

## COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES

### *Court Security*

#### SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS

	Yellow Book
Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriation	\$ 750,163,000
Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriation Request	\$ 892,032,000
Requested Increase from Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriation	\$ 141,869,000

#### APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

#### COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES

##### COURT SECURITY

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, incident to the provision of protective guard services for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court or Administrative Office of the United States Courts operations, the procurement, installation, and maintenance of security systems and equipment for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court or Administrative Office of the United States Courts operations, building ingress-egress control, inspection of mail and packages, directed security patrols, perimeter security, basic security services provided by the Federal Protective Service, and other similar activities as authorized by section 1010 of the Judicial Improvement and Access to Justice Act (Public Law 100-702), [\$750,163,000/\$892,032,000 of which not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall remain available until expended, to be expended directly or transferred to the United States Marshals Service, which shall be responsible for administering the Judicial Facility Security Program consistent with standards or guidelines agreed to by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and the Attorney General: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading may be used for managing a Judiciary-wide program to facilitate security and emergency management services among the Judiciary, United States Marshals Service, Federal Protective Service, General Services Administration, other Federal agencies, state and local governments and the public; and for purposes authorized by the Daniel Aderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-263, Division C, Title LIX, subtitle D) and 28 U.S.C. 604(a)(24).

Based on enactment of the FY 2025 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act (P.L. 119-4), the judiciary's starting point for developing its FY 2026 budget request reflects bill language and appropriations levels enacted in the FY 2024 Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill (division B, title III, P.L. 118-47).

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST  
COURT SECURITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2026  
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

<u>Page</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2026 Resource Requirements:</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	<b>FY 2025 Total Available Resources (Annual Appropriation, Supplemental Funds, Prior Year Funds)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>104.0</b>	<b>832,900</b>
	<b>Total FY 2025 Obligations</b>	<b>104.0</b>	<b>832,900</b>
	Less Encumbered Carryforward from FY 2024 into FY 2025 . . . . .	-	(9,414)
	Less Unencumbered Carryforward and Recoveries from Prior Years into FY 2025 . . . . .	-	(15,182)
	Less FY 2025 Obligations Associated with Courthouse Hardening Supplemental Funds. . . . .	-	(55,961)
	Less Prior Year Recoveries Available in FY 2025. . . . .		(2,180)
	<b>Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriation . . . . .</b>	<b>104.0</b>	<b>750,163</b>
	 <b><u>A. Adjustments to Base to Maintain Current Services:</u></b>		
	Pay and Benefits Adjustments		
7.18	1. Annualization of January 2025 Pay Adjustment (2.0% for three months) . . . . .	-	105
7.18	2. Promotions and Within-grade Increases. . . . .	-	162
	3. Benefits Increases		
7.18	a. Health Benefits Increases . . . . .	-	140
7.18	b. FICA Adjustment . . . . .	-	11
7.18	4. FY 2026 Court Security Officer (CSO) Contract and Wage Rate Adjustments (3.0%) . . . . .	-	16,350
7.19	5. Inflationary Increases in Charges for Contracts, Services, Supplies, and Equipment. . . . .	-	676
7.19	6. Increase in GSA Space Rental Costs. . . . .	-	159
	7. Changes in Federal Protective Service Security Charges		
7.19	a. Increase in Basic Security Charges . . . . .	-	952
7.19	b. Increase in Building-specific Security Charges . . . . .	-	2,078
7.19	8. Adjustments to Base Requirements for Security Systems and Equipment . . . . .	-	2,048
7.20	9. Increase in Appropriation Needed to Maintain FY 2025 Requirements Due to a Decrease in Carryforward Funding . . . . .	-	7,362
	<b>Subtotal, Adjustments to Base to Maintain Current Services . . . . .</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,043</b>
	<b>Total Current Services Appropriation Required . . . . .</b>	<b>104.0</b>	<b>780,206</b>
	 <b><u>B. Program Increases:</u></b>		
7.22	10. Video Management Systems (VMS) (re-request) . . . . .	-	3,800
7.22	11. Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts/National Court Security Branch Program Equipment (re-request). . . . .	0.5	2,326
7.22	12. Emergency Management Equipment Sustainment (re-request). . . . .	-	1,001
7.22	13. Screening Equipment Replacement and Disposal (re-request) . . . . .	-	5,000
7.23	14. Security Infrastructure for New Courthouses (re-request) . . . . .	-	750
7.23	15. Active Vehicle Barrier (AVB) Support Equipment (re-request). . . . .	-	440
7.23	16. Emergency Management Reimbursable Positions (re-request). . . . .	-	1,001
7.24	17. Threat Management Branch (TMB) . . . . .	-	3,900
7.24	18. Courthouse Hardening. . . . .	-	6,550
7.24	19. Other Security Systems and Equipment. . . . .	-	16,846

7.25	20. Maintenance for Security Systems .....	-	11,900
7.25	21. Physical Access Control Systems (PACS) .....	-	31,700
7.25	22. Video Management Systems (VMS) .....	-	17,967
7.26	23. USMS and AO Program Administration. ....	-	7,020
7.26	24. CSO Position Enhancement .....	-	1,625
	<b>Subtotal, Program Increases. ....</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>111,826</b>
	<b>Total Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriation Required .....</b>	<b>104.5</b>	<b>892,032</b>
	<b>Total Appropriation Increase, Fiscal Year 2025 to Fiscal Year 2026 .....</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>141,869</b>
	<b><u>Financing the Fiscal Year 2026 Request:</u></b>		
	<b>Total Appropriation Required. ....</b>	<b>104.5</b>	<b>892,032</b>
7.26	25. Anticipated Unencumbered Carryforward from FY 2025 and Prior Years into FY 2026 .....	-	10,000
	<b>Estimated Obligations, Fiscal Year 2026 .....</b>	<b>104.5</b>	<b>902,032</b>

<sup>1</sup> Congress provided \$112.5 million in supplemental no-year funding for courthouse hardening in the FY 2023 Continuing Resolution, which will be fully obligated by the end of FY 2025.

**COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES**  
**COURT SECURITY**  
**Obligations by Activity (\$000)**

Activity	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request
<b>Total Obligations</b>	<b>791,360</b>	<b>832,900</b>	<b>902,032</b>
Unobligated Balance, Start of Year:			
Court Security (no-year funding)	(28,426)	(24,596)	(10,000)
Emergency Supplemental (no-year) <sup>1</sup>	(91,555)	(55,961)	-
PY Recoveries	(688)	(180)	-
Transfers to Court Security No-year Account	(18,005)	(12,000)	(10,000)
Unobligated Balance, End of Year:			
Court Security (expiring annual)	16,919	-	-
Emergency Supplemental (no-year) <sup>1</sup>	55,961	-	-
Court Security (no-year)	24,596	10,000	10,000
<b>Appropriation</b>	<b>750,163</b>	<b>750,163</b>	<b>892,032</b>

<sup>1</sup> Congress provided \$112.5 million in supplemental no-year funding for courthouse hardening in the FY 2023 Continuing Resolution, which will be fully obligated by the end of FY 2025.

**Obligations by Budget Object Class (\$000)**

Description	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request
11.1 Full-Time Permanent	11,856	14,480	14,915
11.3 Full-Time Temporary Positions	493	508	523
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	4,754	4,962	5,111
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	873	1,218	1,480
22.0 Transportation of Things	13	58	70
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	6,726	8,317	8,566
23.2 Rental Payments to Other	36	44	53
23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Miscellaneous Charges	1,744	2,157	2,587
25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services	203	206	224
25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources	41	42	46
25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources	99,493	101,167	109,836
25.4 Operation and Maintenance of Facilities	521,900	530,864	581,373
25.5 Research and Development Contract	16,694	16,975	18,430
25.7 Operation and Maintenance of Equipment	31,658	32,220	34,986
26.0 Supplies and Materials	4,587	492	591
31.0 Equipment	60,871	63,174	116,625
32.0 Land and Structures	29,420	55,961	6,550
42.0 Insurance Claims and Indemnities	-	55	66
<b>Direct Obligations</b>	<b>791,360</b>	<b>832,900</b>	<b>902,032</b>

**COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES**  
**COURT SECURITY**  
**Relation of Direct Obligations to Outlays (\$000)**

	<b>FY 2024 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2025 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2026 Request</b>
Direct Obligations	<b>791,360</b>	<b>832,900</b>	<b>902,032</b>
Obligated Balance, Start of Year	344,567	337,318	358,425
Adjustments for Prior Year Activity	14,590	-	-
Obligated Balance, End of Year	(337,318)	(358,425)	(396,044)
<b>Total Outlays</b>	<b>813,199</b>	<b>811,793</b>	<b>864,413</b>
Less Offsets	(1,877)	(1,896)	(1,915)
<b>Net Outlays</b>	<b>811,322</b>	<b>809,897</b>	<b>862,499</b>

**Personnel Summary**

	<b>FY 2024 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2025 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2026 Request</b>
Full-time Equivalents (USMS FTE)	88.0	104.0	105.0

## GENERAL STATEMENT AND INFORMATION

The Court Security appropriation funds the necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, incident to the provision of protective guard services, and the procurement, installation, and maintenance of security systems and equipment for United States (U.S.) courthouses and other facilities housing federal court operations. This includes building access control, inspection of mail and packages, directed security patrols, perimeter security, other similar activities as authorized by 28 U.S.C. § 604(a)(22), and managing a judiciary-wide program to facilitate security and emergency management services among the judiciary, U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), Federal Protective Service (FPS), General Services Administration (GSA), other federal agencies, state and local governments and the public.

Federal courthouses are often the most visible symbols of the U.S. government presence in communities outside of Washington, D.C., and, as such, may be vulnerable to terrorist attacks. In addition, the judicial process compels the attendance of alleged and convicted criminals to its facilities daily, which invites additional risks. At the same time, witnesses, jurors, family members of the alleged or convicted criminals, members of the Bar of the Court, the press, court employees, and the public must be able to enter and use the buildings. Maintaining the proper balance between ensuring an open court system and having secure court facilities is a complex task given the increasing number of threats against the federal judiciary.

As Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. noted in the [\*2024 Year End Report on the Federal Judiciary\*](#):

In recent years, there has been a significant uptick in identified threats at all levels of the judiciary. According to United States Marshals Service statistics, the volume of hostile threats and communications directed at judges has more than tripled over the past decade. In the past five years alone, the Marshals report that they have investigated more than 1,000 serious threats against federal judges. In several instances, these threats have required the assignment of full-time U.S. Marshals Service security details for federal judges, and approximately fifty individuals have been criminally charged. In extreme cases, judicial officers have been issued bulletproof vests for public events.

The fiscal year (FY) 2026 Court Security appropriation request of \$892,032,000 will provide an appropriate level of security at existing court facilities and provide security coverage at new and renovated facilities. It will also allow the judiciary to mitigate the effects of two consecutive years of funding freezes in this account, as well as to sustain and make progress on several existing major strategic security initiatives, including equipment modernization and cyclical replacement for physical access control systems (PACS),

video management systems (VMS), and other equipment; additional Vulnerability Management Program (VMP) requirements; USMS staffing requirements; and court security officer (CSO) requirements.

## **SECURING THE COURTS**

Court security is provided jointly by the Department of Justice's (DOJ) USMS and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) FPS. By statute, the USMS has primary responsibility for the security of the federal judiciary, including the safe conduct of court proceedings, as well as the security of federal judges and court personnel at court facilities and off-site. The security that FPS provides may include, to varying degrees, entry screening, perimeter patrols, garage access control, and mail and package screening.

### **UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE PROTECTION**

The USMS is responsible for the security of the judiciary (28 U.S.C. §§ 564, 566), including securing prisoners; conducting protective investigations on threats against judges and other judiciary personnel; providing protective details when necessary; and providing security for witnesses and high threat trials. This mission is funded by DOJ/USMS operating funds.

The USMS is also responsible for the day-to-day management of the Judicial Facility Security Program (JFSP), which is funded solely by the judiciary's Court Security appropriation. The JFSP is a collaborative effort between the judiciary and USMS to ensure the integrity of the judicial process by providing secure facilities in which to conduct judicial business. To support the JFSP, funding from the Court Security appropriation is transferred to the USMS, which is responsible for administering the JFSP consistent with standards and guidelines agreed to by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO) Director and the Attorney General.

