

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS
FY 2009 Budget Justification
Grant-funded Activities and Reimbursements

For Fiscal Year 2007, the District of Columbia Courts secured \$4.5 million in Federal, local, and private grant funds to: (1) provide services to victims of crime; (2) enhance coordination of service delivery to juveniles; (3) reduce criminal behavior among juvenile offenders; (4) enhance access and exchange of court information; (5) provide education workshops to families involved in domestic relations issues; and, (6) expedite permanent placement of children as required by ASFA legislation. The Courts currently receive funds through 14 active grants secured from various Federal, local and private sources. Of these, 8 grants, totaling nearly \$1 million are scheduled to expire the end of FY 2007. Table 1 lists the Courts' grants and reimbursement funding for Fiscal Years 2007 and projected through 2009, while Table 2 lists grants scheduled to expire at the end of FY 2007. A brief description of the Courts' grant-funded projects follows.

I. FEDERAL GRANTS

(a) Abused and Neglected Children

- ***Court Improvement Program (CIP)***. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

To assess and improve judicial proceedings that handle child abuse and neglect and related foster care and adoption litigation. The Superior Court continues collaboration with District child welfare agencies in examining the effectiveness of current practices and procedures, adequacy of resources, and coordination among key agencies in order to enhance the processing of child abuse and neglect matters in the District of Columbia. CIP funds have recently supported a Family Treatment Court Pilot Project to provide residential treatment to women with a substance abuse problem who have children under the Court's supervision that have a goal of reunification. Currently, grant funds will be used to continue to implement program recommendations resulting from the recent reassessment of program operations and to enhance coordination of grant activity. In FY06, two additional CIP grants were made available to states to support enhancements in the areas of data automation and training. In collaboration with the child welfare agency, funding will support planning efforts to provide secure exchange of information sharing between the two agencies, e.g., transfer of court reports, as well as to support the development of a certification program for attorneys currently practicing in the Family Court.

(b) Crime Victims

- ***Crime Victims Compensation Program (Claims)***. U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime.

To provide funds from the Crime Victims Compensation Fund for District of Columbia victim compensation payments to eligible crime victims.

II. D.C. FEDERAL BLOCK GRANTS

For each of the grants listed in this section, the District of Columbia Courts are a sub-grantee of the District of Columbia.

(a) Victims of Domestic Violence

- ***Supervised Child Visitation Center***. Office of the Attorney General (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Access and Visitation Grant).

To support the Court's supervised visitation center through a grant from the Health and Human Services agency. The Center serves as a safe, neutral location in which non-custodial parents in domestic violence cases may visit their children.

- ***Domestic Violence Project***. D.C. Office of Victim Services on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, STOP Grant Program.

To enhance the safety and improve services of domestic violence victims residing in Wards 7 and 8. Grant funds are used to support operations at the Southeast Domestic Violence Center and support domestic violence and sexual assault training for judicial officers and staff in the Domestic Violence Unit and Family Court.

(b) Juvenile Offenders

- ***Juvenile Probation Accountability Grant***. D.C. Office of Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program.

To provide the judiciary of the D.C. Superior Court with an alternative disposition to regular probation for serious, non-compliant offenders; increase the utilization of services to youth from private and public organizations/agencies; and increase program participants' responsiveness and responsibility to the juvenile justice system by holding them accountable to probation requirements that will lead to successful probation completion. Programs funds are used to conduct curfew-checks and equip the newly opened Southeast Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop In Center.

- ***Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop-In Center.*** D.C. Office of Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG).

To expand the capacity and provision of secure and supervised services for youth under the courts' supervision by acquiring a more modern and strategically located facility for the Social Services Division's Northeast Field Unit. Implementing a restorative justice model would improve juvenile accountability, provide additional adjudication options, and enhance the provision or array of services for the youths and their families.

- ***IJIS Workflow Management and Information Technology Security Project.*** D.C. Office of Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG).

