

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

FY 2024 – FY 2026 BUDGET SUMMARY

FIG. 1 BUDGET SUMMARY, FY 2024 – FY 2026

	Actual FY 2024	Agency FY 2025	Legislative Budget Committee FY 2025	Agency FY 2026	Legislative Budget Committee FY 2026
EXPENDITURES:					
State Operations*	\$ 653,096	\$ 732,941	\$ 732,941	\$ 730,028	\$ 730,028
Salaries and Wages	576,611	619,493	619,493	624,584	624,584
Contractual Services	62,845	102,224	102,224	95,077	95,077
Commodities	8,315	5,739	5,739	4,745	4,745
Capital Outlay	5,325	5,485	5,485	5,622	5,622
State Aid and Assistance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Aid to Local Units	-	-	-	-	-
Other Assistance	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Budget and Debt	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service Principal	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service Interest	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	\$ 653,096	\$ 732,941	\$ 732,941	\$ 730,028	\$ 730,028
FINANCING:					
State General Fund	\$ 653,096	\$ 732,941	\$ 732,941	\$ 730,028	\$ 730,028
All Other Funds	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	\$ 653,096	\$ 732,941	\$ 732,941	\$ 730,028	\$ 730,028
PERCENTAGE CHANGE:					
State General Fund	100.0 %	12.2 %	-- %	(0.4) %	-- %
All Funds	6.3 %	12.2 %	-- %	(0.4) %	-- %
FTE Positions	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

* Note: Expenditures for debt service interest are reflected under "Capital Budget and Debt."

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Judicial Council was created by the 1927 Legislature to study the administration of justice in Kansas and make recommendations as to how the administration of justice can be improved. The ten-member Council is composed of one justice of the Kansas Supreme Court, one judge of the Court of Appeals, two district court judges, two legislators, and four attorneys. The Judicial Council plans to hold 57 full committee meetings and 14 subcommittee meetings in FY 2025, and 55 full committee meetings and 14 subcommittee meetings in FY 2026.

The Council currently has 14 advisory committees and 2 *ad hoc* committees made up of legislators, judges, attorneys, and persons from various backgrounds who bring their expertise to the committees. Committees established within the past few years include the following:

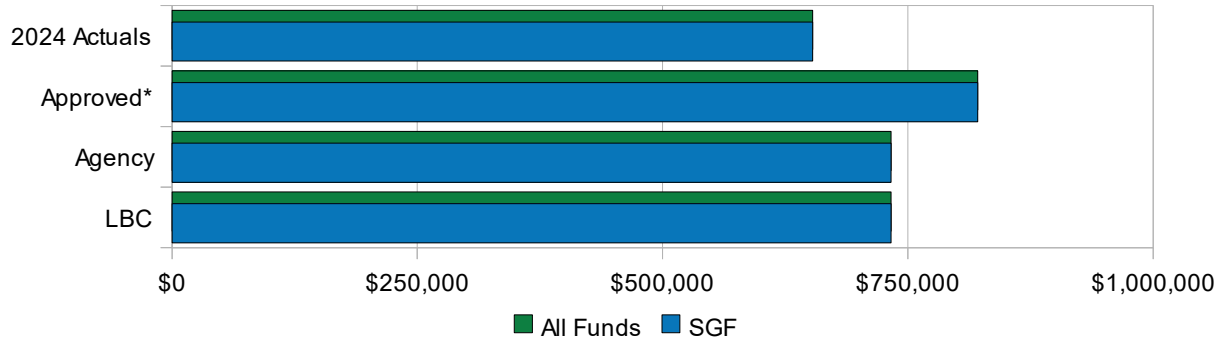
- The **Civil Asset Forfeiture Advisory Committee** was formed in 2017 in response to a legislative request to study and make recommendations regarding the Kansas Standard Asset Seizure and Forfeiture Act, KSA 60-4141 *et seq.* The Committee's recommendations were introduced in 2018 and passed by the Legislature in HB 2459. Unlike other *ad hoc* committees that are dissolved when the study is complete, this Committee remains intact to reassess asset forfeiture after the new legislation has been in place for a few years.
- The **Advisory Committee on Sex Offenses and Registration** was formed in 2018 in response to a legislative request to study and consider amendments to Kansas' sex offense statutes and related registration requirements for both adults and juveniles.

