

VOLUME IV:
PUBLIC SAFETY, NATURAL RESOURCES
AND TRANSPORTATION

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Agency Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Agency Mission

In our mission to administer justice while maintaining our independence, we are duty bound to act with unflinching honor to serve and protect the ideals of democracy for the citizens of this State.

Agency Description

Rhode Island has a unified court system composed of six statewide courts. The Supreme Court is the court of last resort, the Superior Court is the court of general jurisdiction, and the Family, District, Traffic Tribunal, and Workers' Compensation Courts are courts of limited jurisdiction. The entire system in Rhode Island is state-funded with the exception of probate courts, which are the responsibility of cities and towns, and the municipal courts, which are local courts of limited jurisdiction. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is the executive head of the Rhode Island Judiciary and has authority over the judicial budget. The Chief Justice appoints the State Court Administrator and an administrative staff to handle budgetary and general administrative functions. Under the direction of the Chief Justice, the State Court Administrator has control of judicial appropriations for all state courts, except those as provided otherwise by law. Each court has responsibility over its own operations and has a chief judge who appoints an administrator to handle internal court management.

Statutory History

The Judiciary is one of the three branches of government defined in the Rhode Island Constitution.

The powers and jurisdictions of the six courts are identified in R.I. General Laws § 8-1 - Supreme Court; § 8-2 - Superior Court; § 8-10 - Family Court; § 8-8 - District Court; § 28-30 - Workers' Compensation Court; and § 8-8.2 - Traffic Tribunal.

The budgetary and finance controls of the Judiciary are identified as follows:

RIGL § 8-15-4 - Appointment of Court Administrator and Assistants; § 35-3-1 - Budget Officer – General Powers and Duties; § 36-4-2.1 - Exemption from Merit System; § 36-4-16.4 - Salaries of Directors, Judges, and Workers' Compensation Judges; § 36-6-1 - Controller – Duties in General; and § 37-8-1 - State House – State Office Building – Courthouses.

Budget

Judiciary

	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Supreme Court	42,050,267	42,474,426	40,128,092	41,202,444	44,331,218
Superior Court	23,608,653	23,549,206	23,761,893	23,861,121	25,613,173
Family Court	24,633,979	25,485,724	26,041,057	26,225,642	26,938,259
District Court	13,253,875	14,143,447	14,200,491	14,385,348	14,782,954
Traffic Tribunal	8,582,370	8,858,948	8,966,306	8,994,491	9,786,908
Worker's Compensation Court	7,502,138	8,099,248	8,874,787	8,901,431	9,309,410
Judicial Tenure & Discipline	119,563	121,904	154,779	155,231	155,863
Total Expenditures	119,750,845	122,732,902	122,127,405	123,725,708	130,917,785
Expenditures by Object					
Salary And Benefits	85,646,109	90,591,274	91,375,694	91,788,366	97,332,189
Contract Professional Services	2,407,561	1,982,260	2,205,988	2,221,893	2,452,971
Operating Supplies And Expenses	13,353,535	12,519,304	13,648,287	14,754,529	13,291,803
Assistance And Grants	10,608,412	10,330,905	11,104,983	11,208,833	11,231,183
Capital Purchases And Equipment	(0)	0	535,000	535,000	500,000
Subtotal: Operating	112,015,617	115,423,743	118,869,952	120,508,621	124,808,146
Capital Purchases And Equipment	7,735,229	7,309,159	3,257,453	3,217,087	6,109,639
Subtotal: Other	7,735,229	7,309,159	3,257,453	3,217,087	6,109,639
Total Expenditures	119,750,845	122,732,902	122,127,405	123,725,708	130,917,785
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	99,950,274	101,864,392	103,483,394	103,771,550	108,788,654
Federal Funds	3,055,635	4,277,604	3,456,888	3,819,563	3,541,877
Restricted Receipts	10,581,557	11,296,697	12,863,388	13,851,226	13,637,254
Operating Transfers From Other Funds	6,163,379	5,294,210	2,323,735	2,283,369	4,950,000
Total Expenditures	119,750,845	122,732,902	122,127,405	123,725,708	130,917,785
FTE Authorization	723.3	726.3	726.3	726.3	726.3

Personnel Agency Summary

Judiciary

	FY 2021		FY 2022	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified			5.0	335,594
Unclassified			721.3	61,261,931
Subtotal	726.3	58,450,711	726.3	61,597,525
Overtime (1.5)		571,148		358,407
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages		144,229		929,506
Turnover		(162,964)		(2,714,733)
Total Salaries		59,003,124		60,170,705
Benefits				
Contract Stipends		350		0
FICA		3,803,034		4,571,412
Health Benefits		8,140,399		9,548,871
Payroll Accrual		37,598		350,373
Retiree Health		2,489,652		2,624,948
Retirement		15,727,021		17,627,901
Subtotal		30,198,054		34,723,505
Total Salaries and Benefits		89,201,178	726.3	94,894,210
Cost Per FTE Position				130,654
Statewide Benefit Assessment		2,587,188		2,437,979
Payroll Costs		91,788,366	726.3	97,332,189
Purchased Services				
Clerical and Temporary Services		15,300		15,300
Design and Engineering Services		127,459		95,500
Information Technology		645,943		625,778
Legal Services		413,000		413,000
Management & Consultant Services		75,041		75,000
Medical Services		16,000		16,000
Other Contracts		868,257		1,156,500
Training and Educational Services		60,893		55,893
Subtotal		2,221,893		2,452,971
Total Personnel		94,010,259	726.3	99,785,160
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue		82,762,495	659.3	87,914,161
Federal Funds		2,360,940	10.0	2,561,537
Restricted Receipts		8,886,824	57.0	9,309,462
Total All Funds		94,010,259	726.3	99,785,160

Performance Measures

Judiciary

Disposition Rate of Appeal Cases

During a specified time period, if the Supreme Court is able to dispose more cases than those docketed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of appeal cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	107.00%	98.00%	111.00%	0.00%	

Timeliness of Cases Disposed at Pretrial

The figures below represent the percentage of Workers' Compensation Court cases disposed at pretrial within 90 days of filing. Measuring time to disposition is a metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	90.00%	90.00%	90.00%	90.00%	90.00%
Actual	85.00%	86.00%	83.00%	0.00%	

Timeliness of Cases Disposed at Trial

The figures below represent the percentage of Workers' Compensation Court cases disposed at trial within 360 days of filing. Measuring time to disposition is a metric identified by the National Center for State Courts [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	90.00%	90.00%	90.00%	90.00%	90.00%
Actual	86.00%	85.00%	86.00%	0.00%	

Timeliness of Appellate Cases Disposed

The figures below represent the percentage of Supreme Court cases disposed within 24 months of filing. Measuring time to disposition is a metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	80.00%	80.00%
Actual	0.00%	90.00%	87.00%	0.00%	

