



STATE OF WYOMING

2017-2018

BIENNIUM BUDGET REQUEST

JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1B 121

Agency Name and Number

Submitted by:

Signature

Steven K. Sharpe

Name

Steven K. Sharpe

Title

District Court Judge 1B

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

B - AGENCY SUMMARY

| Agency Name: JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1-B | | Agency Number: 121 | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Description | Base Budget | Standard Budget | Exception Request | Total Agency Request | District Judge's Budget Comm. Recommendation |
| ADMINISTRATION 0100 | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| TOTAL BY EXPENSE ORGS | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| PERSONAL SERVICES 0100 | 1,027,104 | 1,084,624 | 0 | 1,084,624 | 1,084,624 |
| SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 0200 | 35,364 | 35,364 | 0 | 35,364 | 35,364 |
| CENT.SERV./DATA SERV. 0400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES 0900 | 23,907 | 23,907 | 23,500 | 47,407 | 47,407 |
| TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| GENERAL FUND G | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| TOTAL BY FUNDS | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| FULL TIME EMPLOYEE COUNT | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| PART TIME EMPLOYEE COUNT | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 |

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| Agency Name: Judicial District 1B (Cheyenne) | Agency Number: 121 |
| Approp. Org. Name: Administration | Division Number: 0100 |
| Expense Org. Name: Administration | Unit Number: 0101 |

EXPENSE ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Article 5, Wyoming Constitution, Section 5-3-101 through Section 5-3-111, inclusive, W.S. 2001 Republished Edition, established and define the general activities of the judiciary.

Section 5-3-401 through Section 5-3-412, W.S. 2001 Republished Edition, define the activities, duties, and responsibilities of the district court reporter.

The services provided by the First Judicial District, and the area of responsibility, is the administration of a court of law on the district level.

The District Court and position of Judge are constitutionally created; constitutionally and statutorily empowered.

Objectives and Goals: The effective operation of a court of law; keeping abreast of advancing caseloads, and avoiding delay in disposition of cases; the retention of competent staff personnel.

Caseload and disposition statistics are on file with the Wyoming Supreme Court and are available on request.

The District Court is a court of unlimited general jurisdiction, and in the First Judicial District, hears and determines matters and cases generally as set forth:

1. All Felonies
2. Juvenile matters
3. Workers' Compensation Appeals
4. Probate (decedents' estates, guardianships, adoption)
5. Involuntary commitments to the Wyoming State Hospital
6. All civil actions not commenced in circuit court
7. Appeals from circuit and municipal courts
8. Appeals from actions of state, county, and local governmental entities
9. Various writs

The District Court Judge is empowered to convene grand juries and petit juries.

Actions at law are appealed directly from the District Court to the Wyoming Supreme Court.

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The District Judge has support personnel under his direct supervision and control as follows:

1. Court Reporter. Duties: To make a stenographic record of court proceedings, prepare transcripts, various office functions. The court reporter is a statutory position.
2. Judicial Assistant. A Judicial Assistant is employed by District 1B. In the First Judicial District, there are over 300 lawyers who are constantly calling the Judges and appearing in the Judges’ chambers for probate matters, criminal and civil settings and motions hearings, all of which require the Judicial Assistant to be acting as receptionist, taking telephone calls, making appointments for lawyers with the Judge, as well as handling all of the correspondence and legal opinions that need to be typed for the Judge.
3. Law Clerk. The Law Clerk is a graduate of an accredited law school and has passed the Wyoming State Bar. The Law Clerk does legal research, which saves countless hours of judicial time. Without research by the Law Clerk, the Judge would be required to spend many hours each week out of the courtroom and not handling legal business, but, on the contrary, in the Wyoming Supreme Court Library doing research. Obviously, the Law Clerk makes it much more expeditious for the Judges in keeping up with the caseload.

STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST NARRATIVE.

100 Series – Personal Services: The 100 series funds are used to provide for a judge, judicial assistant, court reporter and a law clerk. These funds also provide payment of transcription fees to the court reporter and benefits for all court employees.

200 Series – Supportive Services: The 200 series funds are used to cover the necessary operating costs for judicial services in Laramie County.

900 Series – Contractual Services: 900 Series – Contractual Services: Funds in the 900 series are used to pay for a contract court reporter in the event the full-time court reporter is not available. They also provide for court commissioners when necessary, including commissioners for Title 25 involuntary hospitalization matters. Lastly, they cover the cost of interpreters in order to facilitate compliance with the Supreme Court of Wyoming Language Interpreter Policy.

Total Standard Budget Request \$1,143,895

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| Agency Name: Judicial District 1B (Cheyenne) | Agency Number: 121 |
| Approp. Org. Name: Administration | Division Number: 0100 |
| Expense Org. Name: Administration | Unit Number: 0101 |

EXCEPTION BUDGET REQUEST

\$23,500 – Professional Fees 0901: The First Judicial District has very recently experienced a dramatic increase in Title 25 proceedings. According to Diane Sanchez, the Clerk of the District Court for the First Judicial District, her office historically opened an average of 26 Title 25 cases each month. Beginning July 2015, that monthly average has grown to 50.

