



Judicial System of Virginia

Executive Amendments
2008-2010 Biennial Budget

Supreme Court of Virginia
Office of the Executive Secretary
January 22, 2008

Magistrate System

- The 2006 General Assembly directed the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia to submit a report regarding the selection, training, oversight, accountability, and scheduling of magistrates, and the use of videoconferencing technology.

Magistrate System

Major recommendations:

- Transfer supervisory authority from chief circuit court judges to the Office of the Executive Secretary.
- Provide magistrates with regional authority to make most efficient use of technology and personnel resources.
- Divide state into regions and establish magistrate regional supervisor position to oversee the chief magistrates in each region.

Magistrate System

Major recommendations:

- Enhance educational requirements for magistrates and chief magistrates.
- Expand training provided by OES for new magistrates.
- Provide management training for chief magistrates.
- Require all incumbent magistrates to attend mandatory training course and be re-certified.

Magistrate System

Major recommendations:

- Increase compensation to attract and retain qualified applicants for magistrates and chief magistrate positions.
- HB903 (Patron – Putney) addresses legislative changes necessary for magistrate reforms.

Magistrate System

Governor provided funding to support the majority of these recommendations.

FY09 - \$3.6 million for 35 positions and training

FY10 - \$4.3 million to maintain previous year funding and provides for an additional 11 positions

Magistrate System

Budget Amendment submitted for the improved compensation plan.

FY09 - \$1.9 million to move incumbent magistrates toward new classification plan, increases effective 1/1/09.

FY10 – Additional \$5.9 million (\$7.8 million total) to complete the transition to new classification plan, increases effective 7/1/09.

Court-appointed Attorney Waivers

2007-08 Appropriation - \$8.2 million

Expenditures to Date:

Waivers Requested – 1,331 waivers

Waivers Approved – 1,258 waivers

Total Payments - \$312,681

Court-appointed Attorney Waivers

Governor's 2008-10 Budget Bill:

Provided an additional \$1 million each year to implement a waiver program for court-appointed attorneys representing juveniles in cases where the charge would be classified as a felony if committed by an adult.

Foreign Language Interpreters

FY06:

- Virginia provided interpreter services in 59,539 cases at a total cost of \$3,649,067

FY07:

- Virginia provided interpreter services in 67,746 cases at a total cost of \$4,164,139
- 75% of the total interpreter costs were incurred in six jurisdictions: Fairfax, Prince William, Arlington, Alexandria, Harrisonburg/Rockingham, and Chesterfield.

Foreign Language Interpreters

FY08: - General Assembly funded 10 positions

- 1 Coordinator
- 9 staff interpreters:
 - Alexandria (1), Arlington (1), Fairfax (4), Harrisonburg (1), Prince William (2)

Benefits: Staff Interpreters

- Cost Savings
 - In FY07, Virginia provided interpreter services in 67,746 cases at a total cost of \$4,164,139 or approximately \$61 per case.
 - Since the start of the staff Spanish language interpreter program, the average cost per individual served where the program is active is \$41.74.
- Improved quality of services
- Reduced waiting times
- Improved scheduling and docket management

Foreign Language Interpreters

Governor's Biennial Budget 2008-2010

Funding provided for 5 additional staff interpreter positions

Budget Amendment

Seeking funding for an additional 5 staff interpreters to expand the program into other high volume parts of the state and increase service in pilot regions

Criminal Fund Account

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Increase</u>		
2004-05	\$ 77,139,581	\$ 3,324,258		
2005-06	81,231,217	4,091,636		
2006-07	93,730,490	12,499,273		
	OES			
	Projected	Governor's	Required	
	Expenditures	Budget Bill	Funds	
2007-08	100,647,660	99,261,077	1,386,583	
2008-09	105,731,380	97,761,076	7,970,304	
2009-10	113,515,530	97,761,076	15,754,454	

Drug Courts

Currently 28 (14 State Funded) Drug Treatment Court Programs

Models:

- Adult, Juvenile, Family, DUI

Budget Amendments:

- 10 existing Adult and Juvenile (Non-state funded)
- 3 existing Family (Non-state funded)
- 1 Assistant Drug Court Coordinator
- 1 Drug Treatment Court Database Analyst

Adult and Juvenile

Adult:

Chesapeake, Hopewell, Loudoun, Staunton, Suffolk and Tazewell

Juvenile:

Fairfax, Hanover, Lee-Scott-Wise, and Prince William.

Federal funding:

Federal funding ended in October 2007 for eight programs. Funding is to end June 2008 for the Suffolk program. Tazewell is funded by the locality.

Family Drug Courts

Family:

Newport News, Alexandria and Charlottesville

Federal funding:

Federal funding will end in March 2008 for the Charlottesville program. Newport News and Alexandria are funded by the locality.

Programs - consequence of not funding

Programs will either:

- Close
- Substantially reduce their capacity and/or services

Current condition:

- Richmond Family closed June 2007
- Hanover Juvenile and Suffolk Adult announced closing effective July 30, 2008
- Layoffs: Chesapeake, Lee, Scott and Wise.

Assistant Coordinator and Database Analyst

Assistant Coordinator:

- Assist Drug Court Coordinator
- Monitor and manage grants
- Facilitate drug treatment court activity and performance measures

Database Analyst:

- Oversee drug treatment court web-based information technology system used in evaluation efforts
 - System designed in 2006. All programs required to use effective July 1, 2007.

Note: Governor provided one-time funding of \$225,000 for continued evaluation efforts

Positions - consequence of not funding

- Essential functions related to oversight and maintenance of existing programs and the web-based information technology system may be adversely impacted or substantially delayed.