Performance Measures

Judiciary

Age of Active Pending Appellate Cases

The figures below represent the percentage of pending Supreme Court cases that have been pending for less than 24 months of filing. Measuring the time cases are pending is a metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	90.00%	90.00%
Actual	0.00%	91.00%	92.00%	0.00%	

Disposition Rate of Criminal Cases (SC)

During a specified time period, if the Superior Court is able to dispose more criminal cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of criminal cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	78.00%	71.00%	0.00%	

Disposition Rate of Wayward/Delinquent/Violation Cases

During a specified time period, if the Family Court is able to dispose more wayward/delinquent/violation cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of wayward/delinquent/violation cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	94.00%	137.00%	0.00%	

Disposition Rate of Child Protection (Dependent/Neglect/Abuse and Termination of Parental Rights) Cases

During a specified time period, if the Family Court is able to dispose more child protection cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of child protection cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	108.00%	96.00%	0.00%	

Performance Measures

Judiciary

Disposition Rate of Domestic Cases

During a specified time period, if the Family Court is able to dispose more domestic cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of domestic cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	116.00%	81.00%	0.00%	

Disposition Rate of Civil Cases (DC)

During a specified time period, if the District Court is able to dispose more civil cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of civil cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	79.00%	102.00%	0.00%	

Disposition Rate of Small Claims Cases

During a specified time period, if the District Court is able to dispose more small claims cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of small claims cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	94.00%	84.00%	0.00%	

Disposition Rate of Criminal Cases (DC)

During a specified time period, if the District Court is able to dispose more criminal cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of criminal cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	101.00%	70.00%	0.00%	

Performance Measures

Judiciary

Disposition Rate of Workers' Compensation Court (WCC) Cases

During a specified time period, if the Workers' Compensation Court (WCC) is able to dispose more cases than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of WCC cases. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	

Disposition Rate of Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal (RITT) Summonses

During a specified time period, if the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal (RITT) is able to dispose more cases/summonses than those filed, the disposition rate (or clearance rate) will exceed 100 percent, thereby reducing the number of cases pending (backlog). The figures below represent the disposition rate of RITT cases/summonses. This PM is a key metric identified by the National Center for State Courts. [Notes: Calendar year 2020 data is as of 8/31/20. Missing values appear as zeros in the measure.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Actual	0.00%	102.00%	95.00%	0.00%	

Program Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Supreme Court

Mission

Provide timely review of all decisions appealed from the lower courts. Provide overall administrative direction to the unified court system. Regulate the admission, registration, and discipline of attorneys to the Rhode Island Bar.

Description

The Supreme Court Program includes the budget for the Court as well as the Administrative Office of State Courts, and the State Law Library. The Court portion of the budget covers the justices, their secretarial and legal staff, the law clerk department, and the Supreme Court Clerk's Office. Through this portion of the budget the Supreme Court fulfills its role as the court of last resort. The Court also renders advisory opinions to the legislative and executive branches of government; issues writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, certiorari and certain other prerogative writs; and regulates the admission, registration and discipline of members of the Rhode Island Bar. Administrative services include all budgetary, personnel and purchasing functions; technology services; facilities and operations, which includes the maintenance of courthouse and judicial buildings as well as security; programming for judicial education; the collection of court-ordered restitution, fines, fees and costs; judicial records center; and research and statistical analysis. The State Law Library is the only complete, public legal reference service in Rhode Island, and it operates under the Supreme Court. The Library has over 110,000 volumes and provides access to computer aided legal research. Other major activities of the Supreme Court include domestic violence training and monitoring, mandatory continuing legal education, appellate screening, alternative dispute resolution, disciplinary counsel, community outreach and public relations, and the interpreter program.

Statutory History

The Supreme Court is the only constitutionally established court and is identified in Article X of the Rhode Island State Constitution. The organization, jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court are described in R.I. General Laws § 8-1 and the administrative authority of the court is established by RIGL § 8-15. Other statutes relating to the Supreme Court include RIGL § 8-3 through §8-7.

Budget

Agency: Judiciary

Supreme Court

Expenditures by Sub Program	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Defense of Indigents	4,553,798	4,513,639	5,079,035	5,079,035	5,075,432
Supreme Court Operations	37,496,469	37,960,788	35,049,057	36,123,409	39,255,786
Total Expenditures	42,050,267	42,474,426	40,128,092	41,202,444	44,331,218
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	19,997,912	21,102,279	20,811,726	20,883,582	22,217,995
Contract Professional Services	903,427	774,149	794,413	810,318	861,861
Operating Supplies and Expenses	9,020,887	8,838,643	9,282,109	10,309,066	9,248,878
Assistance And Grants	5,268,637	5,037,413	5,897,332	5,897,332	5,807,332
Capital Purchases And Equipment	(0)	0	500,000	500,000	500,000
Subtotal: Operating	35,190,863	35,752,483	37,285,580	38,400,298	38,636,066
Capital Purchases And Equipment	6,859,404	6,721,943	2,842,512	2,802,146	5,695,152
Subtotal: Other	6,859,404	6,721,943	2,842,512	2,802,146	5,695,152
Total Expenditures	42,050,267	42,474,426	40,128,092	41,202,444	44,331,218
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	33,035,614	33,191,086	34,083,633	34,151,198	35,382,978
Federal Funds	129,263	1,218,455	117,123	203,082	137,603
Restricted Receipts	2,722,012	2,770,676	3,603,601	4,564,795	3,860,637
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	6,163,379	5,294,210	2,323,735	2,283,369	4,950,000
Total Expenditures	42,050,267	42,474,426	40,128,092	41,202,444	44,331,218

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Supreme Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Classified			
PROJECT COORDINATOR	04426A	1.0	61,067
Subtotal Classified		1.0	61,067
Unclassified			
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	04429A	3.0	206,033
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	08822A	4.0	236,914
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II	04415A	1.0	46,974
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	08829A	1.0	92,247
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE	08834A	1.0	90,941
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/POLICY & PROGRAMS	04437A	1.0	119,165
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/POLICY & PROGRAMS	08837A	1.0	118,430
ASSISTANT BUILDING & GROUNDS OFFICER	00322A	4.0	236,290
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR POLICY OFFICE	08839A	6.0	713,736
ASSISTANT DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL	08831A	2.0	193,985
ASSISTANT STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PR	08842A	1.0	132,784
ASSISTANT STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, EMPLOYEE RELATIONS	08846A	1.0	147,009
ASSISTANT STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, FACILITIES, OPS & SECUR	08844A	1.0	166,267
ASSISTANT STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, FINANCE & BUDGET	08846A	1.0	169,902
ASSISTANT STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, JUDICIAL TECHNOLOGY	08846A	1.0	178,231
ASSISTANT SUPERVISING CLERK	04422A	2.0	102,675
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	08826A	3.0	207,487
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE	08808F	1.0	189,425
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE	8808JA	3.0	657,304
BAR ADMINISTRATOR (JUDICIAL)	08829A	1.0	75,308
CHAMBER LAW CLERK (JUDICIAL)	08823A	8.0	474,256
CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL	08844A	1.0	164,083
CHIEF JUSTICE (SUPREME COURT)	8809JA	1.0	250,042
CHIEF STAFF ATTORNEY	08835A	1.0	115,858
CHIEF SUPERVISORY CLERK (JUD)	08838A	1.0	105,920
CLERK (JUDICIAL)	04434A	1.0	92,182
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT	08844A	1.0	143,573
CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATOR	08831A	1.0	85,462
COORDINATOR- SPECIAL PROJECTS	08827A	4.0	306,679
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, STATE COURTS	08847A	1.0	167,361
DEPUTY CLERK INTERPRETER I (JUDICIAL)	04423A	3.0	182,436
DEPUTY CLERK (JUDICIAL)	04420A	2.0	103,486
DEPUTY DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL	08837A	1.0	93,781

