



# FY 2026 BUDGET HEARING

**STEVEN R. JENSEN**

Chief Justice  
Supreme Court

**GREG SATTIZAHN**

State Court  
Administrator

**AARON OLSON**

Director  
Budget & Finance

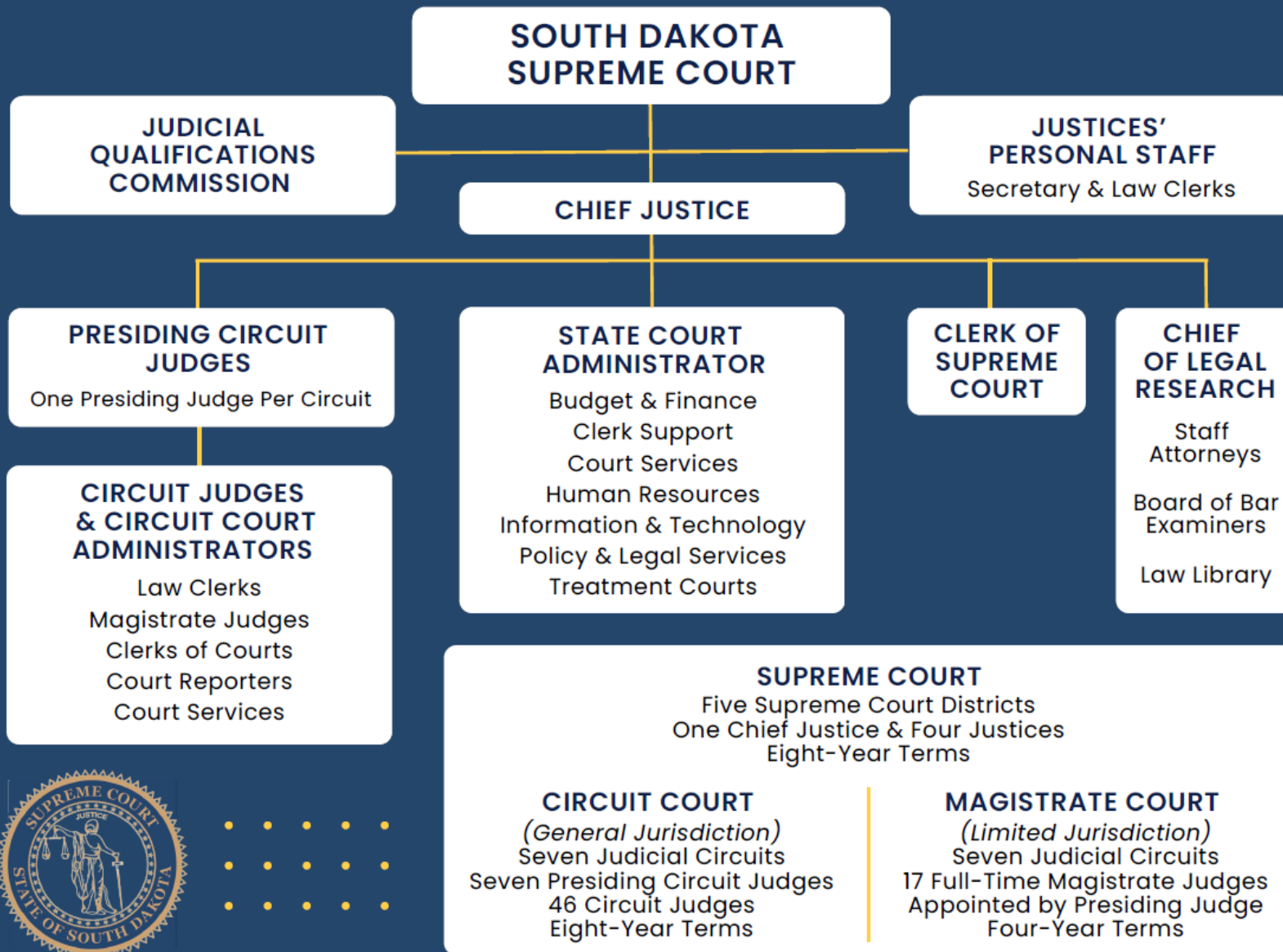
# AGENDA

- Unified Judicial System (UJS) Overview
- FY26 Budget Request
- Indigent Legal Services

[uj.s.sd.gov](https://uj.s.sd.gov)



