

Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Budget Highlights and Goals

Court Administration

FY2009 Highlights

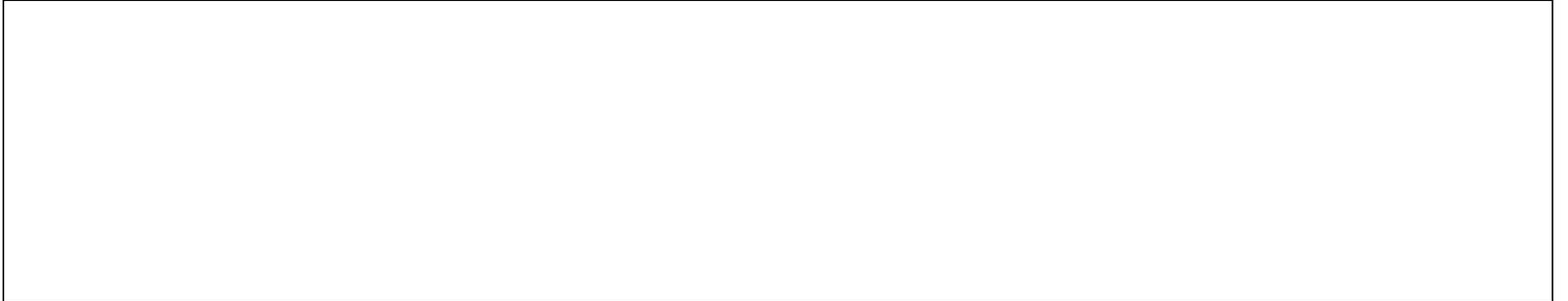
- New trial court administrator was hired in December of 2008, replacing a long standing court administrator who retired after 30 years of service.
- In May of 2009 the Circuit Clerk's Office and the 22nd Judicial Circuit received a new computer system in order to better manage and track case data. This computer system will become the foundation of Integrated Criminal Justice Information System which will link all of the county criminal justice information systems together. This will allow for a greater exchange of information as well avoid duplicate entry into separate databases.
- The McHenry County Mental Health Court Program hired a program coordinator in August of 2009. It is the responsibility of this individual to coordinate services, streamline referrals and seek additional funds to be utilized to support the program.
- Continued success in the Pro Se Self Help Center
- For the first time in the history of the 22nd Judicial Circuit, the court created a newsletter which was shared with all county employees and elected officials. This newsletter is meant to keep others informed about what is taking place within the 22nd Judicial Circuit. Topics include: case information, numbers of filings, court access and fairness survey results. The name of the news letter is the "22nd Judicial Circuit Bench Press."
- Increase in communication with other departments and county board
- The court completed policies and procedures which will allow for the creation of a mentoring program for those individuals in the mental health court program. These mentors will help participants to understand the quality of life that can be had while still suffering from a mental illness.
- Increased collaboration with the state's attorney, public defender's office and outside community agencies
- The court took significant strides to improve the quality of the 22nd Judicial Circuit's website.
- The 22nd Judicial Circuit implemented an access and fairness survey to measure how the public, court users, attorneys and jurors felt about barriers to the court. In addition, the survey also measured how the individuals perceived fairness. On both measures the court received good responses.
- In 2008 the 22nd Judicial Circuit became its own circuit. For the first time a comprehensive annual report specific to McHenry County and the 22nd Judicial Circuit was completed. This report look at county demographics, county history, trends, program information and case management information.

FY2010 Goals

- Continue to strengthen relationships with other departments and county board
- In order to measure efficiency and effectiveness it is necessary for the 22nd Judicial Circuit to evaluate how the court conducts its business. Therefore it is necessary to study the number of cases being filed, they types of cases being filed, how long does it take for cases to reach disposition, the age of the active pending caseload. This will aid the court in determine where addition resources will be needed.
- Implement jury survey to determine juror satisfaction with the procedure of jury trials and jury service.
- Study and revise (in necessary) jury management procedures
- In the case of an emergency, it is necessary for the 22nd Judicial Circuit to have a comprehensive emergency plan. This plan will be needed to manage the court in the time of a natural disaster, pandemic or attack.
- Begin the process of developing a strategic plan for the 22nd Judicial Circuit
- Possible implementation of a drug court program
- Better communication with various departments and/or County Board and committees

**Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Budget
Highlights and Goals**

Court Administration

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the middle section of the page. It is intended for content related to the 'Court Administration' section header above it.