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Supreme Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
DIRECTOR OF CONSUMER PROTECTION/EDUCATION PROGRAMS	08835A	1.0	94,187
DIVERSITY COORDINATOR (JUDICIAL)	08834A	1.0	90,941
EMPLOYEE RELATIONS OFFICER (JUD)	08829A	1.0	77,652
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR	08831A	1.0	92,674
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	04423A	1.0	61,747
FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS OFFICER	00320A	2.0	105,008
GENERAL COUNSEL	08846A	1.0	147,009
INFORMATION SYSTEMS SPECIALIST (JUDICIAL)	04419A	1.0	44,448
JOB CLASS NAME NEEDED	00322A	1.0	53,050
LAW CLERK (JUDICIARY)	08823A	17.0	1,013,722
LAW LIBRARIAN (JUDICIAL)	08836A	1.0	117,731
MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	0J312A	3.0	123,471
MONITORING & EVALUATION SPECIALIST	08823A	3.0	177,632
NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR/CYBER SECURITY SPECIALIST	04433A	1.0	88,754
OFFICE MANAGER	04424A	2.0	131,733
OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN (JUDICIAL)	04421A	1.0	51,851
OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN (JUDICIAL)	08821A	1.0	54,698
PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	04425A	1.0	67,399
PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	08825A	1.0	64,311
PRINCIPAL COURT FUNCTIONAL SPECIALIST (JUDICIAL)	04436A	1.0	110,229
PRINCIPAL DEPUTY CLERK (SYSTEMS)	08825A	1.0	70,742
PRINCIPAL SUPERVISORY CLERK	08830A	2.0	170,189
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (JUDICIAL)	04425A	1.0	64,221
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (JUDICIAL)	08825A	1.0	67,527
PROJECT MANAGER (JUDICIAL)	04430A	6.0	533,694
PROJECT MANAGER (JUDICIAL)	08830A	2.0	153,268
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER	08835A	1.0	111,060
RECORDS CUSTODIAN DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTION (JUDICIAL)	04418A	1.0	50,738
RECORDS CUSTODIAN-DOCUMENTS DIST.(STATE LIBRARY)	04418A	3.0	145,372
SECOND ASSISTANT LAW LIBRARIAN	04411A	0.6	26,548
SECR. TO DEPUTY GENERAL TREASURER	08817A	1.0	52,535
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	00321A	0.6	50,140
SENIOR DEVELOPER (JUDICIAL)	08835A	1.0	94,187
SENIOR FISCAL OFFICER	08827A	1.0	64,855
SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST	04423A	4.0	228,275
SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST (JUDICIAL)	04423A	1.0	61,747
SENIOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION SPECIALIST	08825A	4.0	257,244

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Supreme Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
SENIOR OPERATIONS CLERK	04418A	1.0	55,627
SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER (JUDICIAL)	08833A	1.0	87,677
SOFTWARE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	04433A	4.0	391,739
SPECIAL ASSISTANT	00829A	1.0	70,085
SPECIAL ASSISTANT	08829A	1.0	82,839
SPECIAL ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	08829A	6.0	476,322
SR CHAMBER LAW CLERK (JUD)	08827A	1.0	69,652
STAFF ATTORNEY	08829A	4.3	408,971
STAFF ATTORNEY II	08830A	4.0	322,606
STAFF ATTORNEY IV	08834A	1.0	107,814
STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR	08850A	1.0	201,065
Subtotal Unclassified		163.5	13,611,212
Subtotal		164.5	13,672,279
Transfer Out			(75,020)
Overtime (1.5)			309,769
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			372,177
Turnover			(416,642)
Total Salaries			13,862,563
Benefits			
FICA			1,043,780
Health Benefits			2,059,003
Payroll Accrual			78,177
Retiree Health			660,280
Retirement			3,976,899
Subtotal			7,818,139
Total Salaries and Benefits		164.5	21,680,702
Cost Per FTE Position			131,798
Statewide Benefit Assessment			537,293
Payroll Costs		164.5	22,217,995
Purchased Services			
Clerical and Temporary Services			7,300
Design and Engineering Services			42,000
Information Technology			578,668
Legal Services			38,000

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Supreme Court

	FY 2022	
	FTE	Cost
Purchased Services		
Medical Services		4,000
Other Contracts		186,000
Training and Educational Services		5,893
Subtotal		861,861
Total Personnel	164.5	23,079,856
Distribution by Source of Funds		
General Revenue	156.5	21,791,580
Federal Funds	1.0	137,567
Restricted Receipts	7.0	1,150,709
Total All Funds	164.5	23,079,856

Program Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Superior Court

Mission

Provide timely and fair adjudication of all cases within the jurisdiction of the Superior Court. Maintain a complete and accurate record for all cases that are filed with the Superior Court. Provide a written transcript of any proceeding or appeal.

Description

The program budget for Superior Court includes the operation of the Court itself, administrative services, and the operation of the clerks' offices. Superior Court has four locations: Providence/Bristol, Kent, Washington, and Newport Counties. It has jurisdiction over all felony cases and misdemeanor cases which have been appealed or waived from the District Court. The Court also hears all civil cases where the amount at issue exceeds \$10,000, equity cases wherein injunctive relief is sought, civil cases that are appealed from the District Court, and all probate and zoning appeals. The Superior Court has concurrent original jurisdiction with the District Court in all other actions at law in which the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000 yet does not exceed \$10,000. The administrative office of the Court handles all case scheduling, supervises the court secretaries and stenographers, and provides other administrative services. Each Court location has a clerk's office which is responsible for maintaining the records of the court. This includes creating files for each case, filing all papers that are received, updating the record in each case to reflect court proceedings and the papers that have been filed, and maintaining and marking all exhibits of evidence. Other major programs include jury selection, court-annexed arbitration, court ordered restitution, and administration of jurors' fees and expenses. In FY 1995, a Gun Court was established to adjudicate offenses where guns are involved, and the planning process began for the Adult Drug Court. In FY 2002, the Adult Drug Court was established preceded by the FY 2001 establishment of the Business Calendar.