JFSP's goals are to ensure:

1. adequate CSO presence at new, renovated, and existing court facilities;
2. effective security screening and/or access control systems are in place for judiciary facilities housing judges, probation and pretrial services offices, and other federal court operations; and
3. timely installation and maintenance of required security systems and equipment at new, renovated, and existing courthouses.

CSOs and security systems and equipment are key aspects of providing physical security to the courts. Together, they are an integral part of the USMS's security plan to prevent and deter violence that can undermine the effectiveness, viability, and integrity of the judicial process and erode public confidence in the judicial system.

### **FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE SECURITY**

FPS is the primary federal agency responsible for patrolling and protecting the perimeter of GSA-controlled facilities and enforcing federal laws and regulations in those facilities. FPS has two types of facility-related security charges on government facilities, including those occupied by the judiciary:

- “basic” security charge, to provide FPS with general funding to operate; and
- “building-specific” security charge, to reimburse FPS for FPS-provided, site-specific contract guards and security systems and equipment.

#### ***Perimeter Security Pilot Program***

The judiciary's FY 2008 appropriations bill authorized the USMS to establish a perimeter security pilot program to consolidate the responsibility for perimeter security guarding and security systems and equipment under the district U.S. Marshal, who is supported by the judiciary-funded and USMS-administered JFSP. The pilot was implemented at seven courthouses in FY 2009. An eighth courthouse was added in FY 2015. At the pilot locations, the USMS is responsible for all interior and perimeter security.

The pilot was designed to address several issues, including:

- the bifurcated systems of two security providers - the FPS and the USMS - providing physical security at many federal courthouses;
- problems with FPS security equipment not functioning for extended periods; and
- a lack of national standards for determining how many FPS guards are needed to provide adequate security at federal facilities, including courthouses.

The response to the pilot from judges, court unit executives, and district USMS office staff has been uniformly positive. The benefits of the program include improved quality of security services, improved security coverage, unified command and control over courthouse physical security, improved communication, and improved stewardship and monitoring of security equipment.



Each year since the pilot began, the judiciary’s annual appropriations bills have authorized the pilot project to continue. The judiciary’s FY 2026 appropriation request includes language to continue the pilot (see *Administrative Provisions*, page 12.1). The judiciary will continue to explore additional sites and evaluate the cost-effectiveness of expanding the pilot to more locations.

## **FISCAL YEAR 2025 APPROPRIATIONS**

Based on enactment of the FY 2025 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act (P.L. 119-4), the judiciary’s starting point for developing its FY 2026 budget request reflects bill language and appropriations levels enacted in the FY 2024 Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill (division B, title III, P.L. 118-47). The FY 2025 appropriation of \$750,163,000 is a reduction of \$47.2 million from the judiciary’s FY 2025 conference appeal, which will delay the replacement of necessary security systems and equipment.

Since the Court Security account has been limited to the same funding level for two years in a row, the judiciary was required to manage growing inflationary costs and operational needs by reducing funding for security systems and equipment. These funding limitations come at a time when the Judicial Branch is working to enhance courthouse security in response to growing security threats. The number of verified threats against federal judges has doubled in the last three years. These threats require sufficient security equipment and personnel to ensure court proceedings and other judiciary activities may continue to provide equal justice under the law.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES FOR FY 2026**

### ***Courthouse Hardening***

In FY 2022 and FY 2023, Congress provided supplemental appropriations to fund enhanced security measures to protect judges and the judicial process, including funding to harden court facilities against individuals and groups attempting to breach court facilities and disrupt the judicial process. Congress provided \$15.0 million in the FY 2022 Court Security appropriation and \$112.5 million in supplemental no-year funding in the initial FY 2023 Continuing Resolution (P.L. 117-180), for a total of \$127.5 million for courthouse hardening.

The judiciary continues to implement this supplemental funding and is working with the USMS, FPS, and GSA to analyze the security measures needed to harden each courthouse. Projects include both primary courthouses and multi-tenant federal facilities, as well as

single buildings and multi-facility campus locations. Depending on the configuration of an individual courthouse, the following building features are initial measures to stop individuals and groups from breaching court facilities and disrupting the judicial process:

- Windows – replace with (or add, as appropriate) break-resistant glass or glass coverings for pedestrian accessible windows (windows that can be accessed without ladders or climbing);
- Exterior doors – harden exterior doors with break-resistant glass, roll down gates, and other capabilities, as needed;
- Automatic exterior door locks – install automatic door locks that can be engaged by the security officers at their guard stations and from the control room; and
- Fencing – deploy anti-scalable fencing, where needed, to protect the perimeter of the facility.

While every effort will be made to harden as many facilities as possible with available resources, priority is based on the following factors:

- The amount of judicial activity in the courthouse, as determined by the number of judges resident in the building and the caseload of the district/circuit;
- Information regarding incidents which have damaged courthouses during recent periods of civil unrest and proximity of the courthouse to locations that are the site of protests, including incidents of violent civil unrest or violent response to peaceful protest;
- Information from federal law enforcement agencies that the courthouses are in communities or locations where civil unrest has been or could be directed against federal courthouses;
- The design and construction of the facility and the extent to which is already incorporated into the facility as part of its construction; and
- The ability to make cost-effective improvements to harden the facility perimeter, including barriers to these efforts such as the historic fabric of the facility and historic preservation requirements.

The judiciary's \$112.5 million request for supplemental funding assumed it would cost an average of \$250,000 per facility for 450 primary courthouses. AO staff later revised the per facility hardening estimate to a range of approximately \$300,000 to \$3.0 million per facility for 300 court facilities, depending on the courthouse size and design and to include multi-tenant federal facilities housing court operations. The \$127.5 million in hardening funding is currently expected to support implementing countermeasures at approximately 50-70 courthouse facilities. As of March 2025, the AO has obligated \$74.0 million of the \$127.5 million in total hardening funds available. This includes all \$15.1 million of the FY 2022 annual funding and \$58.9 million of supplemental funding (including \$5.0 million for fencing). There are 63 projects obligated, of these, the AO has fully funded design and construction for 27

projects, while 36 projects are in the design-only phase and once the designs are completed, they will proceed to the construction phase. The FY 2026 request includes \$6.6 million in additional courthouse hardening funding to allocate to additional courthouse facilities for design only and any remaining courthouse facilities funded in prior years that may require construction funding for completion. The judiciary is assessing security needs, and current estimates indicate that approximately 300 court facilities will require hardening. This figure includes courthouses that have already been hardened or for which hardening is in progress.

