

COLUSA

Population: 21,660 • Authorized Judges: 2 • Staff: 14 FTE
Civil Filings: 180 • Criminal Filings: 9,198 • Family/Juvenile Filings: 268 • Other Filings: 51 •

OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

Safety and security in courtrooms and trial court facilities.

- **We cannot provide adequate security controls or space to properly service the many families in crisis who need the court's help.**
- **These security concerns impact the Family Law Courtroom, and the Family Law Facilitator & Mediator's Office.**
- **Options are available to acquire additional space for a fraction of the cost of a new facility which would address security issues and the community's long-term need.**

Ensure court clerks are available when and how people need them.

- **Colusa is generally short-staffed and has trouble serving the public fully when staff need time off for any number of reasons.**

Tackle increasingly complex administrative tasks and challenges.

- **In order to prepare for the future, Colusa will need to tackle many complex projects including deployment of a new case management system, digitization of court records, and automation of regular processes. These opportunities require augmentation to existing resources to realize in an efficient and effective manner.**

Help more self-represented litigants in family and housing cases with at the Self Help/Facilitator's office.

- **Self-help is available only 3 days per week, and the community need exceeds our availability.**
- **The majority of people seeking help from the Self-Help/FLF are indigent, and speak only or primarily Spanish, minimal English, and frequently struggle with literacy.**

PRIORITIES FOR REINVESTMENT

Assuming an additional investment in operations funds, we intend to...

- Address long overdue infrastructure investment to prepare the organization for long term operational stability including: a phone system upgrade, a technology refresh, digitization of court records, expanded jury functionality (online access), digital court audio recording, etc.
- Address significant increases in retirement costs for existing employees based on changes to CalPERS earnings projections and unfunded liability ensuring long term stability of retirement funds for past and present employees.
- Increase staffing to address changing operational needs and goals, including staff to support complex projects and provide dependable and consistent service levels.