

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS
FY 2013 Budget Submission
Grant-funded Activities and Reimbursements

For Fiscal Year 2011, the District of Columbia Courts secured over \$4.4 million in Federal and local grant funds to: (1) provide services to victims of crime; (2) enhance visitation and safe exchange for families in situations involving domestic violence; (3) expedite permanent placement of children as required by ASFA legislation; (4) improve the exchange of information sharing between local criminal justice agencies; and (5) provide employment opportunities for non-custodial parents with child support orders reentering the community. The Courts currently receive funds through 18 active grants secured from various Federal and local sources. Of these, 9 grants, totaling \$1,116,000 are scheduled to expire the end of FY 2011. Table 1 lists the Courts' grants and reimbursement funding for Fiscal Years 2011 and projected through 2013, while Table 2 lists grants scheduled to expire at the end of FY 2011. 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 to examine the effectiveness of current practices and procedures, adequacy of resources, and coordination among key agencies in order to enhance the representation for children and families in the District of Columbia. With the multiple grants, funds are used to sponsor a Reunification Day and provide books for children, as well as continue to 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 provide skills building and information training workshops for advocates and the legal community.

(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 victim compensation payments to eligible crime victims in the District of Columbia.

(c) Fathering Court Initiative

- ***Fathering Reentry Court.*** U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Second Chance Act State, Local and Tribal Reentry Courts Program.

To continue program operations of the court-supervised, sanctions-based, comprehensive program for non-custodial fathers returning to the District of Columbia who have 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 fathers' 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 procure the services of an employment firm to place participants in substantive employment.

(d) Victims of Domestic Violence

- ***Judicial Education and Court Training on Effective Court Responses to Teen Dating/Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Stalking.*** U. S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, Court Training and Improvements Program.

To plan and implement a judicial education and training conference and follow-up activities to improve court services to minors ages 12-17 who are seeking protection orders in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating and intimate partner violence and stalking cases. The primary goals are to enhance judicial awareness of the emerging area of teen dating/intimate violence, sexual assault and stalking; to better address and serve young victims as they seek legal remedy from the Courts; and to inform the greater youth-serving professional community about minors involved in abusive relationships and their legal rights in the District of Columbia. Grants funds are used to convene a one-day conference, conduct community outreach and develop a reference manual designed to assist judicial and court personnel working with minors.

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, Office of Violence Against Women, STOP Grant Program.

To enhance the safety of and improve services to 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.

- ***Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Program.*** D.C. Office of Victim Services on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, Safe Havens' Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program.

To enhance the provision of visitation and safe exchange services for families in situations involving domestic violence, dating violence, child abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. Grant funds are used for program planning to enhance policies and procedures, as well as identify/locate a secured facility to comply with federal guidelines.

(b) **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, Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Program.

To continue program operations of the 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. Grants funds are used to support the Program Manager responsible for the day-to-day operations of the program, employment services and transportation assistance to employment opportunities.

(c) **Information Technology**

- ***Electronic Case Initiation – DCSC Technology Enhancement Project.*** D.C. Justice Grants Administration on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

To enhance existing criminal and juvenile arrest data electronic interface to include defendant charge information from the two prosecuting agencies responsible for legal case initiation in the District of Columbia.

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

Grant or Reimbursement	Source	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Estimate	FY 2013 Estimate
I. FEDERAL GRANTS:				
Abused and Neglected Children				
Court Improvement Program	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	450	285	285
Crime Victims				
Crime Victims Compensation Payments	U.S. Department of Justice	3,762	3,500	3,300
<i>Subtotal, Federal Grants</i>		<i>4,212</i>	<i>3,785</i>	<i>3,585</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	35	35	35
Safe Havens Program	U.S. OVW	--	285	---
Judicial Education and Training	U.S. OVW	4	46	---
Fathering Court Initiative				
Fathering Reentry Court	U.S. DOJ JAG and Justice Assistance Grant Program	50	---	--
Fathering Reentry Court Initiative	U.S. DOJ Second Chance Act Grant	80	212	--
DCSC Technology Enhancement Project				
Electronic Case Initiation	U.S. DOJ Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)	80	330	--
<i>Subtotal, D.C. Federal Block Grants</i>		<i>360</i>	<i>1,019</i>	<i>146</i>
GRANTS TOTAL		4,572	4,804	3,731
REIMBURSEMENTS:				
Child Support Enforcement	D.C. Title IV-D Agency	1,060	1,100	1,100
Miscellaneous Reimbursements		64	65	66
REIMBURSEMENTS TOTAL		1,124	1,165	1,165
GRAND TOTAL		5,696	5,969	4,896

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

Table 2
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS
Grants Scheduled To Expire in FY 2011
(\$ in thousands)

Grant	Source	Grant Period (Includes Extensions)	Original Grant Award
Domestic Violence Project	U.S. DOJ VAWA STOP Grants	Oct. 2010 – Sept. 2011	35
Court Improvement Program (FY 09 & 10 Grants) Note: Includes six grants.	U.S. Department of Health & Human Services	Sept. 2009 – Sept. 2011	570
Fathering Reentry Court	U.S. DOJ JAG administered by JGA	Feb. 2010 – Mar. 2011	211
Electronic Case Initiation- DCSC Technology Enhance Project	U.S. DOJ JAG administered by JGA	Oct. 2010 – Sept. 2011	300
Total			\$1,116