When court facilities were initially reviewed, it was believed that these hardening measures could be implemented quickly and inexpensively based on judiciary facility assessments and cost estimates. However, the AO has learned that to meet the judiciary's hardening criteria, many of the solutions have proven to be more expensive, difficult to execute, or not achievable in all locations. Certain facilities are significantly more challenging to harden than anticipated due to the nature of their design, current security posture, and historic status. In many locations, achieving the level of protection sought by the judiciary will require significant measures such as renovation of courthouse entrances and/or perimeter spaces at significantly higher costs not assumed in the original formulation of the funding request transmitted to Congress. This has directly impacted the number of courthouse facilities that may be hardened within the existing funding.

### ***Vulnerability Management Program***

As a result of the July 2020 fatal attack at a New Jersey federal judge's home and increasing threats against federal judges generally, the judiciary and the USMS reviewed existing vulnerabilities impacting judges' security and identified the need to reduce judges' online footprints and the ready availability of judges' personally identifiable information (PII). In FY 2022, the judiciary received approval from the Appropriations Committees to reprogram \$7.9 million within the Court Security program to implement a Vulnerability Management Program (VMP) to address these risks. In addition, the FY 2022 appropriation included language authorizing the use of court security funds for identifying, redacting, and reducing PII on the internet of judges and relatives who live at the judge's domicile. Enactment of the Daniel Aderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-263) in December 2022 provided the judiciary with permanent PII removal authority.

The VMP serves as a resource to judges on ways to enhance their personal security and the security of court personnel and facilities. The program is intended to create situational awareness across security specialties, active and coordinated preventative measures, consistent information sharing, and advanced analytic capabilities. To accomplish this, the program created two new branches within the AO's Judiciary Security Division: (1) Judiciary Security Operations, which led to the formation of the Judiciary Security Officer

program; and (2) Threat Management Branch (TMB), focused on the implementation of the Daniel Anderl Act. Together, these two branches provide a suite of staffing and solutions to support the following activities:

- Facilitating security services, at the Circuit and District level, among the judiciary, USMS, FPS, General Services Administration, and other appropriate federal and local law enforcement agencies;
- Training and creating national standards for appointed emergency management coordinators and others tasked with emergency management and related duties within local courts and circuits;
- Redacting eligible PII from government databases, data aggregators, and the internet;
- Enrolling judges (and other covered individuals) into the PII reduction and redaction program;
- Tracking the status of any pending requests made by judges for removal of covered information under the Daniel Anderl Act;
- Monitoring web-based activities (e.g., social media, dark web) for mentions of covered information and risks to the judiciary;
- Monitoring, analyzing, and reporting, through improved information sharing with federal and state public safety and security agencies, judiciary risks and vulnerabilities; and
- Educating judges and other judiciary personnel on the need to minimize online information about themselves and their family members.

The full-year cost of implementing the VMP in FY 2023 was \$10.5 million. This funding supported 19 positions and contractual services, providing a mix of professional and technical services to enforce the Anderl Act. In FY 2024, the total cost increased to \$14.8 million, with \$10.6 million allocated to the TMB and the implementation of the Daniel Anderl Act. In FY 2025, the VMP total cost increased to \$19.5 million, and the FY 2026 budget request is \$23.9 million, reflecting a \$4.4 million increase. The increase includes \$0.5 million for inflationary costs and \$3.9 million for TMB program enhancements. Encompassing the entirety of the program, the FY 2026 request will fund 21 positions, contractual services, and multiple IT based services within the Judiciary Security Division required to meet workload demands. (Refer to page 7.24 for more details.)

### ***Security Systems (Physical Access Control Systems and Video Management Systems)***

#### ***Physical Access Control Systems***

Physical Access Control Systems (PACS) are designed to ensure that unauthorized and potentially dangerous people do not gain entry to court facilities, and only judges, authorized federal employees, and contractors can access secure interior court space. USMS issues cards to authorized persons to manage facility access using automated card readers. Many of the current PACS are fragile and failing, or in danger of failing, due to aging equipment and outdated software no longer supported by the vendor. The judiciary worked with

the USMS to develop a risk-based strategy that focuses resources on the highest priority PACS requirements, addressing facilities with the greatest need in a timeframe that avoids system failures. In addition, the strategy incorporates a refreshment cycle for PACS to ensure the program is sustainable in the future.

The judiciary gradually increased PACS funding by approximately \$5.0 million each year to reach \$42.0 million in annual funding in FY 2022. However, due to flat funding in FY 2024 and FY 2025, combined with unavoidable increases in CSO costs and other time sensitive requirements, PACS funding was reduced to \$19.4 million in FY 2024 and further reduced to \$13.0 million in FY 2025. The PACS upgrades and refresh of PACS on a 10-year cycle continues to be delayed as a result. The FY 2026 budget request includes a \$0.4 million adjustment to base, and an increase of \$31.7 million (for a total PACS budget of \$45.1 million) to mitigate these delays. Future budget requests will continue to be revised for inflation, as well as necessary changes in technology, equipment, and networking protocols.

### *Video Management Systems*

Video Management Systems (VMS) are the camera systems that allow the USMS to monitor doors, hallways, courtrooms, and other court space. If a VMS system fails, the USMS control room operators lose viewing capability of all closed-circuit television (CCTV) coverage within a facility, crippling the USMS's ability to visually assess potential threats. The loss of camera views and control capability makes a facility particularly vulnerable. Like the PACS lifecycle challenges, most existing VMS have exceeded their useful life expectancies, are at risk of failure, and are no longer supported by the manufacturers. Further, most judiciary VMS are analog systems, and these systems need to be upgraded to digital internet protocol-based systems. Using the PACS funding strategy as a model, the judiciary seeks a multiyear funding approach with VMS.

