

# Judicial Department

<b>Adopted Adjustments</b> (\$ in millions)				
	<b>FY 2019 Adopted</b>		<b>FY 2020 Adopted</b>	
	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>
2016-18 Base Budget, Ch. 836	\$485.6	\$33.3	\$485.6	\$33.3
Adopted Increases	17.5	0.6	26.8	0.6
Adopted Decreases	(7.4)	(0.2)	(7.4)	(0.2)
\$ Net Change	10.1	0.4	19.5	0.4
<b>Ch. 2 (HB 5002, as Adopted)</b>	<b>\$495.7</b>	<b>\$33.7</b>	<b>\$505.1</b>	<b>\$33.7</b>
% Change	2.1%	1.2%	4.0%	1.2%
FTEs	3,267.71	106.00	3,267.71	104.00
# Change	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00

- **Supreme Court of Virginia**

- *Expansion of Mental Health Dockets.* Provides \$500,000 GF each year for the creation of new mental health dockets, or the expansion of existing mental health dockets experiencing large caseloads. There are currently nine mental health dockets operating in the Commonwealth, with two additional dockets in the planning stages. Mental health dockets had not previously received general fund appropriations, but had instead used a combination of asset forfeiture proceeds, federal grants, and local and non-profit funding.
- *Expansion of Drug Courts.* Increases the general fund appropriation for drug treatment court dockets by \$400,000 each year. The funding is provided in order to expand the number of drug treatment courts operating in the Commonwealth. The Supreme Court’s base budget currently includes \$4.2 million GF per year for drug treatment court programs. The adopted language provides that the new funding is to be allocated by the Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee to jurisdictions with high drug-related caseloads.
- *Drug Court Evaluation and Monitoring.* Provides \$175,000 GF each year and two positions to monitor and evaluate drug court programs, and to support grant

applications activities. The Supreme Court currently has one position performing these functions.

- ***Criminal Fund Fee Waivers for Court-Appointed Counsel.*** Provides \$525,000 GF each year to meet projected costs for funding additional fee waivers approved by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia for court-appointed counsel in criminal cases. Once all waiver funds have been exhausted for the fiscal year, the Office of the Executive Secretary is no longer able to reimburse court-appointed counsel for approved waiver expenses. Also, language authorizes the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget to transfer from the second year appropriation to the first year an amount equal to any anticipated shortfall, upon request of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court.
- ***Statewide Electronic Case Management System.*** Includes language directing the Executive Secretary of the Compensation Board to convene a working group to examine implementing a statewide electronic case filing system, and to report on the working groups findings the chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by November 30, 2018.

- **Circuit Courts**

- ***Fund Vacant Circuit Court Judgeships.*** Provides net funding of \$2.3 million GF over the biennium to fill five circuit court judgeships in the first year, whose service will commence on July 1, 2018, to reflect judicial elections made during the 2018 General Assembly Session, and funding sufficient to fill all remaining unfunded judgeships authorized by § 17.1-507, *Code of Virginia*, for a total of 170 circuit court judgeships, effective July 1, 2019. The funding includes a reduction of (\$288,822) GF in the first year, which reflects the addition of five elected judgeships, net of six funded circuit court judicial vacancies in FY 2018.
- ***Information Technology System Changes.*** Adds \$160,000 GF the second year to implement the information technology system changes pursuant to the provisions of Chapters 78 and 92 of the 2017 Acts of Assembly for both the General District and Circuit Courts. The funding approved during the 2017 General Assembly Session only covered the cost of implementation for the General District Courts.

- **General District Courts**

- ***Fund Vacant General District Court Judgeships.*** Provides \$528,668 GF the first year and \$2.9 million GF the second year to fill five general district court judgeships in the first year, whose service will commence on July 1, 2018, to reflect judicial elections made during the 2018 General Assembly Session, and funding sufficient to fill all remaining unfunded judgeships authorized by § 16.1-69.6:1, *Code of Virginia*, for a total of 130 judgeships, effective July 1, 2019.

- **Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts**
  - *Fund Vacant General District Court Judgeships.* Provides net funding of \$1.8 million GF over the biennium to fill six juvenile and domestic relations district court judgeships in the first year, whose service will commence on July 1, 2018, to reflect judicial elections made during the 2018 General Assembly Session, and funding sufficient to fill all remaining unfunded judgeships authorized by § 16.1-69.6:1, *Code of Virginia*, for a total of 135 juvenile and domestic relations district court judgeships, effective July 1, 2019. The funding includes a reduction of (\$1,057,336) GF in the first year, which reflects the addition of six elected judgeships, net of ten funded juvenile and domestic relations district court judicial vacancies in FY 2018.
  
- **Indigent Defense Commission**
  - *Replace Agency Computer Equipment.* Includes \$186,000 GF the first year and \$185,000 GF the second year for the replacement of outdated agency computer equipment. The equipment will be purchased through the Master Equipment Lease Program (MELP), and these amounts reflect the estimated payments for the first two years of a five-year repayment plan. The total cost of purchasing the equipment is \$926,000.
  
- **Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission**
  - *Sharing of Circuit Court Case Information.* Includes a language amendment authorizing the agency to share aggregate case information from circuit court case management systems in order to provide information upon request from the legislature and executive branch staff. Language in the appropriation act currently prohibits the agency from doing so.