

# **Overview of Trial Court Funding**

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## Trial Court Funding: 2010-11 through 2014-15

(dollars in thousands)

|                                      | 2007-08 1   | 2011-12     | 2012-13     | 2013-14 <sup>2</sup> | 2014-15     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Trial Court Funding                  | \$2,843,972 | \$2,680,140 | \$2,237,495 | \$2,445,148          | \$2,575,264 |
| Adjustments to Trial Court Funding:  |             |             |             |                      |             |
| Use of local trial court reserves    |             |             | 402,000     | 264,000              |             |
| Transfers from various special funds |             | 216,000     | 298,000     | 256,406              | 56,406      |
| Adjusted Trial Court<br>Funding      | \$2,843,972 | \$2,896,140 | \$2,937,495 | \$2,965,554          | \$2,631,670 |

For comparison purposes, court security costs are removed from trial court funding in 2007-08 (\$444.9m) as 2011 Public Safety Realignment shifted funding for court security to local law enforcement agencies beginning in 2011-12.

<sup>2 2013-14</sup> funding amounts are as of the 2014-15 May Revision.

### **Trial Court Funding: 2014-15**

The Budget Act provides approximately \$2.6 billion to support trial court operations, an increase of \$160 million General Fund from 2013-14.

Significant adjustments include:

- \$86.3 million to support trial court operations, which represents growth of 5 percent.
- \$42.8 million to support employee benefit cost adjustments.
- Up to \$30.9 million to offset a potential fee revenue shortfall in the Trial Court Trust Fund.

#### Other Court Funding: 2014-15

- Up to \$1 million for potential increased security costs resulting from new court construction.
- \$15 million to expand or establish collaborative courts and pretrial and risk assessment programs.
- A one-time augmentation of \$40 million to support the Judicial Branch's capital outlay and infrastructure program.

### Trial Court Funding: 2015-16 and Beyond

- An additional 5-percent increase to support trial court operations in the proposed 2015-16 Governor's Budget.
- Ongoing funding for annual employee benefit cost adjustments that are not controlled by the courts.
- Continuing support for the Workload Allocation Funding Model (WAFM) to equitably distribute court funding.
- Working with the Judicial Council and the Blue Ribbon Commission to improve the delivery of court services and incorporate potential court efficiencies into WAFM.