This increase has resulted in Special Commissioners presiding over “stacked” proceedings at our hospital 3 different days each week, often from 3-4 hours each day. We have conferred with both the Special Commissioners and the County Attorney, and in doing so have learned that Laramie County’s heavy Title 25 case load is likely here to stay.

Because of the nature of this work, specifically the ad hoc and uncertain nature of the caseload and the extraordinary deadlines associated with these cases, our own judicial resources (that is, the three District Court judges or even this Judicial District’s very busy Circuit Court judges, acting on assignment) cannot be used to address this very important component of our case load. The Special Commissioners play a vital role in ensuring that those individuals who are the subject of Title 25 proceedings receive competent, compassionate and prompt justice.

Each of the judges in the First Judicial District compensates these Special Commissioners from our individual agency budgets, and at this point we are concerned that each of us will experience a budget shortfall during this second half of the current biennium. In an effort to properly plan for the coming biennium, we have conferred with the Supreme Court financial office and have concluded that an exception of roughly \$70,000 total, or roughly \$23,500 for each of our three agencies, would be necessary to ensure that each agency’s budget has sufficient funds to compensate Title 25 Special Commissioners.

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Total Exception Budget Request | \$ 23,500 |
| Total Agency Budget Request | \$1,167,395 |

| Agency Name: JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1-B | | Wyoming On-Line Financial System Code | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| Approp. Org. Name: ADMINISTRATION | | AGY | DIVISION | UNIT | FUND | APPR UNIT |
| Expense Org. Name: ADMINISTRATION | | 121 | 0100 | 0101 | 001 | 101 |
| 1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Description | Code | Base Budget | Standard Budget | Exception Request | Total Agency Request | District Judges Budget Comm. Recommendation |
| EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
| SALARIES-SET BY LAW | 0101 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 0 | 300,000 | 300,000 |
| SALARIES CLASSIFIED | 0103 | 397,604 | 429,216 | 0 | 429,216 | 429,216 |
| SALARIES OTHER | 0104 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| EMPLOYER PD BENEFITS | 0105 | 175,939 | 186,844 | 0 | 186,844 | 186,844 |
| EMPLOYER HEALTH INS BENEFITS | 0196 | 153,561 | 168,564 | 0 | 168,564 | 168,564 |
| EXTERNAL COST ADJ - BENEFITS | 0199 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 0100 | 1,027,104 | 1,084,624 | 0 | 1,084,624 | 1,084,624 |
| EQUIPMENT REP & MNTC | 0202 | 4,222 | 4,222 | 0 | 4,222 | 4,222 |
| UTILITIES | 0203 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 0 | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| COMMUNICATION | 0204 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DUES-LICENSES-REGIST | 0207 | 1,603 | 1,603 | 0 | 1,603 | 1,603 |
| DATA PROCESSING | 0209 | 480 | 480 | 0 | 480 | 480 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 0210 | 96 | 96 | 0 | 96 | 96 |
| TRAVEL IN STATE | 0221 | 3,602 | 3,602 | 0 | 3,602 | 3,602 |
| TRAVEL OUT OF STATE | 0222 | 2,550 | 2,550 | 0 | 2,550 | 2,550 |
| OFFICE SUPPL-PRINTING | 0231 | 12,780 | 12,780 | 0 | 12,780 | 12,780 |
| EDUCA-RECREATNL SUPP | 0236 | 6,240 | 6,240 | 0 | 6,240 | 6,240 |
| SOFT GOODS&HOUSEKPNG | 0237 | 291 | 291 | 0 | 291 | 291 |
| OFFICE EQUIP-FURNISH | 0246 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MTNC CONTRACTS EXTERNAL | 0292 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SUPPORTIVE SERVICES | 0200 | 35,364 | 35,364 | 0 | 35,364 | 35,364 |
| CENTRAL-SER DATA-SER | 0410 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS | 0420 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| EQUIPMENT SERVICE CENTER | 0430 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CENT. SERV./DATA SERV. | 0400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PROFESSIONAL FEES | 0901 | 23,907 | 23,907 | 23,500 | 47,407 | 47,407 |
| SPECIAL PROJ & SVCS | 0903 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CONTRACTUAL TRAVEL | 0905 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES | 0900 | 23,907 | 23,907 | 23,500 | 47,407 | 47,407 |
| EXPENDITURE TOTALS | | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| MEANS OF FUNDING | | | | | | |
| GENERAL FUND | 1001 | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| GENERAL FUND | G | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| TOTAL FUNDING | | 1,086,375 | 1,143,895 | 23,500 | 1,167,395 | 1,167,395 |
| AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES | | | | | | |
| FULL TIME EMPLOYEE COUNT | | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| PART TIME EMPLOYEE COUNT | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES | | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| TOTAL AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES | | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 |