



SUPREME COURT OF KANSAS

KANSAS JUDICIAL CENTER
301 SW 10TH AVE.
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1507

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October 29, 2018

Shawn Jurgensen
Special Counsel to the Chief Justice

Joint Committee on State Building Construction

Chairman Billinger and members of the joint committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear here today to testify concerning the Judicial Branch's five-year Capital Improvement Plan which encompasses four capital improvement projects for the Judicial Center: (1) construction of a conference room, training rooms, and restrooms; (2) Department of Homeland Security recommended relocation of a security guard station; (3) relocation and construction of two Court of Appeals chambers; and (4) construction of a Judicial Branch Learning Center. Funding for the first three projects has already been approved in the FY 2019 budget. Use of the Judicial Branch docket fee fund to create the Judicial Branch Learning Center is requested in the FY 2020-2021 Budget request recently submitted.

1. Construction of Conference Room, Training Rooms, and Restrooms - \$500,000 (FY 2019)

A Request for Proposal has been issued for this already-approved project. Bidding closes November 6, 2018. Because the bidding process is ongoing, the exact cost of the project has not yet been determined. But estimates have been revised to reflect the estimated cost of the project. Upon completion, the project is anticipated to reduce Judicial Branch training and testing expenditures as the rooms will provide a space for the Kansas Board of Law Examiners (KBLE) to administer the spring bar exam and for the Judicial Branch to host numerous other meetings or conferences.

The project will be built on the east side of the first floor of the Judicial Center. The Kansas Judicial Center has limited meeting space, and it is often difficult to schedule the many groups, boards, commissions, and committees in rooms currently available. Adding a conference room and training/meeting rooms on the first floor will also address security concerns within the Judicial Center.

The training and meeting rooms can be used for a variety of trainings and meetings for Judicial Branch employees, judges, and committee members. The rooms can be used by the

Kansas Board of Law Examiners (KBLE), which regularly meets to conduct character and fitness hearings for bar exam applicants and to complete its general business. When the board convenes for character and fitness hearings as required by Supreme Court Rule 721, it is difficult to find available meeting spaces in the Judicial Center that can accommodate the entire board and the full copy of exhibits and pleadings each member must have for each case argued.

In addition to a room to conduct its hearings, the KBLE needs a conference room that seats at least 25 people and allows for open discussion. It must also be large enough that the board can review hard copies of materials, or project them onto a screen.

The conference room would also be used by the Commission on Judicial Qualifications (Commission), which has 14 members grouped into two seven-member panels. The panels meet to conduct the general business of the Commission. An arrangement that accommodates a seven-member hearing panel plus staff would be similar to the needs of the Board of Law Examiners. The Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection Board (CPF) would also use the conference room for its quarterly meetings. All three boards require a minimum number of members to be present to conduct business. The conference room and hearing room would have remote videoconferencing capability to accommodate members who are unable to attend a meeting in person.

2. Security Guard Station Relocation - \$200,000 (FY 2019)

Currently, the Judicial Center security guard desk is stationed immediately in front of the public elevators. The entrances to the Clerk of the Appellate Courts' office and the Supreme Court Law Library are located between the front entrance of the Judicial Center and the security desk. Recently, the Department of Homeland Security conducted a security analysis of the Judicial Center. It recommended relocating the security desk to the front entrance so individuals are immediately screened upon entering the building. Placement of the security desk at the entrance of the Judicial Center would be similar to the location of the security desk at the visitor's entrance of the Kansas Statehouse. The Legislature approved the funding for this project in FY 2019.

3. Relocation and Construction of two Court of Appeals Chambers - \$200,000 (FY 2019)

Architectural plans for this already-approved project are being created and the cost estimate continues to project at \$200,000. This project will move two Court of Appeals chambers from the third floor of the Judicial Center to the second floor, where the Court of Appeals is located. It also allows Supreme Court staff to move to the third floor, where the rest of the Supreme Court and its staff are located. These moves make more efficient use of the limited space within the Judicial Center. While the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals have altered their organizational structure to be more efficient, including shared clerical staff and a redistribution of existing research staff, this funding was necessary to modernize the space to further increase efficiencies by optimizing the utilization of the current office space. The project is anticipated to begin in the first part of calendar year 2019 with a completion date prior to the end of the fiscal year.

4. Construction of Judicial Branch Learning Center - \$200,000 (FY 2020)

Much like the Kansas Statehouse, the Judicial Center experiences visitors throughout the year who have questions about the Judicial Branch, including the structure of the courts, the cases heard by the courts, how a case moves through the judicial process, and what occurs in a case at the appellate level. Many of the visitors are school-aged children who are visiting the Judicial Center as part of a civics lesson. The creation of a Judicial Branch Learning Center would provide an interactive learning environment that delivers information to visitors about the Judicial Branch and its function within state government.

