



# STATE OF WYOMING

## 2009-2010 BIENNIUM

# SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST

SUPREME COURT 101

Agency Name and Number

Submitted by:

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Barton R. Voigt", is written over a horizontal line.

Name

Barton Voigt

Title

Chief Justice

Person(s) responsible for the preparation of this budget:

Holly Hansen, State Court Administrator

Joann Stockdale, Deputy State Court Administrator

AGENCY NAME: WYOMING SUPREME COURT

AGENCY NUMBER: 101

**WYOMING SUPREME COURT – AGENCY 101**

The Supreme Court's budget consists of seven programs: Supreme Court Administration, Judicial Nominating Commission, Law Library, Circuit Courts, Court Technology, Judicial Retirement, and Board of Judicial Policy and Administration.

**INTRODUCTION: WHAT THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT DOES**

Under the Wyoming constitution, the judicial power of the government of this state "shall be vested \* \* \* in a supreme court, district courts, and such subordinate courts as the legislature may, by general law, establish and ordain from time to time." Article 5, Section 1; Article 2, Section 1. The Supreme Court has general appellate jurisdiction statewide in both civil and criminal cases; it also has "general superintending control over all inferior courts, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by law." Article 5, Section 2. The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in quo warranto and mandamus as to all state officers and in habeas corpus. Article 5, Section 3. The Supreme Court also has power to issue writs of mandamus, review, prohibition, habeas corpus, certiorari, and other writs necessary and proper to the complete exercise of its appellate and revisory jurisdiction. Article 5, Section 3. Five justices, one of who serves as the chief justice, sit on the Supreme Court. Each justice serves an eight-year term and may hold successive terms upon retention by the statewide electorate. Article 5, Section 4.

By statute, the Supreme Court manages and supervises the circuit court system created by the Legislature. Wyo. Stat. §5-5-108. All 23 of the state's counties have elected to establish the circuit court system. Wyo. Stat. § 5-5-102 & 103. Twenty-four circuit judges and six full-time magistrates serve in these courts.

Statutes relating to the state's courts are found in Wyo. Stat. § 5-1-101 through 5-7-107. Those statutes, which specifically relate to the Supreme Court, are found in Wyo. Stat. § 5-2-101-501. Of particular note, the Supreme Court has extensive rule-making authority, Wyo. Stat. § 5-2-113 -119, including rules relating to the practice of law and procedures relating to review of decisions in cases originating in a municipal court, or a circuit court. The Supreme Court "superintend(s) and direct(s) all expenditures of money for the law library." Wyo. Stat. § 5-2-501.

As an independent, co-equal branch of state government, the judiciary, headed by the Supreme Court, exercises the state's judicial power to ensure to all of the state's citizens the protection of civil, political, and religious liberties secured by the state constitution. Preamble and Article 1, Wyoming Constitution. The mission of the Supreme Court is to ensure that all courts exercise their respective judicial powers within the bounds of the state constitution and the laws of the state not inconsistent therewith so that "(a)ll courts shall be open and every person for an injury done to person, reputation or property shall have justice administered without sale, denial or delay." Article 1, Section 8, Wyoming Constitution.

In order to exercise its judicial powers, the Supreme Court must maintain a support staff of well qualified and adequately compensated employees to assist the five justices as they daily carry out their constitutional and statutory duties and responsibilities.

AGENCY NAME: WYOMING SUPREME COURT

AGENCY NUMBER: 101

The Supreme Court has a constitutional obligation to ensure that the state's courts at every jurisdictional level are sufficiently funded by the Legislature so as to ensure to the state's citizens uninterrupted access to the courts and expeditious and efficient delivery of justice. Operational expenses incurred in fulfilling the Supreme Court's constitutional obligation including, but are not limited to, salaries and benefits to employees, supplies, equipment including the court computer automation system, furnishings, communications, travel, legal research materials of both print and electronic variety, circuit court magistrates, jurors, continuing judicial education programs and judicial administration programs including membership in the National Center for State Courts.

#### **SUMMARY OF 2009-2010 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST**

The Supreme Court's 2009-2010 Standard Budget totaled \$43,759,872. The Court is submitting a supplemental budget request to increase the budget by \$8,085,970. The following is a summary of the supplemental budget requests.

#### **SUPREME COURT- COURT TECHNOLOGY- DIVISION 0600 – \$8,085,970**

\$265,206 To cover the cost of three (3) full-time technology positions

\$3,476,000 – To cover the cost of computer hardware and software for the following technology projects:

- Electronic Citations
- Case Management System for District Courts
- Attorney Registration/Management System

\$4,344,764 – To cover the cost of Professional Services for the following technology projects:

- Electronic Citations
- Case management System for District Courts
- Attorney Registration/Management System

Agency Name: SUPREME COURT

B - Agency Supplemental Budget Summary

Agency Number: 101

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		2009-2010	2009-2010	Revised	Recommended
		Appropriation	Supplemental Request	2009-2010	Approval
Description	Code			Appropriation	
ADMINISTRATION	0100	7,832,216	0	7,832,216	7,832,216
JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMM	0200	15,001	0	15,001	15,001
LAW LIBRARY	0400	1,685,934	0	1,685,934	1,685,934
CIRCUIT COURTS	0500	24,951,226	0	24,951,226	24,951,226
COURT TECHNOLOGY	0600	7,158,080	8,085,970	15,244,050	15,244,050
JUDICIAL RETIREMENT	0700	1,573,913	0	1,573,913	1,573,913
BOARD OF JUDICIAL POLICY & ADM	0900	543,502	0	543,502	543,502
<b>TOTAL BY APPROPRIATION ORG</b>		<b>43,759,872</b>	<b>8,085,970</b>	<b>51,845,842</b>	<b>51,845,842</b>
PERSONAL SERVICES	0100	33,881,975	265,206	34,147,181	34,147,181
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	0200	7,894,918	3,476,000	11,370,918	11,370,918
CENTRAL SERVICES/DATA SERV.	0400	341,416	0	341,416	341,416
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	0900	1,641,563	4,344,764	5,986,327	5,986,327
<b>TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES</b>		<b>43,759,872</b>	<b>8,085,970</b>	<b>51,845,842</b>	<b>51,845,842</b>
MEANS OF FUNDING					
GENERAL FUND	G	37,187,324	8,085,970	45,273,294	45,273,294
FEDERAL FUNDS	X	289,939	0	289,939	289,939
OTHER FUNDS	Z	6,282,609	0	6,282,609	6,282,609
<b>TOTAL BY FUNDING</b>		<b>43,759,872</b>	<b>8,085,970</b>	<b>51,845,842</b>	<b>51,845,842</b>
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
FULL TIME EMPLOYEE COUNT		197	3	200	200
PART TIME EMPLOYEE COUNT		29	0	29	29
<b>AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>TOTAL AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>229</b>

Agency Summary