Statutory History

The Superior Court is a statutorily authorized court. The jurisdiction and sessions of the court, and the role and responsibilities of the clerks, secretaries and stenographers of the court are outlined in R.I. General Laws § 8-2 through § 8-7.

Budget

Agency: Judiciary

Superior Court

Expenditures by Sub Program	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Jury Operations	1,456,268	1,313,497	1,392,428	1,395,369	1,713,510
Superior Court Operations	22,152,386	22,235,709	22,369,465	22,465,752	23,899,663
Total Expenditures	23,608,653	23,549,206	23,761,893	23,861,121	25,613,173
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	19,242,571	19,906,510	20,322,992	20,396,220	22,176,646
Contract Professional Services	452,380	428,835	465,036	465,036	497,000
Operating Supplies and Expenses	1,493,263	1,295,782	1,238,346	1,264,346	1,204,462
Assistance And Grants	1,835,737	1,655,117	1,602,478	1,602,478	1,602,478
Subtotal: Operating	23,023,951	23,286,245	23,628,852	23,728,080	25,480,586
Capital Purchases And Equipment	584,703	262,961	133,041	133,041	132,587
Subtotal: Other	584,703	262,961	133,041	133,041	132,587
Total Expenditures	23,608,653	23,549,206	23,761,893	23,861,121	25,613,173
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	23,212,052	23,065,702	23,332,817	23,405,806	25,094,424
Federal Funds	39,194	116,731	104,076	130,315	111,542
Restricted Receipts	357,407	366,773	325,000	325,000	407,207
Total Expenditures	23,608,653	23,549,206	23,761,893	23,861,121	25,613,173

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Superior Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Classified			
PROJECT COORDINATOR	04426A	1.0	66,971
PROJECT COORDINATOR	08826A	1.0	66,931
Subtotal Classified		2.0	133,902
Unclassified			
ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	00316A	1.0	43,415
ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	04415A	1.0	41,777
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	08829A	2.0	178,851
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	08846A	1.0	170,331
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK/TRAINING OFFICER	08833A	1.0	92,061
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER	08834A	1.0	86,379
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER	08835A	1.0	98,896
ADMINISTRATOR- ARBITRATION PROGRAM	08839A	1.0	111,056
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	08821A	1.0	60,499
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE	08834A	1.0	90,941
ASSISTANT CLERK (SUPERIOR COURT)	04418A	1.0	46,125
ASSISTANT MANAGER OF CALENDAR SERVICES (OUT COUNTIES)	04423A	1.0	50,652
ASSISTANT MANAGER OF CALENDAR SERVICES (PROVIDENCE)	04423A	1.0	58,941
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	08826A	2.0	127,662
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	08826A	1.0	66,931
ASSOCIATE JURY COMMISSIONER	08833A	1.0	92,061
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE	08805F	3.0	511,632
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE	8805JA	18.0	3,543,556
CLERK (KENT COUNTY)	08834A	1.0	90,941
CLERK (NEWPORT COUNTY)	08832A	1.0	88,770
CLERK (PROVIDENCE COUNTY)	08839A	1.0	137,107
CLERK (WASHINGTON COUNTY)	08832A	1.0	84,543
CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATOR	08831A	1.0	95,636
COORDINATOR- SPECIAL PROJECTS	04427A	1.0	79,804
COURT REPORTER	00127A	27.0	1,969,601
CUSTOMER SERVICE CLERK I	04420A	1.0	52,179
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK	08834A	1.0	100,035
DEPUTY CLERK I	04424A	31.0	1,889,607
DEPUTY CLERK (JUDICIAL)	04420A	10.0	477,195
DEPUTY CLERK (SUPERIOR COURT)	04420A	1.0	46,171
ELECTRONIC COURT REPORTER	00119A	2.0	97,946
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	08823A	1.0	57,344

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Superior Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
GENERAL CHIEF CLERK	08838A	1.0	116,512
GENERAL MAGISTRATE	8803JA	1.0	186,580
GENERAL OPERATIONS ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	00314A	1.0	41,343
GENERAL OPERATIONS ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	04414A	13.0	514,221
JURY COMMISSIONER	08837A	1.0	100,788
MAGISTRATE	8803JA	3.0	548,788
MANAGER OF CALENDAR SERVICES (PROVIDENCE)	04424A	1.0	68,794
MONITORING & EVALUATION SPECIALIST	08823A	1.0	55,386
MONITORING & REVALUATION SPECIALIST (JUD)	08823A	1.0	59,282
OFFICE COORDINATOR/CLERK (JUD)	04428A	1.0	81,345
POLICY AIDE	04418A	2.0	91,016
POLICY ASSOCIATE	08833A	1.0	103,020
PRESIDING JUSTICE (SUPERIOR COURT)	8807JA	1.0	225,118
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR	04425A	1.0	72,572
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (JUDICIAL)	08825A	1.0	64,311
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS SPECIALIST	04420A	1.0	52,179
PROGRAM COORDINATOR (JUDICIAL)	08819A	1.0	51,168
PROJECT MANAGER (JUDICIAL)	08830A	2.0	156,496
SECR. TO DEPUTY GENERAL TREASURER	00119A	1.0	50,868
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	04421A	2.0	112,579
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	08717A	1.0	44,487
SENIOR ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR	04426A	1.0	63,782
SOCIAL CASEWORKER (JUDICIAL)	08822A	0.6	51,885
SPECIAL ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	08829A	2.0	163,083
SPECIAL MAGISTRATE	8803JA	1.0	191,883
SUPERVISING CLERK (JUDICIARY)	08826A	2.0	156,277
Subtotal Unclassified		163.6	14,162,408
Subtotal		165.6	14,296,310
Transfer In			37,510
Overtime (1.5)			19,845
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			64,000
Turnover			(632,503)
Total Salaries			13,785,162

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Superior Court

	FY 2022	
	FTE	Cost
Benefits		
Contract Stipends		0
FICA		1,035,793
Health Benefits		2,197,188
Payroll Accrual		79,401
Retiree Health		534,206
Retirement		3,976,186
Subtotal		7,822,774
Total Salaries and Benefits	165.6	21,607,936
Cost Per FTE Position		130,483
Statewide Benefit Assessment		568,710
Payroll Costs	165.6	22,176,646
Purchased Services		
Clerical and Temporary Services		7,000
Design and Engineering Services		18,000
Legal Services		325,000
Medical Services		12,000
Other Contracts		135,000
Subtotal		497,000
Total Personnel	165.6	22,673,646
Distribution by Source of Funds		
General Revenue	164.6	22,174,897
Federal Funds	1.0	91,542
Restricted Receipts	0.0	407,207
Total All Funds	165.6	22,673,646

Program Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Family Court

Mission

Adjudicate the cases within the jurisdiction of the Family Court in a timely and fair manner. Provide assistance to families involved in litigation before the court.