Thank you for your consideration and with the chairman's permission I stand for questions.

Revised Five-Year Capital Budget Plan--DA 418A

Division of the Budget
State of Kansas

Agency Name Judicial Branch

Project Title	Estimated Project Cost	Prior Years	Current Year	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Subsequent Years
1. Construction of Training/Meeting Rooms and Conference Room	500,000			500,000					
1. Security & Guard Station Relocation	200,000			200,000					
1. Court of Appeals Judicial Offices	200,000			200,000					
2. Judicial Branch Learning Center					200,000				
Total	900,000			900,000	200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Revised Project Request Explanation--DA 418B

1. Project Title: Construction of First Floor Training/Meeting Rooms and Conference Room Agency: Judicial Branch	2. Project Priority: 1																																																															
3. Project Description and Justification: <p>This project is part of the approved FY 2019 Judicial Branch budget. While the exact cost has not yet been determined, estimates have been revised to reflect the estimated cost of this project. It is estimated that the project will go out to bid in August.</p> <p>The judicial branch identified needs for a conference room and training rooms, which will be located on the east side of the first floor of the Kansas Judicial Center. The Kansas Judicial Center has limited meeting space, and it is often difficult to schedule the many groups, boards, commissions, and committees in rooms currently available. Adding a conference room and training/meeting rooms on the first floor will also address security concerns within the Judicial Center.</p> <p>The training/meeting rooms can be used for a variety of trainings and meetings for Judicial Branch employees, judges, and committee members. The rooms can be used by the Kansas Board of Law Examiners (KBLE), which regularly meets to conduct character and fitness hearings for bar exam applicants and to complete its general business. When the board convenes for character and fitness hearings as required by Supreme Court Rule 721, it is difficult to find available meeting spaces in the Judicial Center that can accommodate the entire board and the full copy of exhibits and pleadings each member must have for each case argued.</p> <p>In addition to a room to conduct its hearings, the KBLE needs a conference room that seats at least 25 people and allows for open discussion. It must also be large enough that the board can review hard copies of materials, or project them onto a screen.</p> <p>The conference room would also be used by the Commission on Judicial Qualifications (Commission), which has 14 members grouped into two seven-member panels. The panels meet to conduct the general business of the commission. An arrangement that accommodates a seven-member hearing panel plus staff would be similar to the needs of the Board of Law Examiners. The Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection Board (CPF) would also use the conference room for its quarterly meetings. All three boards require a minimum number of members to be present to conduct business. The conference room and hearing room would have remote videoconferencing capability to accommodate members who are unable to attend a meeting in person.</p>																																																																
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Revised Project Request Explanation--DA 418B

1. Project Title: Court of Appeals Judicial Offices						2. Project Priority: 1	
Agency: Judicial Branch							
3. Project Description and Justification:							
<p>This project is part of the FY 2019 approved budget. The 2018 legislature added \$200,000 in SGF funding for construction of two judicial offices. Architectural plans have already begun for this construction. The cost is estimated to be \$200,000. This construction project will allow two Court of Appeals judges and their staff to be moved onto the same floor as the rest of the Court of Appeals and allow Supreme Court staff to move onto the same floor as the rest of the Supreme Court, as well as make efficient use of limited space within the Judicial Center.</p> <p>In reviewing current operations in the Judicial Center, both the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals have altered the organizational structure to be more efficient and effective. The result has been shared clerical staff and a redistribution of existing research staff. Funding will be necessary for the Office of Facilities and Procurement Management to modernize the space to further increase efficiencies by optimizing the utilization of the current office space.</p>							
4. Estimated Project Cost:				5. Project Phasing:			
1. Construction (including fixed equipment and site work)	143,105			1. Preliminary plans (including misc. costs)	3,943		
2. Architect or engineer fee	11,265			2. Final plans (including misc. and other costs)	5,069		
3. Moveable equipment	0			3. Construction (including misc. and other costs)	190,988		
4. Project contingency	25,829						
5. Miscellaneous costs	19,801						
Total		\$200,000		Total		\$200,000	
6. Amount by Source of Financing:							
Fiscal Years	1. SGF	2.	3.	4.	5.	Total	
Prior Years						\$ --	
FY 2019	\$200,000					\$ --	
FY 2020						\$ --	
FY 2021						\$ --	
FY 2022						\$ --	
FY 2023						\$ --	
Subsequent Years						\$ --	
Total	\$200,000	\$0	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$0	