To review existing business processes developed during IJIS implementation; build a comprehensive electronic workflow capable of routing documents automatically to judicial officers and within the clerk's office; and, integrate the VisiFlow imaging and workflow application with the existing case management system.

III. PRIVATE GRANTS

(a) **Parenting Education**

- ***Program for Agreement and Cooperation in Contested Child Custody Cases.*** State Justice Institute.

To address a critical need of children and families in the District of Columbia for services to enhance understanding and communication between parents involved in custody proceedings and to assist children involved in such proceedings with understanding their feelings about their parents' conflict.

- ***Program for Agreement and Cooperation in Contested Child Custody Cases.*** Women's Bar Foundation Association.

To provide refreshments for adults and educational materials for parents involved in custody proceedings filing and participating in parenting educational classes.

Table 1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS
Amounts Available for Obligation: Grants and Reimbursements
(\$ in thousands)

Grant or Reimbursement	Source	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Estimate	FY 2009 Estimate
I. FEDERAL GRANTS:				
Abused and Neglected Children				
Court Improvement Program	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	384	286	286
Crime Victims				
Crime Victims Compensation Payments	U.S. Department of Justice	3,081	3,000	3,000
<i>Subtotal, Federal Grants</i>		<i>3,465</i>	<i>3,286</i>	<i>3,286</i>
II. D.C. FEDERAL BLOCK GRANTS:				
Domestic Violence				
Supervised Child Visitation Center	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	111	111	111
Domestic Violence Project	U.S. DOJ VAWA STOP Grants	76	38	38
Juvenile Offenders				
Juvenile Probation Accountability	U.S. DOJ Juvenile Accountability Incentive	308	100	100
Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop In Center	U.S. DOJ JAG Program	259	--	--
Information Technology				
IJIS Workflow Management	U.S. DOJ JAG Program	250	--	--
<i>Subtotal, D.C. Federal Block Grants</i>		<i>1,004</i>	<i>249</i>	<i>249</i>
III. PRIVATE GRANTS:				
Program for Agreement and Cooperation	State Justice Institute	57	--	--
Program for Agreement and Cooperation	Women's Bar Association Foundation	3	--	--
<i>Subtotal, Private Grants</i>		<i>60</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>
GRANTS TOTAL		4,529	3,535	3,535
REIMBURSEMENTS:				
Child Support Enforcement	D.C. Title IV-D Agency *	1,500	1,500	1,500
D.C. Department of Human Services	D.C. Department of Human Services	25	25	25
Corrections' Trustee	U.S. DOJ	6	6	6
Miscellaneous Reimbursements		30	30	30
REIMBURSEMENTS TOTAL		1,561	1,561	1,561
GRAND TOTAL		6,090	5,096	5,096

* Decrease reflects transfer of Child Support Collection and Disbursement from the Courts to the Office of the Attorney General of the District of Columbia, effective January 1, 2005.

Table 2
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS
Grants Scheduled To Expire in FY 2007
(\$ in thousands)

Grant	Source	Grant Period	Amount
IJIS Workflow Management Project	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ JAG Program	Oct. 2005 – Dec. 2006	250
Domestic Violence: STOP FY05 Grant	D.C. Federal Block Grant: VAWA	Oct. 2005 – Dec. 2006	38
Domestic Violence: STOP FY06 Grant	D.C. Federal Block Grant: VAWA	Oct. 2006 – Sept. 2007	38
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant FY03	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ OJJDP	Dec. 2005 – April 2007	165
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant FY04	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ OJJDP	Oct. 2006 – Sept. 2007	143
Program for the Agreement and Cooperation in Child Custody Cases	Women’s Bar Association Foundation	Oct. 2006 – Jun. 2007	3
Court Improvement Program	U.S. Department of Health & Human Services	Aug. 2005 – Sept. 2007	99
Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop In Center	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ JAG Program	Oct. 2006 – Sept. 2007	259
Total			994