

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 3.9
(ID # 24269)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, February 27, 2024

FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Approve Budget Adjustments for EO - Indigent Defense and EO - Court Reporting Transcripts for FY 2023/24, All Districts. [\$2,350,000 Total Cost, 100% General Fund Contingency], 4/5 Vote Required.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and direct the Auditor-Controller to make the budget adjustments included in Schedule A.

ACTION: 4/5 Vote Required, Policy

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Spiegel, seconded by Supervisor Perez and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: February 27, 2024
xc: E.O.

Kimberly A. Rector
Clerk of the Board
By: Naomy Li
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$2,350,000	\$2,350,000	\$4,700,000	\$2,350,000
NET COUNTY COST	\$2,350,000	\$2,350,000	\$4,700,000	\$2,350,000
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% General Fund Contingency			Budget Adjustment:	Yes
			For Fiscal Year:	On-Going

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The County of Riverside contracts with vendors throughout the county to provide legal services for indigent defendants for whom the Riverside County Law Office of the Public Defender declares a conflict of interest or is otherwise unavailable. New contracts for these services were put into effect July 1, 2023. At the time of Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget adoption, the contract amounts were unknown. A ten percent (10%) increase was budgeted as an estimate. Final contract amounts were ultimately much higher due to inflation and the need for increased service levels. Current projections reflect the need for an additional \$2 million in appropriation to meet demands for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

There is also a need for Court Reporter funding. Judges in Superior Courts may make motions directing the county to pay for creating a verbatim record in criminal matters, appeals, juvenile proceedings, proceedings to declare a minor free from custody, probate proceedings and some civil matters. The adopted budget for these fees paid to court reporters was based on the prior three-year average. However, trials have steadily increased as the Courts ramp back-up to pre-pandemic workloads resulting in increased costs to this budget unit. Current projections reflect the need for an additional \$350,000 in appropriation to meet demands for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

Providing these services allows the County to provide constitutionally mandated legal services to its constituents and provide attorneys the support to help meet their requirement to provide an adequate defense.

Additional Fiscal Information

The Executive Office requests \$2.35 million from general fund contingency for the current fiscal year as there are not sufficient departmental funds for projected expenditures in Fiscal Year 2023-24.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A. Schedule A

SCHEDULE A

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FY 2023/2024

Increase Appropriations:

10000-1109900000-525020	Legal Services	\$2,000,000
-------------------------	----------------	-------------

Anticipated Use of Unassigned Fund Balance:

10000-1109900000-370100	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$2,000,000
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------

Decrease Appropriations:

10000-1109000000-581000	Appropriation for Contingencies	\$2,000,000
-------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------

Anticipated Increase of Unassigned Fund Balance:

10000-1109000000-370100	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$2,000,000
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------

Increase Appropriations:

10000-1104300000-524720	Court Reporter Fees	\$350,000
-------------------------	---------------------	-----------

Anticipated Use of Unassigned Fund Balance:

10000-1104300000-370100	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$350,000
-------------------------	-------------------------	-----------

Decrease Appropriations:

10000-1109000000-581000	Appropriation for Contingencies	\$350,000
-------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------

Anticipated Increase of Unassigned Fund Balance:

10000-1109000000-370100	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$350,000
-------------------------	-------------------------	-----------


Heydee Koury, Sr Accountant - Auditor 2/14/2024