administrative Code, or a similar performance evaluation applicable to other pay plans. The Chief Justice may exempt judicial branch employees from the performance evaluation requirements.

Agenda Item VI.C.: Pay and Benefits/Retirement Legislation

Health Insurance Benefits Legislation

The House of Representatives is advancing legislation (HB 7097) that revises the State Group Insurance Program within the Department of Management Services (DMS). Under the current insurance program, employees may select from among a health maintenance organization (HMO) plan, a preferred provider organization (PPO) plan, and a high-deductible HMO or PPO plan with a health savings account. The House staff analysis for the bill notes that “only one benefit level is offered for each plan type. Additionally, the employee’s premium for the HMO and PPO are the same, even though the HMO provides greater benefits.” The analysis summarizes the changes made by the bill as follows:

The bill establishes employee contribution rates for standard plans and high deductible health plans for the 2016 plan year reflecting the actuarial benefit difference between the HMO and the PPO. Employees will be given a choice between paying more for the higher value HMO and paying less, compared to the prior year, for the lower value PPO. Employees will have a choice between richer benefits or greater take-home pay.

The bill adds new products and services to the program by giving DMS broad authority to contract for a wide variety of additional products and services. Employees will be able to purchase new products as optional benefits. DMS is directed to contract with at least one entity that provides comprehensive pricing and inclusive services for surgery and other types of medical procedures. The contract requires cost savings to the program, which will be shared by the state and the enrollee.

Beginning in 2016, DMS is directed to implement a 3-year price transparency pilot project in at least one, but no more than three areas of the state. The purpose of the pilot is to reward value-based pricing by publishing the prices of certain diagnostic and surgical procedures and sharing any savings generated by the enrollee’s choice of providers. Participation in the project will be voluntary for state employees.

Beginning in the 2018 plan year, the bill provides that state employees will have health plan choices at four different benefit levels. If the state’s contribution for premium is more than the cost of the plan selected by the employee, then the employee may use the remainder to:

- Fund a flexible spending arrangement or a health savings account.

- Purchase additional benefits offered through the state group insurance program.
- Increase the employee's salary.

The bill directs DMS to hire an independent benefits consultant (IBC). The IBC will assist DMS in developing a plan for the implementation of the new benefit levels in the program. The plan shall be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than January 1, 2017. The IBC will also provide ongoing assessments and analysis for the program.

(Fla. House of Representatives, Staff Analysis for CS/HB 7097 (April 6, 2015).)

The bill has cleared its committees of origin and reference and is available for action on the floor of the House. There is currently no identical or similar Senate companion bill.

Retirement Legislation

Reenrollment

A bill (SB 7042) that would authorize reenrollment in the Florida Retirement System (FRS) investment plan by certain former FRS members who previously took a distribution (and thus retired) from the FRS cleared one Senate committee, but it has not advanced further. A similar House bill (HB 1249) has been referred to three committees, but it has not yet had a hearing.

Pension Reform

The House decided to end pursuit of significant FRS reforms during the 2015 legislative session after an actuarial study concluded that changes under consideration would result in additional costs. Among the reforms under consideration were closing the pension plan to new enrollees hired in the Senior Management Service or Elected Officers class, changing the default plan option from the pension plan to the investment plan, increasing the time period during which a new enrollee may choose a plan option, and increasing the vesting time for the pension plan to 10 years from 8 years. Both chambers are advancing local pension reform measures.

Decision Needed

This issue is presented for informational purposes only. No action is required.