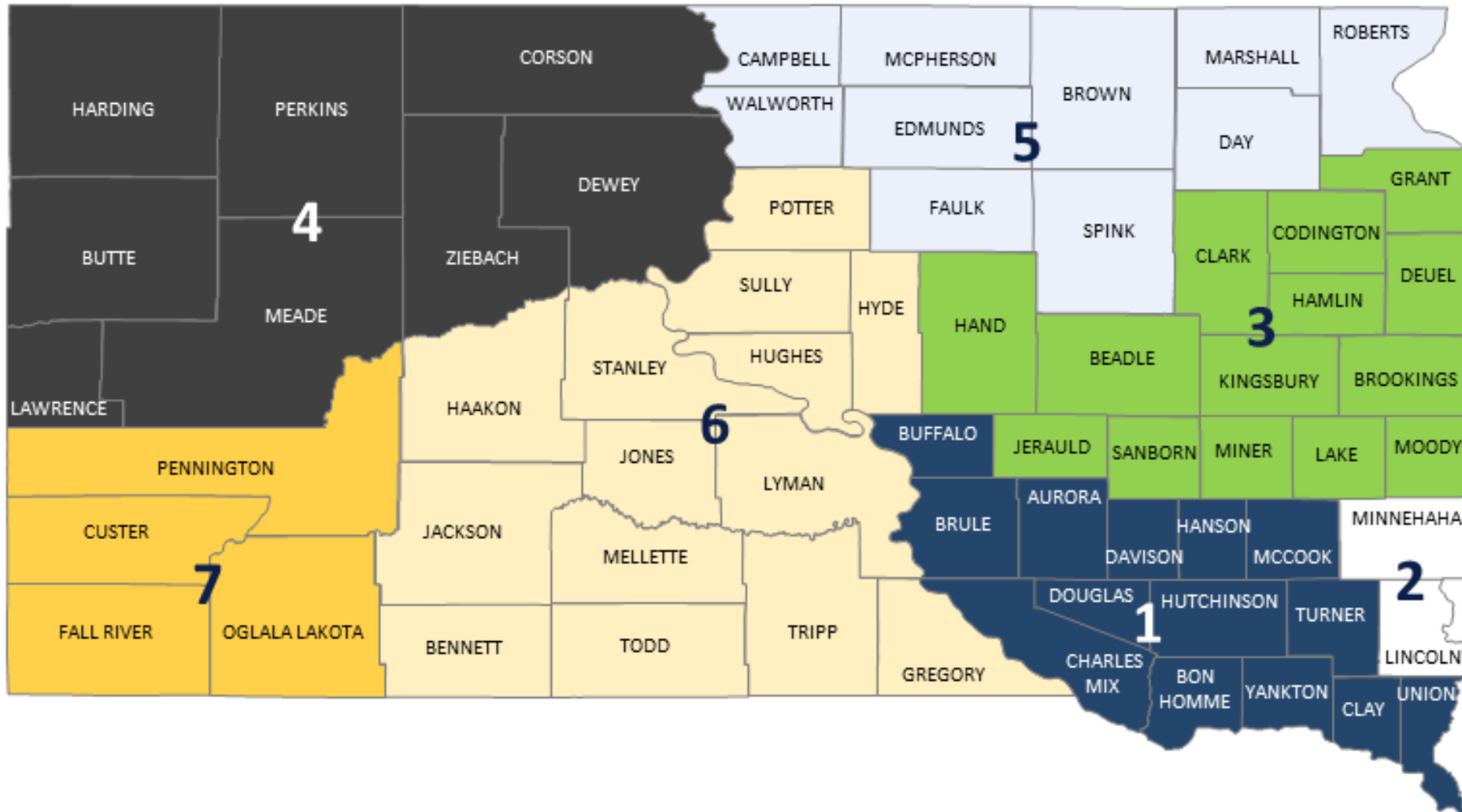
# SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM



[ujs.sd.gov](https://ujs.sd.gov)



# UJS JUDICIAL CIRCUITS



[uj.s.sd.gov](http://uj.s.sd.gov)





# WHO PAYS FOR WHAT

## Counties Pay For:

- Courthouse Facilities
- Courthouse Transcripts
- Indigent Defense Costs
- Jury Expenses
- Interpreters–Criminal Cases
- Witness Fees
- Law Library Costs (supported by fees)
- Court Security