The judiciary started with \$6.3 million in FY 2020 and by FY 2023, annual funding reached \$25.8 million. However, due to flat funding in FY 2024 and FY 2025, combined with unavoidable increases in CSO costs and other time sensitive requirements, VMS funding was reduced to \$13.5 million in FY 2024 and \$9.5 million in FY 2025. As a result, upgrades and refresh of VMS have been delayed. Like PACS, future budget requests will continue to be revised for inflation, as well as necessary changes in technology, equipment, and networking protocols. The request includes a \$0.3 million adjustment to base, and an increase of \$17.9 million to get the VMS program back on the originally intended upgrade/sustainment schedule, and a re-request of \$3.8 million to add external cameras to VMS projects (for a total VMS budget of \$31.5 million). Refer to pages 7.22 and 7.24 for more details.

FPS is responsible for providing security to over 9,000 GSA-controlled facilities. Part of this protection is the responsibility for maintaining perimeter security cameras. The USMS also maintains VMS within court facilities that include cameras to monitor court space. In facilities that have both FPS perimeter cameras and USMS VMS, the FPS and USMS share video feeds between these systems to ensure that activity is being monitored and to avoid duplication of systems. USMS staff has determined that various federal courthouse facilities lack adequate camera coverage of certain external areas. These include building entrances and areas of approach needed to detect the presence of objects in areas of interest, determine or classify objects (e.g., person, animal, debris), and identify objects based on appearance (identify a person). To address this vulnerability, USMS proposes to provide the following external cameras, where needed:

- Point cameras, that monitor individual gates, doors, sally ports, and other means of access to a facility compound and its buildings.
- Field-of-view cameras, to monitor discrete areas such as a street leading up to a facility, the grounds just inside the facility perimeter, and around building entrances.
- Surveillance cameras, which extend the view for security personnel. USMS staff control these cameras, and they must be placed to supplement the fields of view that point cameras provide. These cameras will be placed high enough to encompass areas such as parking lots, fences, and extended walkways, and view approaching routes to a facility.

The \$3.8 million request for USMS VMS external cameras is in addition to FPS funding required for the replacement and maintenance of its perimeter cameras and enhances the overall security for the judiciary. The USMS would only be able to install external cameras that address certain security risks to the judiciary within their purview and is not duplicative of FPS perimeter cameras.

#### *Joint PACS/VMS Projects*

PACS and VMS share the same enterprise network infrastructure, and the USMS estimates that there could be cost avoidance to install VMS concurrently with new PACS. The USMS awarded 20 joint PACS/VMS projects in FY 2020 and FY 2021, 28 joint projects in FY 2022, 34 joint projects in FY 2023, and 17 joint projects in FY 2024.

#### *Court Security Officers and Federal Protective Service*

Resource needs for court security are affected by increasing costs for CSO and FPS services. The minimum CSO hourly wage rates are determined by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and vary around the country based on an annual assessment of the prevailing

wage rates paid for occupations like the CSO category of service in a specific locality. CSO wages are also adjusted through collective bargaining agreements negotiated between CSO contractors and unions. Under Service Contract Labor Standards (41 U.S.C. 6701-6707), USMS vendors must pay the contract CSOs the hourly rates determined by the DOL unless a collective bargaining agreement is in place.

Building-specific charges are based on FPS-provided countermeasures for a specific building and are charged to all federal tenants in the building in direct proportion to each customer agency's percentage of federal occupancy. Most buildings have a facility security committee (FSC), which consults with and seeks recommendations from FPS on new or revised countermeasures. A tenant agency cannot avoid a building-specific charge if a majority of FSC members endorse a countermeasure. FPS maintains records of these operating expenditures on a building-by-building basis. These expenses are based on FPS projections and may be adjusted as a result of the judiciary's regular review of FPS charges.

Building-specific expenses include<sup>1</sup>:

- Facility contract guards, both fixed post and roving, assigned to a specific building; and
- Purchase, installation, and maintenance of perimeter security devices such as cameras, alarms, motion detectors, and other physical security features.

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<sup>1</sup> In courthouse facilities, FPS contract guards and security device expenses are usually limited to the perimeter of the building because security for interior judicial space is provided by the USMS.

### Court Security Program Summary

	FY 2025 Enacted			FY 2026 Request		
	\$000	CSO Positions	FTE	\$000	CSO Positions	FTE
Court Security Officers	545,000	4,746.5		563,157	4,759.5	
Federal Protective Service Charges	93,215			96,245		
Systems and Equipment <sup>1</sup>	133,588			167,427		
Program Administration	61,097		104.0	75,203		104.5
<b>Total Direct Obligations</b>	<b>832,900</b>			<b>902,032</b>		
<i>Prior Year Carryforward</i>						
Systems and Equipment Slippage (Encumbered)	(9,379)			-		
Program Administration Slippage (Encumbered)	(35)			-		
Systems and Equipment Savings (Unencumbered)	(17,362)			(10,000)		
<i>Supplemental</i>						
Obligations Associated with Courthouse Hardening Supplemental Funds <sup>1</sup>	(55,961)			-		
<b>Discretionary Appropriation</b>	<b>750,163</b>			<b>892,032</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Congress provided \$112.5 million in supplemental no-year funding for courthouse hardening in the FY 2023 Continuing Resolution, which will be fully obligated by the end of FY 2025.



## **GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The narrative found here satisfies the 31 U.S.C. § 720(b)(2) requirement to inform the House and Senate Appropriations Committee on actions taken in response to Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommendations.

### **GAO Study on Judicial Security and Privacy**

**Report:** On February 14, 2024, GAO issued *Federal Judiciary: Action Needed to Assess Effectiveness of Program to Protect Judges' Personal Information (GAO-24-106865SU)*, a report designated as Law Enforcement Sensitive and not published publicly. The study was a congressional mandate in the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2022, Pub. Law No. 117-263 (Anderl Act).

**Issues Examined:** The federal judiciary's actions taken to identify and protect judges' personally identifiable information (PII) since the passage of the Anderl Act. GAO evaluated the AO's PII Reduction and Redaction Program, which was developed to assist judges with securing the protections provided in the Anderl Act.