- The **DUI Advisory Committee** was formed in 2018 in response to a legislative request to study DUI-related bills, including 2017 SB 123 and 2018 SB 374, and provide in-depth consideration of the issues raised by the legislation.
- The **Virtual Court Advisory Committee** was formed in 2021 in response to a request from the Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court to study the future role of two-way electronic audio-visual communication in Kansas courts, including statutory or rule changes to facilitate use of such technology.
- The **Vital Statistics Act Advisory Committee** was formed in 2021 in response to a request from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to review a draft of the new Uniform Vital Statistics Act, KSA 65-2401 *et seq.*, which relates to the administration of data relating to birth, adoption, death, marriage, and more.
- The **Advisory Committee on Adult Care Home Involuntary Discharge Appeals** is conducting a study regarding the right to appeal an involuntary discharge or transfer from an adult residential care facility and the issues raised by 2021 HB 2004.

The Judicial Council also receives and considers suggestions related to the administration of justice in Kansas from the Legislature, the Kansas Supreme Court, other courts, the state bar, and the public. The Council identifies areas of needed improvement, assigns projects to advisory committees, receives and reviews the work product of the advisory committees, and takes appropriate action. Not only does the agency provide hundreds of legal forms to the public on its website, but the agency also authors and distributes five publications that cover a variety of legal topics. In FY 2025, the Judicial Council will distribute a 2024 supplemental edition of the following four publications: Kansas Municipal Court Manual, Kansas Probate Forms 3d, Pattern Instructions for Kansas - Civil, and Pattern Instructions for Kansas - Criminal. In FY 2026, the agency will distribute the 2025 supplemental edition of the Kansas Municipal Court Manual and the Pattern Instructions for Kansas - Criminal.

FY 2025 ANALYSIS

FIG. 2 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS, FY 2025



* Note: Includes SGF reappropriations.

FIG. 3 BUDGET COMPARISON, FY 2025

Fund	2024 Actuals	2025 Approved*	2025 Agency	Agency Change from Previous-Year Actuals		Agency Change from Approved*	
SGF	\$ 653,096	\$ 821,141	\$ 732,941	\$ 79,845	12.2 %	\$ (88,200)	(10.7) %
All Other Funds	-	-	-	-	--	-	--
TOTAL	\$ 653,096	\$ 821,141	\$ 732,941	\$ 79,845	12.2 %	\$ (88,200)	(10.7) %

* Note: Includes SGF reappropriations.

BUDGET ANALYSIS

FIG. 4 SUMMARY OF BUDGET REQUEST, FY 2025

	Agency			Legislative Budget Committee		
	SGF	All Funds	FTE	SGF	All Funds	FTE
Approved, FY 2025	\$ 821,141	\$ 821,141	5.0	\$ 821,141	\$ 821,141	5.0
2024 SB 28 & HB 2551	753,219	753,219	5.0	753,219	753,219	5.0
1. SGF Reappropriation	67,922	67,922	-	67,922	67,922	-
Supplemental Requests	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	-
2. No Supplemental Requests	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Changes	\$ (88,200)	\$ (88,200)	-	\$ (88,200)	\$ (88,200)	-
3. SGF Reappropriation Lapse (OT)	(67,922)	(67,922)	-	(67,922)	(67,922)	-
4. Comm. and Publications	(27,666)	(27,666)	-	(27,666)	(27,666)	-
5. Council Committee Travel	(6,696)	(6,696)	-	(6,696)	(6,696)	-
6. Salaries and Wages	(3,076)	(3,076)	-	(3,076)	(3,076)	-
7. Contractual Services	9,698	9,698	-	9,698	9,698	-
8. Office and IT Supplies	7,462	7,462	-	7,462	7,462	-
TOTAL	\$ 732,941	\$ 732,941	5.0	\$ 732,941	\$ 732,941	5.0

1. SGF REAPPROPRIATION

The agency carried over \$67,922 in unspent SGF moneys into FY 2025. The reappropriation occurred due to a reduction in printing and communication expenses, as well as a decrease in the number of advisory committee meetings held in person as some of the meetings were conducted via Zoom.

2. SUPPLEMENTAL REQUESTS

The agency's revised request does not include any supplemental requests in FY 2025.

3. SGF REAPPROPRIATION LAPSE (OT)

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$67,922 SGF below the approved amount in FY 2025. The agency lapsed the reappropriated SGF moneys because of a

reduction in printing and communication expenses that was not previously anticipated. Additionally, the agency expects that some committee meetings will be conducted via Zoom rather than in-person.

- **Agency:** Delete \$67,922 SGF for a lapse of reappropriated funds in FY 2025.
- **LBC:** No changes.

4. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$27,666 SGF below the approved amount in FY 2025. The reduction is due primarily to the agency selling and distributing fewer legal publications than in years past, though a portion of the reduction is also due to lower printing costs than the agency anticipated. In FY 2025, the Judicial Council will distribute a 2024 supplemental edition of the following four publications: Kansas Municipal Court Manual, Kansas Probate Forms 3d, Pattern Instructions for Kansas - Civil, and Pattern Instructions for Kansas - Criminal.