## State Pays For:

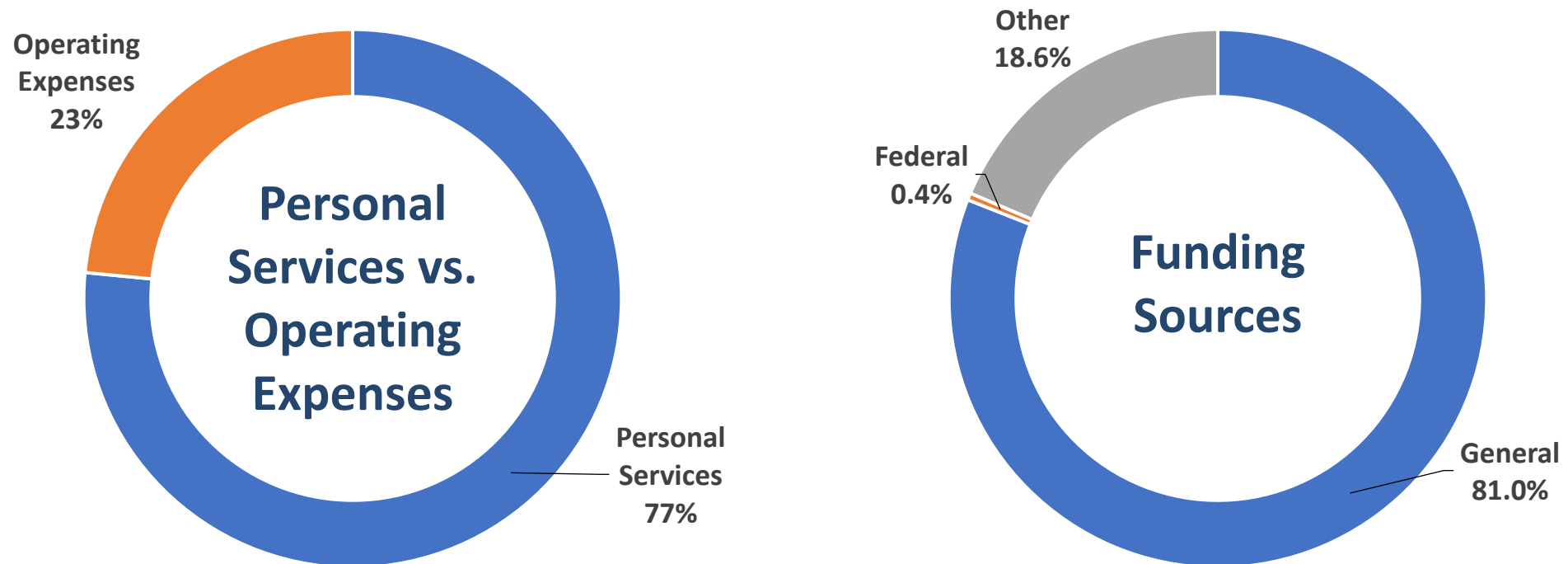
- Judge/Employee Salaries and Benefits
- Training and Education
- Interpreters–Civil Cases and Post-Conviction
- Operating Expenses:
  - Travel
  - Contractual Expenses
  - Supplies and Materials
  - Capital Assets
- Automation/Technology

[ujs.sd.gov](http://ujs.sd.gov)



# FY26 UJS FUNDING LEVEL—\$81,796,644

\* Includes Unified Judicial System, Equal Access to our Courts, Indigent Legal Services and State Bar



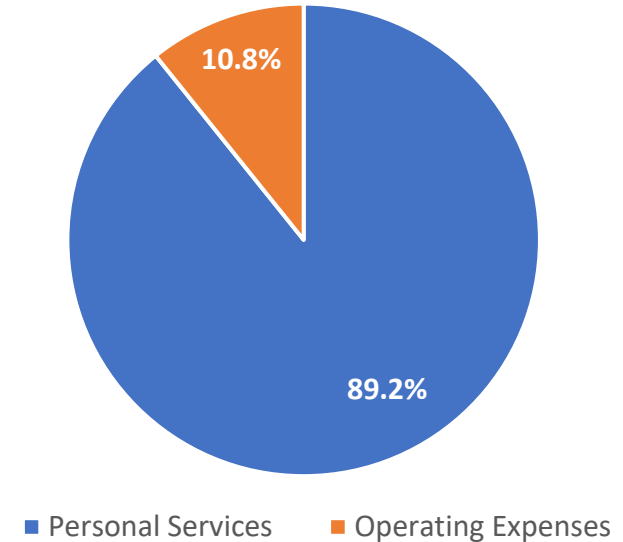
[uj.s.sd.gov](https://uj.s.sd.gov)



# FY26 GENERAL FUND BREAKDOWN

\* Unified Judicial System Only

- **Personal Services:** \$57,549,020
  - ✓ Salaries and Benefits (100%): 608.7 FTE
- **Operating Expenses:** \$6,948,534
  - ✓ **Treatment Courts** (49.7%): Substance abuse, mental health and defense counsel contracts, drug/DUI testing supplies, and treatment
  - ✓ **Community Based Services** (17.0%): Payments to providers as the "payer of last resort"
  - ✓ **Contractual Services** (14.8%): Central billings, dues and membership fees, interpreters, shredding, medical waste transport, advertising job postings
  - ✓ **Supplies** (9.8%): Printing, postage, office supplies and drug/DUI testing supplies for standard probationers
  - ✓ **Travel** (8.7%): Travel for justices, judges, clerk of courts, court services and SCAO staff



ujs.sd.gov



A bronze statue of Lady Justice, blindfolded and holding scales of justice, stands against a blue background with yellow stars. The statue is positioned on the left side of the slide.