Description

The program budget for Family Court includes the operation of the Court itself, the administrative office of the Court, the clerks' offices, and the operation of several ancillary programs, including juvenile intake services, the Family Services Unit, the Collections Unit and the Court Appointed Special Advocate Unit. The Family Court handles all criminal cases involving juveniles; juvenile status offenses, such as truancy and disobedience; all cases where parents have been charged with neglect, abandonment or abuse of their children; and other miscellaneous cases involving children, such as child marriages and paternity issues. The Court also hears all divorces and issues stemming from a divorce, such as orders for child support and temporary allowances. The Court has offices in Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. There are clerks' offices in each of these locations, and the office staff is responsible for preparing all court calendars and maintaining records of the Court. All papers are filed with the clerk's office, and this office sets up a file for each case and maintains an up-to-date record of court proceedings and the papers that have been filed. Because of the special nature of the Family Court, it provides a variety of services to families. For example, the Family Services Unit provides alcohol and drug screens and supervises visitation, in addition to providing investigative services to the court. The Child Support Collections Unit handles the collection and disbursement of child support payments. Specialty courts include the Juvenile Drug Court, the Family Treatment Drug Court, the Domestic Violence Court, the Truancy Court, and the Mental Health Court Clinic.

Statutory History

The Family Court is authorized by statute. The composition and jurisdiction of the Family Court is identified in R.I. General Laws § 8-10.

Budget

Agency: Judiciary

Family Court

Expenditures by Sub Program	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Operations	24,633,979	25,485,724	26,041,057	26,225,642	26,938,259
Total Expenditures	24,633,979	25,485,724	26,041,057	26,225,642	26,938,259
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	21,016,507	22,241,836	22,381,407	22,549,732	23,623,871
Contract Professional Services	473,304	373,608	497,246	497,246	487,500
Operating Supplies and Expenses	1,690,141	1,228,613	1,553,151	1,560,561	1,160,135
Assistance And Grants	1,347,825	1,489,574	1,444,803	1,453,653	1,537,303
Capital Purchases And Equipment	0	0	35,000	35,000	0
Subtotal: Operating	24,527,776	25,333,631	25,911,607	26,096,192	26,808,809
Capital Purchases And Equipment	106,202	152,092	129,450	129,450	129,450
Subtotal: Other	106,202	152,092	129,450	129,450	129,450
Total Expenditures	24,633,979	25,485,724	26,041,057	26,225,642	26,938,259
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	21,746,800	22,543,306	22,805,368	22,880,351	23,831,402
Federal Funds	2,887,179	2,942,418	3,235,689	3,345,291	3,106,857
Total Expenditures	24,633,979	25,485,724	26,041,057	26,225,642	26,938,259

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Family Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	0J320A	1.0	49,370
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II	08815A	0.6	26,955
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	0J320A	2.0	120,622
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE JUSTICE	8806JA	1.0	211,072
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	08846A	1.0	175,420
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	0J320A	1.0	60,770
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER	08834A	1.0	95,488
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	0J324A	2.0	122,492
ADMINISTRATOR - CLERK (FAMILY COURT)	08843A	1.0	152,574
ASSISTANT INTAKE SUPERVISOR (FAMILY COURT)	08828A	6.0	446,107
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE	08805F	1.0	170,544
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE	8805JA	9.0	1,745,402
CASA COORDINATOR	05722A	1.0	56,355
CHIEF JUDGE- FAMILY COURT	8807JA	1.0	225,118
COORDINATOR SPECIAL PROJECTS (JUCICIAL)	08827A	1.0	73,135
COURT REPORTER	00127A	15.0	1,122,891
DATA ENTRY OPERATOR (JUDICIAL)	0J312A	1.0	40,279
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK (JUDICIAL)	08834A	1.0	112,969
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK	08834A	4.0	422,848
DEPUTY CLERK I	0J324A	25.0	1,631,222
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	08834A	2.0	211,352
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/COMMUNICATIONS	08841A	1.0	138,698
DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS	08840A	2.0	278,926
ELECTRONIC COURT REPORTER	00119A	9.0	473,788
EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	08830A	1.0	82,160
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	08836A	1.0	107,171
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	08836A	1.0	102,298
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR	08831A	1.0	81,392
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/EXECUTIVE ADMINSTRATOR (JUDICIAL)	08831A	1.0	97,670
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	08823A	1.0	62,246
GENERAL OPERATIONS ASSISTANT	0J314A	20.0	901,363
JOB CLASS NAME NEEDED	0J324A	3.0	173,784
MAGISTRATE	8803JA	8.0	1,434,630
MAGISTRATE OF THE FAMILY COURT	08803F	1.0	159,902
MEDIATION COUNSELOR II (JUDICIAL)	0J324A	5.0	337,127
OPERATIONS CLERK (JUDICIAL)	0J302A	0.4	33,629
PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	0J314A	0.6	41,342

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Family Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (JUDICIAL)	08825A	2.0	125,612
PRINCIPAL PLANNING AND PROGRAM SPECIALIST	05728A	1.0	79,616
PRINCIPAL PLANNING & PROGRAM SPECIALIST (JUDICIAL)	05728A	1.0	72,378
PROJECT MANAGER (JUDICIAL)	08830A	1.0	89,985
PROJECT SPECIALIST (JUDICIAL)	0J321A	1.0	51,607
PSYCHOLOGIST (JUD)	08841A	1.0	121,325
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	0J317A	1.0	52,535
SENIOR POLICY ASSOCIATE	08838A	1.0	127,860
SOCIAL CASEWORKER II (JUDICIAL)	05724A	4.0	251,200
SOCIAL CASEWORKER (JUDICIAL)	0J322A	2.0	113,784
SR MANAGER-CALENDAR SERVICES (JUD)	0J328A	1.0	85,651
STAFF ATTORNEY III	00832A	1.0	78,617
STAFF ATTORNEY III	08832A	9.0	795,527
STAFF ATTORNEY V (JUDICIAL)	08836A	5.0	546,213
SUPERVISING CLERK (JUDICIARY)	0J326A	1.0	77,798
SUPERVISING COORDINATOR (JUDICIAL)	08829A	3.0	220,687
SUPERVISORY CLERK	0J326A	3.0	230,083
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	0J322A	1.0	62,581
Subtotal Unclassified		172.6	14,962,170
Subtotal		172.6	14,962,170
Transfer In			37,510
Overtime (1.5)			6,245
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			337,402
Turnover			(622,298)
Total Salaries			14,721,029
Benefits			
Contract Stipends			0
FICA			1,117,436
Health Benefits			2,292,933
Payroll Accrual			85,418
Retiree Health			680,156
Retirement			4,133,262
Subtotal			8,309,205
Total Salaries and Benefits		172.6	23,030,234
Cost Per FTE Position			133,431

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Family Court

	FY 2022	
	FTE	Cost
Statewide Benefit Assessment		593,637
Payroll Costs	172.6	23,623,871
Purchased Services		
Design and Engineering Services		28,000
Management & Consultant Services		75,000
Other Contracts		334,500
Training and Educational Services		50,000
Subtotal		487,500
Total Personnel	172.6	24,111,371
Distribution by Source of Funds		
General Revenue	164.6	21,778,943
Federal Funds	8.0	2,332,428
Total All Funds	172.6	24,111,371

Program Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

District Court

Mission

Adjudicate the cases within the jurisdiction of the District Court in a timely and fair manner. Maintain a complete and accurate record for every case.

