

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**  
**FY 2005 Budget Justification**  
**Grants and Reimbursements**

For Fiscal Year 2003, the District of Columbia Courts secured over \$2 million in Federal, local, and private grant funds to (1) expedite permanent placement of children as required by ASFA legislation; (2) reduce criminal behavior among juvenile offenders; (3) improve case processing of petty misdemeanors and traffic cases (4) enhance access to court services; and (5) provide services to victims of crime. The Courts currently receive funds through 12 active grants secured from various Federal, local and private sources. Of these, six grants, totaling \$805,241 will expire by the end of FY 2003. Table 1 lists the Courts' grants and reimbursement funding for Fiscal Years 2003 through 2005, while Table 2 lists grants scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal year 2003. A brief description of the Courts' grant-funded projects follows.

**I. FEDERAL GRANTS**

**(a) Abused and Neglected Children**

- ***Permanency Resolution Project.*** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Adoption Opportunities Program.

To expedite the adoption or other permanent placement of the more than 4,500 children who have been in out-of-home placements for more than 15 of the last 22 months, as required by the Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA), by identifying barriers to adoption, developing action plans tailored to each child's needs, and reducing the average time in foster care from 3 and one-half years to one year.

- ***Court Improvement Program.*** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

To assess and improve judicial proceedings that handle child abuse and neglect and related foster care and adoption litigation. The Superior Court continues collaboration with District child welfare agencies in examining the effectiveness of current practices and procedures, adequacy of resources, and coordination among key agencies in order to enhance the processing of child abuse and neglect matters in the District of Columbia. CIP funds have supported a Child Protection Mediation program, developed in coordination with the Office of the Corporation Counsel and the Child and Family Services Agency, and a Remedial Project to examine ways of expediting placement or adoption. More recently, the Court implemented a Family Treatment Court Pilot Project to provide residential treatment to women with a substance abuse problem who have children under the Court's supervision that have a goal of reunification. CIP funds will be used to support the Family Treatment Court Coordinator's position.

**(b) Crime Victims**

- ***Crime Victims Compensation Program (Claims).*** U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime.

To provide funds from the Crime Victims Compensation Fund for District of Columbia victim compensation payments to eligible crime victims.

**II. D.C. FEDERAL BLOCK GRANTS**

For each of the grants listed in this section, the District of Columbia Courts are a sub-grantee of the District of Columbia.

**(a) Victims of Domestic Violence**

- ***Supervised Child Visitation Center.*** Office of Corporation Counsel (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Access and Visitation Grant).

To partially staff the Court's supervised visitation center through a grant from the Health and Human Services agency. The Center serves as a safe, neutral location in which non-custodial parents in domestic violence cases may visit their children.

- ***Domestic Violence Project.*** D.C. Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, STOP Grant Program.

To support operations at the Southeast Domestic Violence Center, including rent and video-conferencing activities. In addition, funds will also support training and supplies at the supervised visitation center.

**(b) Juvenile Offenders**

- ***Juvenile Probation Accountability Grant.*** D.C. Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program.

To implement an electronic monitoring and intensive supervision program (EMIS) and to enhance the network of mentors. EMIS (a technologically enhanced alternative to incarceration) will address the issue of compliance with court-ordered conditions of probation. In addition to serving as a major element of probation supervision, EMIS may also redirect the activities of at-risk adjudicated juveniles. The mentoring component provides positive role models and assists youth with self-esteem building, anger management, conflict resolution, and basic life skills.

**(c) Information Technology**

- ***Automated Juvenile & Neglect Case Management System.*** D.C. Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Byrne Formula Block Grant Program.

The Byrne grant funds would procure licenses to access the abuse and neglect component of the Courts' juvenile module of its integrated justice information system.

**(d) Community Court**

- ***D.C. Courts' Community Court Program.*** D.C. Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Byrne Formula Block Grant Program.

To improve case processing of petty misdemeanors and traffic cases in the District of Columbia. That is, to shift the processing of cases from a traditional approach to a restorative and therapeutic justice model, and provide treatment and social service options for offenders.

**III. PRIVATE GRANTS**

**(a) Abused and Neglected Children**

- ***AFSA Pilot Mediation Project.*** Council for Court Excellence.