# FY24 UJS SNAPSHOT

- **Case Filings:** 190,181
  - ✓ **Criminal:**131,036
  - ✓ **Civil:** 59,145
- **Probation Statistics** (*last day of FY count*): 8,126
  - ✓ **Adult:** 7,307
  - ✓ **Juvenile:** 819
- **Treatment Courts:** 17
  - ✓ **Clients Served:** 809
  - ✓ **Clients Graduated:** 165



# FY26 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Includes Unified Judicial System, Equal Access to our Courts, Indigent Legal Services and State Bar

Budget	FTE	General	Federal	Other	Total
FY25 Base Budget	617.7	\$65,935,197	\$345,095	\$14,306,156	\$80,586,448
FY26 Recommended Budget	618.7	\$66,238,797	\$345,095	\$15,212,752	\$81,796,644
<b>Difference</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$303,600</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>906,596</b>	<b>\$1,210,196</b>

Budget	FTE	General	Federal	Other	Total
Circuit Court Staff Attorney	1.0	\$106,702			\$106,702
Travel for New FTE		\$632			\$632
Provider Inflation – 1.25%		\$42,876			\$42,876
Sioux Falls One-Stop		\$153,390			\$153,390
IT Operating Expenses				\$906,596	\$906,596
<b>Total Recommended Changes</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$303,600</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$906,596</b>	<b>\$1,210,196</b>

ujs.sd.gov



# CIRCUIT COURT STAFF ATTORNEY Page 4

## 1 FTE: Third Judicial Circuit

### Salary & Benefits: \$106,702

- Salary: \$81,683
- Benefits: \$25,019

### Travel: \$632

- A circuit court staff attorney is needed in the Third Circuit to provide research, analysis and advice to the circuit judges within the circuit.
- Currently, one law clerk supports six circuit judges and two magistrate judges.



# SIOUX FALLS ONE-STOP Page 15

## Increase of \$153,390 for Space Billing

- Increases in Second Circuit staffing in recent years has created limited space in the Minnehaha County Courthouse for non-circuit specific employees.
- Eight Supreme Court and other UJS non-circuit personnel currently housed in the Minnehaha County Courthouse or in other leased spaces in Sioux Falls will move to new One-Stop building.
- Space available for an additional 5 employees in the future.

# COURT AUTOMATION FUND

## Revenues:

- Search Fees
- Circuit Court Surcharge
- Judgment Searches
- Interest Earned
- Information Requests
- Nonresident Attorney Fees
- Victims Compensation 1.5% Administration Fee
- Supreme Court Surcharge
- CD Transcripts
- Miscellaneous

## Expenses:

- Information & Technology:  
FTEs, Consulting, Hardware,  
Software, Maintenance and  
Support, BIT Charges,  
Development
- Support Services:  
Contract Judges, Committee  
Meetings, Microfilm, Bank and  
Credit Card Fees
- Capital Assets
- Miscellaneous:  
Telecommunications,  
Equipment Maintenance,  
Westlaw, PEPL



# CONDITION STATEMENT

## UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM COURT AUTOMATION FUND CONDITION STATEMENT (3012-829)

	ACTUAL FY2023	ACTUAL FY2024	PROJECTED FY2025	PROJECTED FY2026
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>8,293,180</b>	<b>8,623,513</b>	<b>8,403,217</b>	<b>8,403,212</b>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>8,564,449</b>	<b>9,078,713</b>	<b>9,046,059</b>	<b>9,292,227</b>
NET (Receipts less Disbursements)	(271,269)	(455,201)	(642,842)	(889,015)
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE	5,703,685	5,432,416	4,977,215	4,334,373
ADJUSTMENTS	0	0	0	0
<b>ENDING FY CASH BALANCE</b>	<b>5,432,416</b>	<b>4,977,215</b>	<b>4,334,373</b>	<b>3,445,358</b>



# IT OPERATING EXPENSES

Page 13

## Increase of \$906,596 from Court Automation Funds

- Tyler Technologies has notified us that the current supervision solution is nearing end of life and that they will stop supporting that solution in the relatively near future.
- The new supervision system is a cloud-based enterprise solution with enhanced capabilities.
- The estimated cost to move to the new system is \$651,429.
- Remaining increase is Microsoft Assurance related to workstation licensing for MS Office and OS.

[ujs.sd.gov](http://ujs.sd.gov)

# OFFICE OF INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

- Dean Neil Fulton, Chair of Commission on Indigent Legal Services
- Christopher Miles, Chief Defender

[ujs.sd.gov](http://ujs.sd.gov)



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## South Dakota Unified Judicial System

State Court Administrator's Office  
500 E. Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501

605-773-3474  
<https://uj.s.sd.gov>

[uj.s.sd.gov](https://uj.s.sd.gov)

