

## CIRCUIT COURTS

### GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY05 Adjusted Base	FY06 Recommended	% Change Over FY05	FY07 Recommended	% Change Over FY06
GPR	79,338,300	81,472,800	2.7	81,606,100	0.2
TOTAL	79,338,300	81,472,800	2.7	81,606,100	0.2

### FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY05 Adjusted Base	FY06 Recommended	FTE Change From FY05	FY07 Recommended	FTE Change From FY06
GPR	511.00	511.00	0.00	511.00	0.00
TOTAL	511.00	511.00	0.00	511.00	0.00

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The Circuit Court is Wisconsin's court of general jurisdiction and consists of 241 judicial positions in 69 judicial circuits. Each county in the state is a circuit, with the exception of Pepin and Buffalo, Menominee and Shawano, and Forest and Florence, which are paired to form three circuits. Where the volume of litigation warrants, a circuit consists of more than one branch (judge). Of the 69 circuits, 39 contain multiple branches.

The Circuit Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal, civil, juvenile, family and probate cases unless exclusive jurisdiction has been given to another court. The court has appellate jurisdiction over orders and judgments of the municipal courts and the responsibility to review decisions and orders of state administrative agencies.

For purposes of management, the Circuit Courts are divided into ten administrative districts. Each district has a chief judge appointed by the Supreme Court and a district court administrator who administer the business of the judicial branch in that district in cooperation with the director of state courts at the direction of the chief justice. The first judicial district (Milwaukee County) also has an assistant district court administrator.

## **CIRCUIT COURTS**

### **GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Court Interpreters – County Reimbursement
2. Court Support Services Fee
3. Standard Budget Adjustments

**Table 1  
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY04	ADJUSTED BASE FY05	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY06	FY07	FY06	FY07
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$78,535.2	\$79,338.3	\$81,472.8	\$81,606.1	\$81,472.8	\$81,606.1
State Operations	54,417.2	55,172.0	56,902.9	56,902.9	56,902.9	56,902.9
Local Assistance	24,118.0	24,166.3	24,569.9	24,703.2	24,569.9	24,703.2
TOTALS-ANNUAL	78,535.2	79,338.3	81,472.8	81,606.1	81,472.8	81,606.1
State Operations	54,417.2	55,172.0	56,902.9	56,902.9	56,902.9	56,902.9
Local Assistance	24,118.0	24,166.3	24,569.9	24,703.2	24,569.9	24,703.2

**Table 2  
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY05	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY06	FY07	FY06	FY07
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00
TOTALS-ANNUAL	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

**Table 3  
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY04	ADJUSTED BASE FY05	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY06	FY07	FY06	FY07
1. Court operations	\$78,535.2	\$79,338.3	\$81,472.8	\$81,606.1	\$81,472.8	\$81,606.1
TOTALS	78,535.2	79,338.3	81,472.8	81,606.1	81,472.8	81,606.1

**Table 4  
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY05	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY06	FY07	FY06	FY07
1. Court operations	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00
TOTALS	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00

### 1. Court Interpreters – County Reimbursement

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendation			
	FY06		FY07		FY06		FY07	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	403,600	0.00	536,900	0.00	403,600	0.00	536,900	0.00
TOTAL	403,600	0.00	536,900	0.00	403,600	0.00	536,900	0.00

The Governor recommends providing additional funding for reimbursement of court interpreter costs incurred by the counties for interpreter services needed in criminal, juvenile, mental health and civil cases, regardless of indigence. The Governor further recommends requiring the court to provide, in all criminal and civil proceedings, an interpreter for a party or witness who has limited English proficiency, regardless of indigence.

### 2. Court Support Services Fee

The Governor recommends reestimating collections for the court support services fee by \$2,408,000 GPR-E in each year. The reestimate is based on FY05 collections to date.

### 3. Standard Budget Adjustments

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendation			
	FY06		FY07		FY06		FY07	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	1,730,900	0.00	1,730,900	0.00	1,730,900	0.00	1,730,900	0.00
TOTAL	1,730,900	0.00	1,730,900	0.00	1,730,900	0.00	1,730,900	0.00

The Governor recommends adjusting the agency's base budget for: (a) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (\$1,730,900 in each year); and (b) minor transfers within the same alpha appropriation.