Description

The District Court consists of a chief judge, an administrative judge and associate judges. The court is also served by two magistrates. The program budget for the District Court includes the cost of operation for the Court itself and the operation of the clerk's offices. The District Court handles all misdemeanor cases, all civil cases where the amount in dispute is under \$5,000, trespass and ejection cases between landlords and tenants, and all small claims, which includes certain civil cases where the amount in dispute is under \$2,500. The District Court also has concurrent jurisdiction with the Superior Court over all matters in which the amount in dispute is greater than \$5,000 but less than \$10,000. The District Court handles most felony bail hearings in capital and other serious cases. The District Court also holds hearings on commitments under the mental health and drug abuse laws and handles certain agency appeals. The Court has four locations, in Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties, with a clerk's office at each location. The clerks' offices maintain all the records for the Court. As with the other courts, all papers are filed in the clerk's office. The office creates a file for every case and maintains an up-to-date record on what has happened in the case. In addition, the Pretrial Services Unit was established in FY 2002 to provide pre-arraignment and post-arraignment services to defendants.

Statutory History

The District Court is a statutorily authorized court. The powers and jurisdiction of the Court are defined in R.I. General Laws § 8-8.

Budget

Agency: Judiciary

District Court

Expenditures by Sub Program	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Operations	13,253,875	14,143,447	14,200,491	14,385,348	14,782,954
Total Expenditures	13,253,875	14,143,447	14,200,491	14,385,348	14,782,954
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	11,573,768	12,441,156	12,394,721	12,438,703	12,769,299
Contract Professional Services	202,603	144,164	170,102	170,102	180,000
Operating Supplies and Expenses	210,635	306,208	378,589	424,464	451,576
Assistance And Grants	1,203,381	1,194,568	1,199,241	1,294,241	1,324,241
Subtotal: Operating	13,190,387	14,086,096	14,142,653	14,327,510	14,725,116
Capital Purchases And Equipment	63,488	57,351	57,838	57,838	57,838
Subtotal: Other	63,488	57,351	57,838	57,838	57,838
Total Expenditures	13,253,875	14,143,447	14,200,491	14,385,348	14,782,954
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	13,253,875	14,083,447	14,140,491	14,184,473	14,537,079
Federal Funds	0	0	0	140,875	185,875
Restricted Receipts	0	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Total Expenditures	13,253,875	14,143,447	14,200,491	14,385,348	14,782,954

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

District Court

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	04429A	1.0	79,375
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO CHIEF SUPERVISORY CLERK	08826A	1.0	66,931
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	08846A	1.0	161,710
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK (DISTRICT COURT)	04433A	2.0	200,754
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE	8805JA	1.0	204,653
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/POLICY & PROGRAMS	04437A	1.0	102,521
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/POLICY & PROGRAMS	08837A	1.0	100,788
ASSISTANT CLERK	04418A	10.0	463,505
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR POLICY OFFICE	08839A	1.0	130,491
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	08826A	7.0	466,189
ASSOCIATE JUDGE- DISTRICT COURT	8810JA	12.0	2,233,873
CHIEF JUDGE DISTRICT COURT	8807JA	1.0	218,897
CLERK (JUDICIAL)	04434A	1.0	105,913
CLERK/MAGISTRATE	8803JA	1.0	191,883
DEPUTY CHIEF INVESTIGATOR	04426A	3.0	195,910
DEPUTY CLERK I	04424A	23.0	1,464,967
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (JUDICIAL)	08832A	1.0	84,543
GENERAL OPERATIONS ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	04414A	13.0	528,725
MAGISTRATE	8803JA	1.0	191,882
OFFICE MANAGER	04424A	1.0	58,548
OPERATIONS MANAGER (JUD)	08828A	2.0	144,756
PROJECT MANAGER (JUDICIAL)	04430A	1.0	88,611
RECORDS AIDE (JUDICIARY)	04414A	2.0	81,202
SUPERVISING CLERK (JUDICIARY)	04426A	7.0	518,676
Subtotal Unclassified		95.0	8,085,303
Subtotal		95.0	8,085,303
Overtime (1.5)			12,557
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			39,600
Turnover			(304,689)
Total Salaries			7,832,771

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

District Court

	FY 2022	
	FTE	Cost
Benefits		
FICA		590,522
Health Benefits		1,333,282
Payroll Accrual		46,563
Retiree Health		286,760
Retirement		2,359,903
Subtotal		4,617,030
Total Salaries and Benefits	95.0	12,449,801
Cost Per FTE Position		131,051
Statewide Benefit Assessment		319,498
Payroll Costs	95.0	12,769,299
Purchased Services		
Other Contracts		180,000
Subtotal		180,000
Total Personnel	95.0	12,949,299
Distribution by Source of Funds		
General Revenue	95.0	12,949,299
Total All Funds	95.0	12,949,299

Program Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Traffic Tribunal

Mission

Adjudicate the cases within the jurisdiction of the Traffic Tribunal in a timely and fair manner. Maintain a complete and accurate record for every case.

Description

The Traffic Tribunal was created July 1, 1999. It is the successor to the Administrative Adjudication Court. It consists of associate judges and magistrates. It is under the supervision of the Chief Magistrate, who is the administrative head of the Traffic Tribunal with the power to make rules for regulating practice, procedure and business within the Traffic Tribunal. The Traffic Tribunal hears and determines civil traffic violations. It has exclusive jurisdiction over certain offenses and concurrent jurisdiction with the Municipal Courts over others. The Traffic Tribunal hears certain administrative appeals for the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The Appeals Panel of the Traffic Tribunal hears appeals from the Traffic Tribunal and the Municipal Courts. The Traffic Tribunal does not hear those offenses committed in places within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, or criminal motor vehicle offenses such as driving so as to endanger resulting in death and driving while under the influence of alcohol and drugs, which state law specifies will be heard under the jurisdiction of other courts. In 2013 the Traffic Tribunal received exclusive jurisdiction over civil offenses related to possession of marijuana violations of one ounce (1 oz.) or less. The Traffic Tribunal currently sits at its main courthouse in the John O. Pastore Center, 670 New London Avenue in Cranston; Traffic Tribunal also sits in Wakefield.

Statutory History

The powers and jurisdiction of the Traffic Tribunal are defined in R.I. General Laws § 8-8.2. The 1999 session of the General Assembly passed Senate Bill S932 entitled the Rhode Island Traffic Safety and Accountability Act of 1999. This act abolished the Administrative Adjudication Court effective July 1, 1999 and created the Traffic Tribunal.