**Recommendations:** GAO made one recommendation for the AO to establish specific and measurable objectives to assess its PII Reduction and Redaction Program's effectiveness.

**AO Action:** The AO has developed a program evaluation process to support the effective assessment of the PII Reduction and Redaction Program and to help further guide future program development.

## JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES

The judiciary requests \$892,032,000 for Court Security in FY 2026, an 18.9 percent increase over the FY 2025 enacted budget of \$750,163,000. The FY 2026 request reflects the necessary adjustments to base to maintain current services, as well as several program increases related to the CSO program, security systems and equipment needs, USMS staffing requirements, AO program requirements, and restoration of base funding as needed to address critical security deficiencies. The majority of the funding in this request is transferred to the USMS, which is responsible for administering the JFSP.

### **A. ADJUSTMENTS TO BASE TO MAINTAIN CURRENT SERVICES**

#### ***Pay and Benefits Adjustments***

##### **1. Annualization of 2025 pay adjustment**

**Requested Increase: \$105,000**

The requested increase provides for the annualized costs of the 2025 pay adjustment of 2.0 percent, effective January 2025. The requested increase provides for the cost associated with three months of the 2025 pay increase (from October to December 2025) in FY 2026.

##### **2. Promotions and within-grade increases**

**Requested Increase: \$162,000**

The requested increase provides for promotions and within-

grade increases for personnel. The salary plan for judicial support personnel provides for periodic within-grade increases for staff who receive a performance rating of satisfactory or higher.

##### **3. Benefits increases**

###### **a. Health benefits increases**

**Requested Increase: \$140,000**

Based on information from the Office of Personnel Management, health benefit premium contributions are projected to increase by an average of 5.0 percent in January 2025 and 10.1 percent in January 2026. The requested increase annualizes the 2025 premium increase and includes a nine-month provision for the increase anticipated for FY 2026.

###### **b. FICA adjustment**

**Requested Increase: \$11,000**

Based on information from the Social Security Administration, employer contributions to the Old Age, Survivor, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) portion of the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) tax increased in 2025. The salary cap for OASDI increased from \$168,600 to \$176,100 in January 2025. The requested amount is needed to pay the judiciary's contribution in FY 2026.

##### **4. FY 2026 CSO contract and wage rate adjustments**

**Requested Increase: \$16,350,000**

A total of \$16.4 million is requested for anticipated increases in the hourly rates and overtime pay for CSO contract services in FY 2026. The request is an average increase of 3.0 percent on a national basis over the FY 2025 projected levels.

**5. Inflationary increases in charges for contracts, services, supplies, and equipment**

**Requested Increase: \$676,000**

Consistent with guidance from the Office of Management and Budget, the requested increase is required to fund inflationary adjustments of 2.1 percent for operating expenses such as travel, communications, printing, contractual services, supplies and materials, and furniture and equipment.

**6. Increase in GSA space rental costs**

**Requested Increase: \$159,000**

This request represents an FY 2026 2.0 percent inflationary increase in the cost of GSA space rental charges.

**7. Changes in Federal Protective Service security charges**

**Requested Increase: \$3,030,000**

The FY 2026 FPS security service estimate of \$96.2 million consists of basic security and building-specific security costs. This cost represents an increase of \$3.0 million from the FY 2025 estimate of \$93.2 million.

**a. Increase in basic security charges: \$952,000**

The FY 2026 request for basic security charges is \$32.7 million, which is \$0.9 million above the FY 2025 estimated level.

**b. Increase in building-specific security charges: \$2,078,000**

The total FY 2026 request for building-specific security charges is \$63.5 million, which is \$2.1 million above the FY 2025 estimated level. The requested increase supports security countermeasure projects, such as tenant improvement projects that include the judiciary's pro rata share.

**8. Adjustments to base requirements for security systems and equipment**

**Requested Increase: \$2,048,000**

The requested amount reflects a net increase of \$2.0 million for the security systems and equipment program. Table 7.1 on page 7.21 and the following justification of changes provide further information regarding the judiciary's security systems and equipment funding requirements.

**Increased Funding for Security Systems and Equipment**

- *Physical Access Control Systems (PACS)/Video Management Systems (VMS)*

Requested Increase: \$675,000

The increases of \$390,000 for PACS and \$285,000 for VMS are due primarily to inflationary cost adjustments.

- *Nationwide Maintenance Contract for Existing Security Systems and Equipment*

Requested Increase: \$552,000

The national contract for security systems installation provides for the maintenance of security systems located in all facilities nationwide, such as the repair of CCTV systems, access control systems, alarm systems, and other command and control center components. The contract also provides for off-site alarm monitoring for buildings without a 24-hour CSO presence and for repairs and preventive maintenance of x-ray machines. The increase is due primarily to inflationary cost adjustments.

- *Other Additional and Replacement Equipment*

Requested Increase: \$267,000

This program provides for general enhancements or upgrades to closed-circuit television (CCTV) surveillance systems, alarm systems, and command and control centers in. The increase is due primarily to inflationary cost adjustments.

- *Miscellaneous Systems and Equipment*

Requested Increase: \$554,000

An increase of \$554,000 is requested for various systems and equipment requirements in FY 2026. This includes increases of:

- \$141,000 for GSA installation and maintenance;
- \$130,000 for the nationwide vehicle barrier maintenance contract;
- \$112,000 for cyclical replacement of x-ray screening equipment and walk-thru metal detectors;
- \$107,000 for perimeter security improvements
- \$52,000 for CSO radios, accessories, repairs, and over-the-air re-key; and
- \$12,000 for equipment for probation and pretrial services offices and federal public defender organizations.

## 9. **Increase in appropriation needed to maintain FY 2025 requirements due to a decrease in carryforward funding**

**Requested Increase: \$7,362,000**

The Court Security Services program reduces its annual appropriation request by applying unobligated no-year funds carried forward from prior fiscal years. In FY 2025, \$17.4 million in carryover and prior-year recoveries was used to finance Court Security Services requirements. For FY 2026, the estimated carryforward is \$10.0 million, a decrease of \$7.4 million in estimated carryover resources. Because the judiciary anticipates having less carryforward funding available, it requests \$7.4 million in direct appropriations to make up the shortfall. The judiciary will revise this line item in the FY 2026 budget re-estimate, as needed.