Agenda Item VI.D. Update on 2015 Legislative Session: Other Significant Legislation

Agenda Item VI.D.: Other Significant Legislation

CS/SB 1080 – Clerks of the Circuit Courts Funding Bill (Companion Bill – HB 885)

Currently, the CFY 2015-16 clerks' budget is projected to have an \$18.1 million shortfall. To address the shortfall, bills have been filed in both the House and the Senate. The legislation redirects fines, fees, and penalties estimated at \$34.2 million, based on March 13, 2015, Revenue Estimating Impact Conference estimates, from the General Revenue Fund to the local clerks' fine and forfeiture funds on a recurring basis. In addition, it includes language stating the clerks of court are entitled to reimbursement for state jury-related costs, including juror compensation, personnel, and operational costs of the clerks directly related to jury management. An estimated \$11.4 million annually in jury management costs is currently paid out of the local clerks' fine and forfeiture funds. These costs would instead be funded through a general revenue appropriation to the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation (CCOC) budget and reimbursed back to the clerks' local funds.

The clerks' current year budget is approved at \$444.4 million. This bill sets the clerks' total CFY 2015-16 budget at \$460 million, an increase of 3.5%. However, the proposed change in budget authority would represent a 6.2% net increase from the current year due to the effect of the jury cost reimbursement.

The proposal also includes a provision to allow the clerks to retain, in the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund, the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, service charges, and costs, plus any funds received from the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund, in an amount needed to fully fund the current and next two fiscal years' authorized budgets. The current process allows the clerks to retain the excess for one year.

The clerks manage jury operations in 19 of the 20 judicial circuits. In the Ninth Judicial Circuit, the Office of Court Administration manages jury operations. The bill does not appear that it would affect the way in which jury operations are currently managed in those two counties. The clerks in Orange and Osceola counties would retain fiscal responsibility for this court-related function and would request reimbursement in expenses on a quarterly basis from CCOC.

The Senate bill has cleared one of its three committees of reference. The House bill has been referred to three committees but has not yet received a hearing.

Agenda Item VII. Judicial Conference, TCBC, and Other Legislative Outreach

Agenda Item VII.: Judicial Conference, TCBC, and Other Legislative Outreach

There are no materials for this agenda item.

Agenda Item VIII. FY 2016-17 Legislative Budget Request Time Line

2016-2017 Legislative Budget Request (LBR) Timeline Trial Courts

TBD (Early June)	Preliminary LBR strategy discussion; TCBC Funding Methodology Committee meeting <i>TBD – In-person meeting</i>
Friday, June 12	Approval of LBR strategy for new issues; TCBC – Orlando, Florida
Tuesday, June 16	Notice of LBR strategy and LBR request instructions distributed to Chief Judges and TCAs
Tuesday, June 23	Circuit specific LBRs due to OSCA Office of Budget Services
Wednesday, June 24 thru Wednesday, July 1	OSCA technical review
TBD (Early July)	Approval of preliminary LBR recommendations; TCBC Funding Methodology Committee meeting <i>TBD - Telephone Conference</i>
Friday, July 10	Approval of final LBR recommendations; TCBC – Orlando, Florida
Monday, July 13	Notice of TCBC Final LBR decisions distributed to circuits
Thursday, July 23 <i>(10 days following Notice of TCBC Final LBR decisions)</i>	Budget issue appeals, if any, due to TCBC
Wednesday, August 12	Joint meeting of Leadership materials sent out via email
Monday, August 17	Joint meeting of Leadership with the Chief Justice, OSCA, District Court of Appeal Budget Commission, Trial Court Budget Commission, JQC and Judicial Conference Chairs to review the LBR recommendations <i>1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Telephone Conference (Executive Conference Center has been reserved for Tallahassee participants)</i>
Wednesday, August 19	Final LBR recommendations distributed to the Supreme Court for Court Conference
Wednesday, August 26	Approval of LBR recommendations by the Supreme Court
Friday, September 11	Public Hearing
Tuesday, September 15	Submission of the Legislative Budget Request to the Legislature

Agenda Item IX. Report from Chief
Justice Designee to the Clerks of Court
Operations Corporation Executive
Council

**Agenda Item IX.: Report from Chief Justice Designee to Clerks of Court
Operations Corporation Executive Council**

There are no materials for this agenda item.