To support the Courts Alternative Dispute Resolutions Initiative. Grants funds were sought to yield substantial reductions in the time required to reach adjudications and disposition of the medicated cases.

**(b) Community Court**

- ***Community Court Technical Assistance.*** State Justice Institute.

To hire consultants to provide technical assistance/guidance on implementing an effective restorative and therapeutic justice model in the District of Columbia.

**(c) Organizational Development**

- ***Solutions Project Grant.*** State Justice Institute.

To support the Courts' Strategic Planning Initiative. Grants funds were sought to assist in collecting input from diverse groups of court participants to identify the critical issues the Courts will face in the next few years and how the Courts should respond.

- **Leading Organizational Change.** State Justice Institute.

To support a training conference for judicial officers and senior managers on leading organizational change to help ensure the successful implementation of the Courts' recently adopted long-range strategic plan.

Table 1  
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**  
**Amounts Available for Obligation: Grants and Reimbursements**  
 (\$ in thousands)

Grant or Reimbursement	Source	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Estimate	FY 2005 Estimate
<b>I. FEDERAL GRANTS:</b>				
<b>Abused and Neglected Children</b>				
Permanency Resolution Project	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	135	133	--
Court Improvement Program	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	100	100	100
<b>Crime Victims</b>				
Crime Victims Compensation Payments	U.S. Department of Justice	1,643	1,600	1,600
<i>Subtotal, Federal Grants</i>		<i>1,878</i>	<i>1,833</i>	<i>1,700</i>
<b>II. D.C. FEDERAL BLOCK GRANTS:</b>				
<b>Domestic Violence</b>				
Supervised Child Visitation Center	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	111	111	111
Domestic Violence Project	U.S. DOJ VAWA STOP Grant	37	79	40
<b>Juvenile Offenders</b>				
Juvenile Probation Accountability	U.S. DOJ Juvenile Accountability Incentive	243	214	214
<b>Information Technology</b>				
Automated Juvenile & Neglect Case Management System	U.S. DOJ Byrne Grant	138	--	--
<b>Community Court</b>				
DC Courts' Community Court Program	U.S. DOJ Byrne Grant	88	--	--
<i>Subtotal, D.C. Federal Block Grants</i>		<i>617</i>	<i>404</i>	<i>365</i>

Grant or Reimbursement	Source	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Estimate	FY 2005 Estimate
<b>III. PRIVATE GRANTS:</b>				
<b>Community Court</b>				
AFSA Pilot Mediation Project	Council for Court Excellence	47	--	--
Community Court Technical Assistance	State Justice Institute	9	20	--
<b>Organizational Development</b>				
Solutions Project Grant	State Justice Institute	--	19	--
Leading Organizational Change	State Justice Institute	19	---	--
<i>Subtotal, Private Grants</i>		75	39	--
<b>GRANTS TOTAL</b>		<b>2,570</b>	<b>2,276</b>	<b>2,065</b>
<b>REIMBURSEMENTS:</b>				
Child Support Enforcement	D.C. Title IV-D Agency	2,500	2,800	2,800
D.C. Department of Human Services	D.C. Department of Human Services	111	113	117
Corrections' Trustee	U.S. DOJ	408	414	420
Miscellaneous Reimbursements		30	30	30
<b>REIMBURSEMENTS TOTAL</b>		<b>3,049</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,367</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>5,619</b>	<b>5,633</b>	<b>5,432</b>

Table 2  
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**  
**Grants Expiring in FY 2003**  
(\$ in thousands)

Grant	Source	Grant Period	Amount
Leading Organizational Change	Private Grant: State Justice Institute	Mar 2003 – Jun 2003	19
AFSA Pilot Mediation Project	Private Grant: Council for Court Excellence	Oct. 2001 – Dec 2003	95
D.C. Courts' Community Court Program	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ Byrne Block Grant	Jan 2003 - Sept. 2003	129
Domestic Violence: Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies	Sept. 2002 – Sept. 2003	111
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ JAIBG	Oct. 2000 – Mar 2003*	243
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	D.C. Federal Block Grant: U.S. DOJ JAIBG	Apr 2003 – Sept. 2003	208
<b>Total</b>			<b>805</b>

\*JAIBG was extended into fiscal year 2003.