



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

November 25, 2014

The Honorable Chase T. Rogers
Supreme Court Building
231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Chief Justice Rogers:

As the November fiscal accountability reports from both my office and the Office of Fiscal Analysis show, we face significant challenges in producing a balanced budget in the General Fund over the next biennium. While I am hopeful that the pace of economic recovery will accelerate and produce revenue growth that will make our task somewhat easier, the November consensus revenue forecast suggests that we will need to focus on significant expenditure reductions in order to balance the budget. As a result, my attention over the next two months will be on meeting this challenge through a comprehensive look at all areas of spending across the entirety of state government.

State statute requires that the budget recommended by the Governor for the Judicial branch for the next biennium be the same as the estimates that were transmitted by the branch to OPM in September. I would note that OFA, in its fiscal accountability report issued November 15th, estimated current services requirements for the Judicial branch that are substantially less than the amounts the branch requested in its September transmittal to OPM. (See attached table.) Accordingly, I request that you review your requested budget for the next biennium with a goal of reducing it to an amount that is no more than—and ideally is below—current services levels. It is my hope that you can submit a revised budget request to OPM not later than December 19, 2014, so that I can incorporate these revisions into the Governor's proposed budget in February.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Benjamin Barnes".

Ben Barnes
Secretary

Attachment

cc:

The Honorable Donald E. Williams, Jr., President Pro Tempore, State Senate
The Honorable Brendan Sharkey, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Martin Looney, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Joseph Aresimowicz, House of Representatives Majority Leader
The Honorable John McKinney, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable Lawrence F. Cafero, House of Representatives Minority Leader
The Honorable Beth Bye, Co-Chair Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Bob Duff, Senate Majority Leader-Elect
The Honorable Len Fasano, Senate Minority Leader-Elect
The Honorable Themis Klarides, House of Representatives Minority Leader-Elect
The Honorable Toni Walker, Co-Chair Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Patrick L. Carroll III, Chief Court Administrator
Susan Storey, Chief Public Defender
Thomas A. Siconolfi, Executive Director of Administrative Services
Alan Calandro, Office of Fiscal Analysis

Attachment

Fund	Agency	SID	Title	Agency Requested 2016	Agency Requested 2017	OFA Est. Current Services 2016	OFA Est. Current Services 2017	Diff Requested vs. OFA 2016	Diff Requested vs. OFA 2017
11000	JUD95000	10010	Personal Services	376,144,123	397,514,672	351,440,859	367,782,856	24,703,264	29,731,816
11000	JUD95000	10020	Other Expenses	71,112,718	75,849,011	67,440,225	68,627,312	3,672,493	7,221,699
11000	JUD95000	10050	Equipment	0	0			-	-
11000	JUD95000	12025	Forensic Sex Evidence Exams	1,441,460	1,441,460	1,383,302	1,466,189	58,158	(24,729)
11000	JUD95000	12043	Alternative Incarceration Program	56,504,295	56,504,295	56,774,335	57,870,079	(270,040)	(1,365,784)
11000	JUD95000	12064	Justice Education Center, Inc.	545,828	545,828	556,144	566,878	(10,316)	(21,050)
11000	JUD95000	12105	Juvenile Alternative Incarceration	28,442,478	28,442,478	28,614,560	29,245,296	(172,082)	(802,818)
11000	JUD95000	12128	Juvenile Justice Centers	3,136,361	3,136,361	3,195,638	3,257,314	(59,277)	(120,953)
11000	JUD95000	12135	Probate Court	14,819,000	17,415,000	10,953,175	11,164,571	3,865,825	6,250,429
11000	JUD95000	12375	Youthful Offender Services	18,177,084	18,177,084	18,480,588	18,837,263	(303,504)	(660,179)
11000	JUD95000	12376	Victim Security Account	9,402	9,402	3,570	3,639	5,832	5,763
11000	JUD95000	12502	Children of Incarcerated Parents	582,250	582,250	593,255	604,705	(11,005)	(22,455)
11000	JUD95000	12516	Legal Aid	1,660,000	1,660,000	1,528,350	1,557,847	131,650	102,153
11000	JUD95000	12555	Youth Violence Initiative	2,250,000	2,250,000	2,292,525	2,336,771	(42,525)	(86,771)
11000	JUD95000	12571	Judge's Increases	0	0	3799247	3966768	(3,799,247)	(3,966,768)
11000	JUD95000	12572	Children's Law Center	109,838	109,838	111,914	114,074	(2,076)	(4,236)
11000	JUD95000	12579	Juvenile Planning	150,000	150,000	152,835	155,785	(2,835)	(5,785)
	JUD95000 Total			575,084,837	603,787,679	547,320,522	567,557,347	27,764,315	36,230,332
11000	PDS98500	10010	Personal Services	43,812,188	44,112,259	43,574,308	45,600,515	237,880	(1,488,256)
11000	PDS98500	10020	Other Expenses	1,526,670	1,570,565	1,520,509	1,550,229	6,161	20,336
11000	PDS98500	12076	Assigned Counsel - Criminal	21,891,500	21,891,500	21,000,000	21,405,300	891,500	486,200
11000	PDS98500	12090	Expert Witnesses	3,022,090	3,022,090	2,499,999	2,571,165	522,091	450,925
11000	PDS98500	12106	Training and Education	130,000	130,000	132,508	135,122	(2,508)	(5,122)
11000	PDS98500	12418	Contracted Attorneys Related Expenses	125,000	125,000	96,976	98,848	28,024	26,152
	PDS98500 Total			70,507,448	70,851,414	68,824,300	71,361,179	1,683,148	(509,765)
12003	JUD95000	12472	Foreclosure Mediation Program	6,278,724	6,664,325	5,966,749	0	311,975	6,664,325
12014	JUD95000	12047	Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund	2,851,675	2,934,088	2,839,689	2,894,494	11,986	39,594
	JUD95000 Total			9,130,399	9,598,413	8,806,438	2,894,494	323,961	6,703,919
	Grand Total			654,722,684	684,237,506	624,951,260	641,813,020	29,771,424	42,424,486