Table 7.1  
Court Security Appropriation  
Security Systems & Equipment Funding Summary

Category	FY 2024 Financial Plan	FY 2025 Financial Plan	FY 2026 Adjustments to Base	FY 2026 Current Services	FY 2026 Re-request	FY 2026 Program Increases	FY 2026 Request	Change FY 2025 to FY 2026
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
<b>Courthouse Hardening - Infrastructure Improvements<sup>1</sup></b>	37,500	55,961	-	-	-	6,550	6,550	(49,411)
<b>PACS</b>	19,430	13,008	390	13,398	-	31,700	45,098	32,090
<b>VMS</b>	13,457	9,485	285	9,770	3,800	17,967	31,537	22,052
<b>Other Additional and Replacement Equipment (Excludes VMS)</b>	11,861	8,896	267	9,163	1,900	5,071	16,134	7,238
<b>Nationwide Maintenance Contract for Existing Security Systems and Equipment</b>	17,861	18,397	552	18,949	-	11,900	30,849	12,452
<b>New Courthouse Construction Projects</b>	-	-	-	-	750	-	750	750
<b><u>Miscellaneous Systems and Equipment</u></b>								
<i>Perimeter Security Improvements</i>	5,339	3,574	107	3,681	-	6,925	10,606	7,032
<i>GSA Installation/Alterations</i>	7,000	4,687	141	4,828	-	2,610	7,438	2,751
<i>Cyclical Replacement of X-Ray Screening Equipment and Walk-Thru Metal Detectors</i>	3,618	3,727	112	3,839	5,000	1,194	10,033	6,306
<i>Nationwide Vehicle Barrier Maintenance Contract</i>	4,000	4,339	130	4,469	440	510	5,419	1,080
<i>Equipment for Probation, Pretrial Services, and Defender Services</i>	400	412	12	424	-	536	960	548
<i>CSO Radios, Accessories, Repairs and Over-the-Air-Re-key</i>	1,673	1,723	52	1,775	278	-	2,053	330
<b>Total Miscellaneous Systems and Equipment</b>	22,030	18,462	554	19,016	5,718	11,775	36,509	18,047
<b>Total Security Systems and Equipment</b>	<b>122,139</b>	<b>124,209</b>	<b>2,048</b>	<b>70,296</b>	<b>12,168</b>	<b>84,963</b>	<b>167,427</b>	<b>43,218</b>

<sup>1</sup> Congress provided \$112.5 million in supplemental no-year funding for courthouse hardening in the FY 2023 Continuing Resolution. The \$112.5 million will be obligated over 3 years.

## **D. PROGRAM INCREASES**

### **10. Video Management Systems (re-request)**

**Requested Increase: \$3,800,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary re-requests \$3.8 million that was not provided from the FY 2025 budget request to fund external cameras. This funding was held to a flat budget in FY 2025 following a reduction in FY 2024 due to the need to prioritize CSO hours based on budget constraints.

This re-request would add external VMS cameras to projects where there is an identified vulnerability. USMS has identified 110 locations which require upgrades from analog to digital systems, and these locations require additional external cameras. The estimated cost of adding external cameras to these systems is \$11.4 million, which will be phased in over three years. After three years, maintenance and cyclical replacement costs will be included in future budget requests. Refer to pages 7.13-7.14 for more details.

### **11. Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts/National Court Security Branch equipment (re-request)**

**Requested Increase: \$2,326,000** **FTE: 0.5**

For FY 2026, the judiciary re-requests \$2.3 million that was not provided from the FY 2025 budget request to fund one National Court Security Branch program position, \$0.3 million for courthouse radio systems and CSO handheld radios, and \$1.9 million for PACS, VMS, and intrusion detection system

upgrades for the AO's Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building. The current systems and equipment are at the end of their life cycle and require either replacement or funding for repairs. In addition, these systems and equipment are necessary to bring the TMFJB up to the appropriate security standards. Requested funds are expected to only partially fund the system upgrades and additional funding will be requested in the future.

### **12. Emergency management equipment sustainment (re-request)**

**Requested Increase: \$1,001,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary re-requests \$1.0 million that was not provided from the FY 2024 budget request to fund the recurring operations, maintenance, and life-cycle replacement costs for emergency management (EM) equipment to sustain satellite communications equipment in remote districts for continuity of operations. Remote districts in Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands require satellite communications equipment and hybrid generators (solar/gas) for emergency communications.

### **13. Screening equipment replacement and disposal (re-request)**

**Requested Increase: \$5,000,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary re-requests \$5.0 million that was not provided from the FY 2024 budget request to fund the implementation of a multiyear equipment modernization and cyclical replacement strategy for screening systems. Screening systems at federal courthouses include X-ray machines and walk-through metal detectors, and half of the screening systems in place do not provide an acceptable level of protection.

#### **14. Security Infrastructure for New Courthouses (re-request)**

**Requested Increase: \$750,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary re-requests \$0.8 million that was not provided from the FY 2025 budget request to fund screening equipment for five new courthouse construction projects, estimated at \$150,000 per location. Based on current schedules for FY 2026, the systems and equipment funds will be used for courthouse construction projects at Toledo, OH (Repair and Alterations - R&A); Charlotte, NC (R&A); Savannah, GA (R&A); Huntsville, AL; and Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

#### **15. Active vehicle barrier (AVB) support equipment (re-request)**

**Requested Increase: \$440,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary re-requests \$0.4 million that was not provided from the FY 2025 budget request to fund two

mobile barriers and two portable guard booths for \$110,000 each.

The USMS has an inventory of five mobile barriers for nationwide deployment. The USMS inventory for mobile vehicle barriers is stored on the U.S. eastern seaboard. As part of an improved deployment plan for temporary security, one new mobile barrier would be purchased and stored in the western United States for rapid deployment. The USMS plans on requesting funding for additional mobile barriers in future years for an inventory build-up so each judicial circuit will have its own AVB supply.

In addition, portable guard booths are key to an effective security system. Being able to move a security booth to any location at any time, quickly and easily, is a tactical advantage at judicial facilities for and during special events.

