

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS
FY 2010 Budget Justification
Grant-funded Activities and Reimbursements

For Fiscal Year 2008, the District of Columbia Courts secured over \$4 million in Federal, local, and private grant funds to: (1) provide services to victims of crime; (2) enhance coordination of service delivery to juveniles; (3) reduce criminal behavior among juvenile offenders; (4) expedite permanent placement of children as required by ASFA legislation; and (5) enhance employment opportunities for non-custodial ex-offenders with active child support cases. The Courts currently receive funds through 20 active grants secured from various Federal, local and private sources. Of these, 8 grants, totaling \$666,000 are scheduled to expire the end of FY 2008. Table 1 lists the Courts' grants and reimbursement funding for Fiscal Years 2008 and projected through 2010, while Table 2 lists grants scheduled to expire at the end of FY 2008. A brief description of the Courts' grant-funded projects follows.

I. FEDERAL GRANTS

(a) Abused and Neglected Children

- ***Court Improvement Program (CIP)***. 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. With the multiple grants, funds are used to continue to support the CASA led *Preparing Youth for Adulthood* initiative (a mentor/advocacy project designed to focus increased attention on the needs of young people who will emancipate from the child welfare system), collaborate with the child welfare agency and the prosecutor's office to enhance the secure exchange of information sharing between the agencies (e.g., transfer of court reports, electronic filing of complaints), and implement a legal clinic in collaboration with an area law school to provide quality representation to indigent parents.

(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 the Attorney General (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Access and Visitation Grant).

To support 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. Office of Victim Services on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, STOP Grant Program.

To enhance the safety and improve services of domestic violence victims residing in Wards 7 and 8. Grant funds are used to support operations at the Southeast Domestic Violence Center and support domestic violence and sexual assault training for judicial officers and staff in the Domestic Violence Unit and Family Court.

(b) Juvenile Offenders

- ***Juvenile Probation Accountability Grant.*** D.C. Office of 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 provide the judiciary of the D.C. Superior Court with an alternative disposition to regular probation for serious, non-compliant offenders; increase the utilization of services to youth from private and public organizations/agencies; and increase program participants' responsiveness and responsibility to the juvenile justice system by holding them accountable to probation requirements that will lead to successful probation completion. Grant funds are used to conduct risk and needs assessments of juvenile offenders that facilitate the effective early intervention and the provision of comprehensive services.

- ***Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop-In Center.*** D.C. Office of Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG).

To expand the capacity and provision of secure and supervised services for youth under the courts' supervision by acquiring a more modern and strategically located facility for the Social Services Division's Northeast

Field Unit. Implementing a restorative justice model improves juvenile accountability, provides additional adjudication options, and enhances the provision or array of services for the youths and their families.

- ***Juvenile Drug Court After Care Program.*** D.C. Office of Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG).

To develop and implement a pilot aftercare program for eligible JDC graduates. In partnership with a local service provider, grant funds are used to hire a youth development specialist to coordinate the day-to-day aftercare program operation by ensuring that program participants receive needed services, such as counseling, tutoring, employments preparedness services, etc.

- ***Juvenile Justice Summit: Best Practices & Promising Programs.*** D.C. Office of 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 convene a Juvenile Justice Summit to promote locally-based innovative and promising programs for court-supervised youth and strengthen collaboration among government agencies, schools, communities, and local law enforcement.

(c) Fathering Court Initiative

- ***Fathering Reentry Court.*** D.C. Office of Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI).

To establish a court-supervised, sanctions-based, comprehensive program for non-custodial fathers returning to the District of Columbia who are the subject of active child support cases. In conjunction with public and private partners, the focus of the Fathering Reentry Court is to reduce recidivism by giving offenders returning to the community the support and skills needed to successfully reenter the workforce; increase the number of fathers contributing to the financial and emotional well-being of their children as measured by compliance with outstanding child support orders; increase their contact with their children; and improve co-parenting relationships with the mothers of their children. Grant funds are used to hire a Program Manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the program and case management services to ensure participants' compliance with treatment plans.