Budget

Agency: Judiciary

Traffic Tribunal

Expenditures by Sub Program	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Operations	8,582,370	8,858,948	8,966,306	8,994,491	9,786,908
Total Expenditures	8,582,370	8,858,948	8,966,306	8,994,491	9,786,908
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	7,620,933	7,986,736	8,113,560	8,141,745	8,816,292
Contract Professional Services	250,385	165,392	102,581	102,581	250,000
Operating Supplies and Expenses	375,140	369,722	413,347	413,347	383,798
Assistance And Grants	273,919	273,919	273,919	273,919	273,919
Subtotal: Operating	8,520,376	8,795,769	8,903,407	8,931,592	9,724,009
Capital Purchases And Equipment	61,994	63,179	62,899	62,899	62,899
Subtotal: Other	61,994	63,179	62,899	62,899	62,899
Total Expenditures	8,582,370	8,858,948	8,966,306	8,994,491	9,786,908
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	8,582,370	8,858,948	8,966,306	8,994,491	9,786,908
Total Expenditures	8,582,370	8,858,948	8,966,306	8,994,491	9,786,908

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Traffic Tribunal

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK I	04429A	4.0	343,180
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK OF OFFICE SERVICES (JUDICIAL)	04427A	4.0	260,758
ADMINISTRATOR I (JUDICIAL)	08846A	1.0	154,359
ADMINISTRATIVE MAGISTRATE (JUDICIAL)	8811JA	1.0	183,233
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR POLICY OFFICE	00839A	1.0	103,156
CHIEF MAGISTRATE	8805JA	1.0	204,653
CLERK/TRAFFIC TRIBUNAL (JUDICIAL)	08838A	1.0	121,808
COORDINATOR- SPECIAL PROJECTS	04427A	3.0	194,775
COORDINATOR SPECIAL PROJECTS (JUCICIAL)	08827A	1.0	81,841
CUSTOMER SERVICE CLERK	04418A	7.0	341,164
CUSTOMER SERVICE CLERK I	04420A	3.0	173,928
DATA ENTRY OPERATOR	00312A	1.0	39,586
DEPUTY CLERK I	04424A	1.0	52,678
DEPUTY CLERK (JUDICIAL)	04420A	9.0	466,602
FISCAL OFFICER (JUDICIAL)	04420A	1.0	52,179
GENERAL OPERATIONS ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	00314A	1.0	41,343
GENERAL OPERATIONS ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	04414A	16.6	696,631
JUDGE ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION COURT	8803JA	2.0	385,848
MAGISTRATE TRAFFIC TRIBUNAL	8803JA	4.0	730,054
POLICY ASSOCIATE (JUDICIAL)	08834A	1.0	84,577
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR	04425A	2.0	139,146
PRINCIPAL SUPERVISORY CLERK	08830A	1.0	91,941
SECURITY OFFICER	04419A	7.0	332,667
SENIOR OPERATIONS CLERK I	04418A	1.0	50,738
SENIOR OPERATIONS CLERK (JUDICIAL)	04416A	1.0	45,413
SENIOR POLICY ASSOCIATE	08838A	1.0	111,216
SPECIAL ASSISTANT	08829A	1.0	86,604
Subtotal Unclassified		77.6	5,570,078
Subtotal		77.6	5,570,078
Overtime (1.5)			7,491
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			54,600
Turnover			(599,969)
Total Salaries			5,032,200

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Traffic Tribunal

	FY 2022	
	FTE	Cost
Benefits		
FICA		420,425
Health Benefits		980,856
Payroll Accrual		33,233
Retiree Health		294,102
Retirement		1,835,457
Subtotal		3,564,073
Total Salaries and Benefits	77.6	8,596,273
Cost Per FTE Position		110,777
Statewide Benefit Assessment		220,019
Payroll Costs	77.6	8,816,292
Purchased Services		
Other Contracts		250,000
Subtotal		250,000
Total Personnel	77.6	9,066,292
Distribution by Source of Funds		
General Revenue	77.6	9,066,292
Total All Funds	77.6	9,066,292

Program Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Worker's Compensation Court

Mission

Hear all disputes regarding workers' compensation claims. Decide all controversies efficiently, effectively, and economically.

Description

The Workers' Compensation Court is a member of the unified judicial system and has the same authority and power to subpoena and to cite and punish for civil contempt as exists in the Superior Court. It hears and decides all controversies as they pertain to Workers' Compensation in an efficient, effective, and economical manner. Presently, it has nine judges and one chief judge as well as support staff which includes administrators, hearing reporters, and clerical staff. It is supported from the Workers' Compensation Administrative Fund. Upon the filing of a petition for benefits arising out of a work-related injury case, a case file is set up and notices are sent to all parties. Before proceeding to a full evidentiary hearing, a judge conducts a pretrial conference, with a view of expediting the case and reducing the issues in dispute to a minimum. If the matter cannot be resolved informally the judge must enter a pretrial order as to the right of the employee to receive benefits (approximately 70 percent of all litigation is concluded at this point). Those cases not resolved at pretrial are heard by the same judge for trial. At the trial, a judge will hear all questions. The judge will then decide the merits of the controversy pursuant to the law and a fair preponderance of the evidence. From this decision a decree is entered. At this stage either party may appeal to the Appellate Division. The Appellate Division consists of three judges assigned by the Chief Judge, none of whom is the Trial Judge. The Appellate Division judges review the transcript and the record of the case along with the appellant's reasons for appeal and memoranda of law. The Appellate Division then decides the matter and a final decree of the Appellate Division is entered. If either party is aggrieved by the decision of the Appellate Division, they may petition the Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari. Upon petition, the Supreme Court may review any decree of the Workers' Compensation Court.

Statutory History

R.I. General Laws § 28-29 through § 28-38 includes provisions relating to the Workers' Compensation Court.

Budget

Agency: Judiciary

Worker's Compensation Court

Expenditures by Sub Program	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Operations	7,502,138	8,099,248	8,874,787	8,901,431	9,309,410
Total Expenditures	7,502,138	8,099,248	8,874,787	8,901,431	9,309,410
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	6,077,064	6,791,126	7,229,017	7,255,661	7,604,936
Contract Professional Services	125,463	96,112	146,610	146,610	146,610
Operating Supplies and Expenses	561,261	480,064	780,237	780,237	840,241
Assistance And Grants	678,912	680,314	687,210	687,210	685,910
Subtotal: Operating	7,442,700	8,047,615	8,843,074	8,869,718	9,277,697
Capital Purchases And Equipment	59,438	51,633	31,713	31,713	31,713
Subtotal: Other	59,438	51,633	31,713	31,713	31,713
Total Expenditures	7,502,138	8,099,248	8,874,787	8,901,431	9,309,410
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
Restricted Receipts	7,502,138	8,099,248	8,874,787	8,901,431	9,309,410
Total Expenditures	7,502,138	8,099,248	8,874,787	8,901,431	9,309,410