- **Agency:** Delete \$27,666 SGF for decreased publishing costs in FY 2025.
- **LBC:** No changes.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE TRAVEL

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$6,696 SGF below the approved amount for in-state travel in FY 2025. The reduction in travel expenses is due to fewer meetings being conducted in-person than previously anticipated.

- **Agency:** Delete \$6,696 SGF for decreased expenditures associated with in-state travel in FY 2025. The agency expects fewer meetings being conducted in person than previously anticipated.
- **LBC:** No changes.

6. SALARIES AND WAGES

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$3,076 SGF below the approved amount for salaries and wages in FY 2025. The decrease is primarily related to fewer committee members electing to receive their per diem than the agency previously anticipated. However, the reduction is partially offset by increases in employee contributions to the public employee retirement system and group health insurance.

- **Agency:** Delete \$3,076 SGF for decreased salaries and wages expenditures in FY 2025.
- **LBC:** No changes.

7. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

The agency's revised request includes an increase of \$9,698 SGF above the approved amount for other contractual services in FY 2025. The increase in funds is due to necessary computer software maintenance and programming. However, the increase is partially offset by a decrease in other contractual services, including outside professional services such as attorneys and lawyers.

- **Agency:** Add \$9,698 SGF for increased expenditures associated with contractual

services in FY 2025.

- **LBC:** No changes.

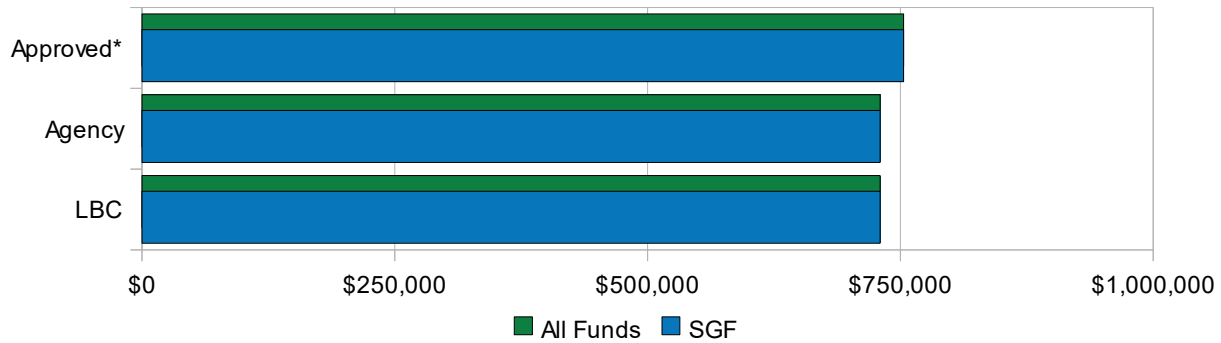
8. OFFICE AND IT SUPPLIES

The agency's revised request includes an increase of \$7,462 SGF above the approved amount for office and IT supplies in FY 2025. The increase in expenditures is associated with a rise in cost of stationery and office supplies, as well as the agency's need for additional computer equipment.

- **Agency:** Add \$7,462 SGF for increased expenditures associated with office and IT supplies in FY 2025.
- **LBC:** No changes.

FY 2026 ANALYSIS

FIG. 5 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS, FY 2026



* Note: Reflects legislative-approved expenditures for FY 2025, excluding reappropriations.

FIG. 6 BUDGET HIGHLIGHT CHANGES, FY 2026

Fund	2025 Agency	2025 Approved*	2026 Agency	Agency Change from Previous-Year Agency		Agency Change from Approved*	
SGF	\$ 732,941	\$ 753,219	\$ 730,028	\$ (2,913)	(0.4)%	\$ (23,191)	(3.1)%
All Other Funds	-	-	-	-	--	-	--
TOTAL	\$ 732,941	\$ 753,219	\$ 730,028	\$ (2,913)	(0.4)%	\$ (23,191)	(3.1)%

* Note: Reflects legislative-approved expenditures for FY 2025, excluding reappropriations.