- ***Employment Services of the District of Columbia's Fathering Court.*** D.C. Office of Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG).

To assist ex-offenders non-custodial fathers re-entering society to achieve financial responsibility in order to meet their financial obligations, including paying court-ordered child support. Grant funds are used to hire an employment services firm to assess and place program participants in sustainable employment.

III. PRIVATE GRANTS

(a) Parenting Education

- ***Program for Agreement and Cooperation in Contested Child Custody Cases.***
Women's Bar Foundation Association.

To provide refreshments for adults and educational materials for parents involved in custody proceedings filing and participating in parenting educational classes.

- ***Program for Agreement and Cooperation in Contested Child Custody Cases.***
Friends of the Superior Court.

To provide refreshments and educational materials for the children of the parents involved in custody proceedings filing and participating in parenting educational classes.

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

Grant or Reimbursement	Source	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Estimate	FY 2010 Estimate
I. FEDERAL GRANTS:				
Abused and Neglected Children				
Court Improvement Program	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	350*	284	284
Crime Victims				
Crime Victims Compensation Payments	U.S. Department of Justice	2,795	2,600	2,500
<i>Subtotal, Federal Grants</i>		<i>3,145</i>	<i>2,884</i>	<i>2,784</i>
II. D.C. FEDERAL BLOCK GRANTS:				
Domestic Violence				
Supervised Child Visitation Center	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	111	111	111
Domestic Violence Project	U.S. DOJ VAWA STOP Grants	20*	33	30
Juvenile Offenders				
Juvenile Probation Accountability	U.S. DOJ Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	59	57	55
Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop In Center	U.S. DOJ JAG Program	22*	--	--
Juvenile Drug Court After Care Program	U.S. DOJ JAG Program	65	--	--
Juvenile Justice Summit: Best Practices and Promising Programs	U.S. DOJ Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	20.7	--	--
Fathering Court Initiative				
Fathering Reentry Court	U.S. DOJ Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI)	450	--	--
Employment Services of the District of Columbia's Fathering Court	U.S. DOJ JAG Program	165	--	--
<i>Subtotal, D.C. Federal Block Grants</i>		<i>912.7</i>	<i>201</i>	<i>196</i>
III. PRIVATE GRANTS:				
Program for Agreement and Cooperation	Women's Bar Association Foundation	3	--	--
Program for Agreement and Cooperation	Friends of Superior Court	0.4	--	--
<i>Subtotal, Private Grants</i>		<i>3.4</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>
GRANTS TOTAL		4,061.1	3,085	2,980
REIMBURSEMENTS:				
Child Support Enforcement	D.C. Title IV-D Agency	1,500	1,500	1,500
Miscellaneous Reimbursements		15	15	15
REIMBURSEMENTS TOTAL		1,515	1,515	1,515
GRAND TOTAL		5,576.1	4,600	4,495

* Includes residual funds from multi-year awards or grant period extensions.

Table 2
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS
Grants Scheduled To Expire in FY 2008
(\$ in thousands)

Grant	Source	Grant Period (Includes Extensions)	Original Grant Award
Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop In Center	U.S. DOJ JAG Program	Oct. 2006 – Mar. 2008	259.7
Domestic Violence Project	U.S. DOJ VAWA STOP Grants	Oct. 2006 – April 2008	38
Program for the Agreement and Cooperation in Child Custody Cases	Women’s Bar Association Foundation	Oct. 2007 – Jun. 2008	3
Juvenile Justice Summit	U.S. DOJ Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	Sept. 2007 – July 2008	20.7
Court Improvement Program (FY 06 Grants) Note: Includes three grants.	U.S. Department of Health & Human Services	Aug. 2006 – Sept. 2008	286
Juvenile Probation Accountability	U.S. DOJ Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	Oct. 2007 – Sept. 2008	59
Total			\$666.4