#### **16. Emergency management reimbursable positions (re-request)**

**Requested Increase: \$1,001,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary re-requests \$1.0 million that was not provided from the FY 2024 budget request to fund four emergency management positions. These positions will:

- provide subject matter expertise in emergency management for preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation; programmatic policy; education; and training for the AO and the judiciary;

- implement AO emergency management programs directly and provide guidance, templates, and tools to assist judiciary court units and federal defenders with consistent program implementation per judiciary guidance; and
- coordinate with other government agency safety staff to ensure judiciary-specific emergency management programs and plans are developed and executed using an integrated interagency approach to ensure continuity of judiciary operations, which are reliant upon external agency support.

## **17. Threat Management Branch**

### **Requested Increase: \$3,900,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests an increase of \$3.9 million for the TMB for a total request of \$12.9 million, to support an increase in both contracted labor and IT services (i.e., third party data broker removal licenses, open-source intelligence services, etc.), and the annual cost escalation inherent with contracts. This increase supports the implementation of the Daniel Anderl Act, which includes PII reduction and redaction, training and education (specific to data privacy), and judiciary vulnerability management services to monitor the protection of at-risk individuals and judiciary assets. The full scope of service delivery includes monitoring and reporting, and PII reduction and redaction coverage for approximately 2,350 active judges, 300 retired judges, 6,000 qualifying family members, and 800+ AO and judiciary facilities, with the coverage being provided augmenting, not duplicating, USMS

threat management capabilities, as called for in the Daniel Anderl Act. Refer to pages 7.12-7.13 for more details.

## **18. Courthouse Hardening**

### **Requested Increase: \$6,550,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests an increase of \$6.6 million for Courthouse Hardening. The AO currently estimates that the FY 2023 supplemental no-year funding of \$112.5 million will be fully executed in FY 2025 and this additional funding requested will ensure that the Courthouse Hardening Program continues its efforts to harden all resident courthouses (federally owned only, not leased or postal owned; and non-resident courthouses excluded). Refer to pages 7.9-7.11 for more details.

## **19. Other security systems and equipment**

### **Requested Increase: \$16,846,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests an increase of \$16.8 million to restore base funding for other security systems and equipment that was reduced in FY 2024 and FY 2025 due to the two consecutive years of flat budgets for this account. This funding includes the following:



Other Additional and Replacement Equipment (Excludes VMS)	\$5,071,000
Perimeter Security Improvements	\$6,925,000
GSA Installation/Alterations	\$2,610,000
Cyclical Replacement of X-Ray Screening Equipment and Walk-Thru Metal Detectors	\$1,194,000
Nationwide Vehicle Barrier Maintenance Contract	\$510,000
Equipment for Probation, Pretrial Services, and Defender Services	\$536,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,846,000</b>

## 20. Maintenance for security systems

### Requested Increase: \$11,900,000

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests an increase of \$11.9 million for its maintenance and repair funding. With rapidly aging and obsolete equipment, there is a growing need for its maintenance and repair. It is imperative that the judiciary can respond to these breakdowns in a timely manner to ensure equipment is properly working. These repairs include cameras, card readers, duress alarms, and other security devices.

According to the USMS, the FY 2025 funding level of \$18.4 million falls short of the necessary requirements for maintaining and repairing electronic security systems for the judiciary. The requested funding will improve the quality, efficiency, and reliability of repairs, ensuring the operational continuity of courthouse security systems and equipment.

Without the additional funding, the USMS will be unable to sustain its duties effectively without compromise to the security of the judiciary.

## 21. Physical Access Control Systems

### Requested Increase: \$31,700,000

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests \$31.7 million to restore base funding for PACS. This funding was decreased in FY 2025 and FY 2024 due to two consecutive flat budgets and the need to prioritize CSO hours based on budget constraints. PACS are designed to ensure that only authorized individuals gain entry to secure, interior court facilities. Many of the current PACS are fragile and failing, or in danger of failing, due to aging equipment and outdated software no longer supported by the vendor. Refer to page 7.12-7.13 for more details.

## 22. Video Management Systems

### Requested Increase: \$17,967,000

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests \$18.0 million to restore base funding for upgrades and refreshes to Video Management Systems (VMS). This funding was decreased in FY 2025 and FY 2024 due to two consecutive flat budgets and the need to prioritize CSO hours based on budget constraints. Most existing VMS have exceeded their useful life expectancies and are at risk of failure.

Refer to pages 7.13-7.14 for more details.

### **23. USMS and AO Program Administration**

**Requested Increase: \$7,020,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests \$7.0 million to restore base funding for overall program administration costs, including \$1.0 million for AO program administration and \$6.0 million for USMS program administration. This base funding is the for management of the JFSP overseen by the USMS that was held to a flat budget in FY 2025 following a reduction in FY 2024 due to the need to prioritize CSO hours based on budget constraints. Due to the increase in CSO rates in FY 2024 and the flat budget, the Court Security appropriation had to cut \$2.4 million from USMS program administration. This request is to restore the funds to the USMS needed to run the daily JFSP operations to include salaries and benefits, travel, training, and contractor resources.

### **24. CSO Position Enhancement**

**Requested Increase: \$1,625,000**

For FY 2026, the judiciary requests \$1.6 million for 13.0 additional CSO positions. The USMS and AO have completed a CSO Staffing Standard analysis for the First, Second, and Third Circuits, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the Northern and Southern Districts of Illinois (within the Seventh Circuit). With the analysis completed to date, the USMS is requesting the 13 additional CSO positions. These CSO positions will mitigate risk associated with understaffing and will align the identified circuits and districts with the CSO

Staffing Standards implemented in FY 2015. The additional positions will allow the JFSP to align allocated CSO positions in accordance with the CSO Staffing Standard determination.

### **E. FINANCING THE FY 2026 REQUEST**

#### **25. Anticipated unencumbered carryforward balances from FY 2025 and prior years into FY 2026**

**Estimated Funds Available: \$10,000,000**

The judiciary projects \$10.0 million will be available through anticipated savings and prior-year recoveries to carry forward from FY 2025 into FY 2026 to offset partially the FY 2026 appropriation request for the Court Security program. The judiciary will advise the appropriations subcommittee staffs of changes to this estimate.