BUDGET ANALYSIS

FIG. 7 SUMMARY OF BUDGET REQUEST, FY 2026

	Agency			Legislative Budget Committee		
	SGF	All Funds	FTE	SGF	All Funds	FTE
Approved, FY 2025	\$ 753,219	\$ 753,219	5.0	\$ 753,219	\$ 753,219	5.0
2024 SB 28 & HB 2551	753,219	753,219	5.0	753,219	753,219	5.0
Enhancement Requests	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	-
1. No Enhancement Requests	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Changes	\$ (23,191)	\$ (23,191)	-	\$ (23,191)	\$ (23,191)	-
2. Comm. and Publications	(36,795)	(36,795)	-	(36,795)	(36,795)	-
3. Council Travel	(5,959)	(5,959)	-	(5,959)	(5,959)	-
4. Contractual Services	10,943	10,943	-	10,943	10,943	-
5. Office and IT Supplies	6,605	6,605	-	6,605	6,605	-
6. Salaries and Wages	2,015	2,015	-	2,015	2,015	-
TOTAL	\$ 730,028	\$ 730,028	5.0	\$ 730,028	\$ 730,028	5.0

1. ENHANCEMENT REQUESTS

The agency's request does not include any enhancement requests for FY 2026.

2. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

The agency's request includes a decrease of \$36,795 SGF below the FY 2025 approved amount for FY 2026. The reduction is due primarily to the agency selling and distributing fewer legal publications than in years past. In FY 2025, the agency plans to print approximately 2,000 units total of four distinct publications. In FY 2026, the agency will distribute only two publications, meaning the number of units printed will drop by more than half to 987 units. Additionally, a portion of the reduction is also due to lower printing costs than the agency anticipated.

- **Agency:** Delete \$36,795 SGF for decreased publishing costs for FY 2026.
- **LBC:** No changes.

3. COUNCIL TRAVEL

The agency's request includes a decrease of \$5,959 SGF below the FY 2025 approved amount for in-state travel for FY 2026. The reduction in travel expenses is due to the agency's belief that the number of committee meetings held online will continue to increase.

- **Agency:** Delete \$5,959 SGF for decreased expenditures associated with in-state travel for FY 2026.
- **LBC:** No changes.

4. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

The agency's request includes an increase of \$10,943 SGF above the FY 2025 approved amount for various contractual services for FY 2026. The increase in funds is due to necessary computer software maintenance and programming, as well as other contractual services. However, the increase is partially offset by a decrease in dues and subscriptions for services like WestLaw, as well as a decrease in expenditures for outside professional services.

- **Agency:** Add \$10,943 SGF for increased expenditures associated with contractual services for FY 2026.
- **LBC:** No changes.

5. OFFICE AND IT SUPPLIES

The agency's revised request includes an increase of \$6,605 SGF above the FY 2025 approved amount for office and IT supplies for FY 2026. The increase in expenditures is associated with a rise in cost of stationery and office supplies, as well as the agency's need for additional computer equipment.

- **Agency:** Add \$6,605 SGF for increased expenditures associated with office and IT supplies for FY 2026.
- **LBC:** No changes.

6. SALARIES AND WAGES

The agency's request includes an increase of \$2,015 SGF above the FY 2025 approved amount for salaries and wages for FY 2026. The increase is primarily related to greater employer contributions for group health insurance and the public employee retirement system. However, the increase is partially offset by a decrease in expenditures relative to the FY 2025 approved budget related to the agency's anticipation that not every committee member will elect to receive their per diem.

- **Agency:** Add \$2,015 SGF for increased salaries and wages expenditures for FY 2026.
- **LBC:** No changes.

REFERENCE TABLES

FIG. 8 **10-YEAR EXPENDITURE HISTORY, FY 2017 – FY 2026**

Fiscal Year	SGF	Change	All Funds	Change	FTE	CPI-U Change**
FY 2017	\$ -	-- %	\$ 542,590	6.9 %	5.0	0.0 %
FY 2018	-	--	539,735	(0.5)	5.0	0.2
FY 2019	-	--	567,052	5.1	5.0	0.0
FY 2020	-	--	585,106	3.2	5.0	0.8
FY 2021	-	--	551,493	(5.7)	5.0	2.4
FY 2022	-	--	589,600	6.9	5.0	9.2
FY 2023	-	--	614,508	4.2	5.0	5.8
FY 2024	653,096	100.0	653,096	6.3	5.0	3.0
FY 2025 Agency	732,941	12.2	732,941	12.2	5.0	2.5
FY 2026 Agency	730,028	(0.4)	730,028	(0.4)	5.0	2.4
10-Yr. Chg. (FY 2017– 2026)	\$ 730,028	100.0 %	\$ 187,438	34.5 %	-	33.4 %
3-Yr. Avg. (FY 2022– 2024)*	217,699		619,068		5.0	

* Note: Reflects three most recent years of actuals data.

** Note: Consumer Price Index – All Urban Consumers estimate for FY 2025 and FY 2026 is from the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group.