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Worker's Compensation Court

			FY 2022	
			FTE	Cost
Classified				
PROJECT COORDINATOR	00326A	1.0		63,629
PROJECT COORDINATOR	0J326A	1.0		76,996
Subtotal Classified		2.0		140,625
Unclassified				
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	04429A	1.0		75,454
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK OF OFFICE SERVICES	00327A	1.0		80,828
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE	8805JA	1.0		198,997
ADMINISTRATOR I (JUDICIAL)	08846A	1.0		154,359
ADMINISTRATOR- WORKERS' COMPENSATION	08841A	1.0		121,325
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/POLICY & PROGRAMS	08837A	1.0		122,186
CHIEF JUDGE- WORKERS COMPENSATION COURT	8807JA	1.0		202,785
COURT REPORTER	00327A	5.0		400,445
COURT REPORTER	05727A	2.0		129,710
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION	08837A	1.0		120,946
DEPUTY CLERK I	00324A	1.0		61,245
DEPUTY CLERK I	04424A	1.0		52,678
DEPUTY CLERK I	0J324A	9.0		566,525
DEPUTY CLERK (JUDICIAL)	04420A	0.4		45,446
DPTY ADMSTR MEDCL ADVSRY BD(JU	08837A	1.0		110,174
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (JUDICIAL)	00336A	1.0		111,765
JUDGE- WORKERS COMPENSATION COURT	8810JA	8.0		1,422,545
LAW CLERK (JUDICIARY)	08823A	3.0		177,846
MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD ADMINISTRATOR	08840A	1.0		116,190
MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD COORDINATOR	04422A	2.0		102,256
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (JUDICIAL)	04425A	2.0		129,320
PROJECT MANAGER (JUDICIAL)	08830A	1.0		94,370
SENIOR ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR	00326A	1.0		76,995
SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY (JUD)	08823A	0.6		35,569
SPECIAL ASSISTANT (JUDICIARY)	08829A	1.0		81,728
Subtotal Unclassified		48.0		4,791,687
Subtotal		50.0		4,932,312
Overtime (1.5)				2,500
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages				61,727
Turnover				(138,632)
Total Salaries				4,857,907

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Worker's Compensation Court

	FY 2022	
	FTE	Cost
Benefits		
FICA		357,406
Health Benefits		678,478
Payroll Accrual		27,119
Retiree Health		165,269
Retirement		1,323,058
Subtotal		2,551,330
Total Salaries and Benefits	50.0	7,409,237
Cost Per FTE Position		148,185
Statewide Benefit Assessment		195,699
Payroll Costs	50.0	7,604,936
Purchased Services		
Clerical and Temporary Services		1,000
Design and Engineering Services		7,500
Information Technology		47,110
Legal Services		20,000
Other Contracts		71,000
Subtotal		146,610
Total Personnel	50.0	7,751,546
Distribution by Source of Funds		
Restricted Receipts	50.0	7,751,546
Total All Funds	50.0	7,751,546

Program Summary

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Judicial Tenure & Discipline

Mission

Ensure the integrity of the Rhode Island Court System. Investigate reasonable allegations of wrongdoing by Rhode Island judges. Recommend, when appropriate, sanctions to be imposed against Rhode Island judges.

Description

The Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline, a program of the Rhode Island Judiciary, is responsible for conducting investigations of judges suspected of or charged with misconduct. The commission, upon receiving from any person a verified statement, not unfounded or frivolous, alleging facts indicating that a Justice of the Supreme Court, the Superior Court, the Family Court, the District Court, the Workers' Compensation Court, the Traffic Tribunal and the Probate Court judges or magistrates and judicial officers appointed pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws is guilty of a serious violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct or the Canons of Judicial Ethics, or of a willful and persistent failure to perform his/her duties, or disabling substance abuse, or conduct that brings the judicial office into serious disrepute, or that such a judge has a physical or mental disability that seriously interferes and will continue to interfere with the performance of his/her duties, shall make a preliminary investigation to determine whether formal proceedings shall be instituted and a hearing held. The Commission may, on its own initiative, make such a preliminary investigation, without receiving a verified statement, to determine whether formal proceedings shall be instituted, and a hearing held. When formal proceedings are ordered, the justice is given formal notice of the charges and of the time fixed for a public hearing. The justice is required to appear at the hearing, may be represented by counsel, offer evidence and otherwise participate in said hearing. Recommendation concerning the disciplining of any justice shall be made in a report to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court is required to grant a review if requested by said justice. After the hearing, the Supreme Court may affirm, modify or reject the Commission's recommendation(s).

Statutory History

The Commission on Judicial Tenure and Discipline was established in 1974 under Rhode Island Public Law 1972, Ch. 136, Section 1 for the purpose of conducting investigations upon the filing of a verified complaint or upon its own initiative of the conduct of judges of the Supreme, Superior, Family and District Courts. Subsequent enactments in P.L.1983, Ch. 26 and P.L. 1990, Ch. 332, Article 1, sec. 13 and P.L. 1991, Ch. 132, sec. 2 as well as P.L. 1991, Ch. 205, sec. 2 and P.L. 1996, Ch. 312 enlarged the jurisdiction to include the Workers' Compensation Court, the Traffic Tribunal as well as all judges of Probate Courts in any city or town in the State of Rhode Island. P.L. 2007, Ch. 178 altered the composition of the Commission.

Budget

Agency: Judiciary

Judicial Tenure & Discipline

Expenditures by Sub Program	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Enacted Budget	2021 Revised Budget	2022 Recommended
Operations	119,563	121,904	154,779	155,231	155,863
Total Expenditures	119,563	121,904	154,779	155,231	155,863
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	117,355	121,632	122,271	122,723	123,150
Contract Professional Services	0	0	30,000	30,000	30,000
Operating Supplies and Expenses	2,208	271	2,508	2,508	2,713
Subtotal: Operating	119,563	121,904	154,779	155,231	155,863
Total Expenditures	119,563	121,904	154,779	155,231	155,863
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	119,563	121,904	154,779	155,231	155,863
Total Expenditures	119,563	121,904	154,779	155,231	155,863

Personnel

Agency: Judiciary

Judicial Tenure & Discipline

		FY 2022	
		FTE	Cost
Unclassified			
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRPERSON	08829A	1.0	79,073
Subtotal Unclassified		1.0	79,073
Subtotal		1.0	79,073
Total Salaries			79,073
Benefits			
FICA			6,050
Health Benefits			7,131
Payroll Accrual			462
Retiree Health			4,175
Retirement			23,136
Subtotal			40,954
Total Salaries and Benefits		1.0	120,027
Cost Per FTE Position			120,027
Statewide Benefit Assessment			3,123
Payroll Costs		1.0	123,150
Purchased Services			
Legal Services			30,000
Subtotal			30,000
Total Personnel		1.0	153,150
Distribution by Source of Funds			
General Revenue		1.0	153,150
Total All Funds		1.0	153,150