

Spokane County District Court

PRESIDING JUDGE PATTI CONNOLLY WALKER

Department Mission

DISTRICT COURT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Spokane County District Court is to serve our citizens through the prompt, courteous, and fair dispensation of justice by adjudicating cases in a timely manner using effective and efficient case management techniques, adhering to the highest standards, monitoring enforcement of judgments and being responsible stewards of public funds.

DISTRICT COURT ORGANIZATION CHART

Eight Elected Judges



Patti Connolly Walker
Presiding Judge



J. Donna Wilson



J. Vance Peterson

Vacant
Judicial
Position 5

Vacant Position 5



J. Debra Hayes



J. Richard Leland



J. Aimee Maurer



J. Jeffrey Smith

Court Administrator



John Witter

Clerk of District Court

- 33 Support Staff

Probation Manager

- 16 Support Staff

Judicial Operations Manager

- 9 Support Staff

Mental Health Court Manager

- 3 Support Staff

Office Manager/ Admin Services

- 1 Support Staff

Computer Applications Specialist

Description of Services

Spokane County District Court Caseload:

1. Misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases
2. Felony reductions
3. Traffic and non-traffic infractions

Cases are filed by Spokane County Prosecutors Office, Washington State Patrol, Sheriff's Department, City of Spokane Valley Police Department, Liberty Lake Police Department, SCRAPS, Department of Fish & Wildlife, Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board, and Burlington Northern Railroad.

The Court's Civil Department processes countywide:

- Civil cases up to \$100,000 in value
- Small Claims cases up to \$5,000 in value

Spokane County District Court contracts to provide court services for:

The City of Spokane Valley, Liberty Lake, Deer Park, Millwood, Rockford, Fairfield, Spangle, and Latah. In addition, the court provides judicial services for Cheney and Medical Lake, with limited judicial services also being provided to Airway Heights.

District Court Hearing Types

First Appearances

Arraignments

Bond Hearings

Pre-Trial – Civil & Criminal

Trial-Jury or Bench

Probation Violations

Treatment Reviews

Prosecutor Complaints

Impounds

Weekend Jail

Sealed Search Warrants

Name Change

Small Claims

Infraction Mitigation

Infraction Contested

Mental Health Court (partnered w/Municipal Court)

Veterans Court

DUI Intensive Supervision Therapeutic Court

Civil Protection Orders (DV, Stalking, Sexual Assault, Anti-Harassment)

Felony First Appearances

Felony Reductions

Ex Parte (off docket reviews)

Relicensing Program (partnered w/Municipal Court)

Alive @ 25 Program

Sheriff's Traffic School

District Court Services: Specialty Courts

Spokane County District Court has several long standing Specialty Courts:

- Domestic Violence Court
- DUI Intensive Supervision Court
- Veterans Court
- Mental Health Therapeutic Court (collaboration with the City of Spokane)

Financial Information

010-General Fund

Dept Group: 190-District Court

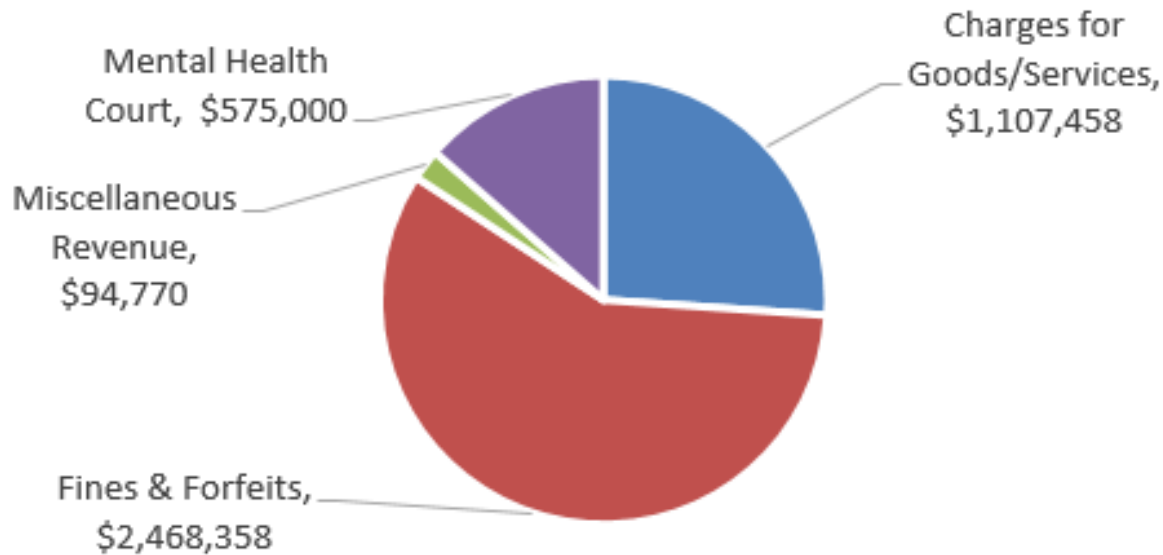
Actuals As Of 10/2/2017 11:14:58 AM

Budget Summary:

Revenue	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Adopted	2018 Prel. Budget	2018 Prel vs 2017 Adopted	Suppl. Request
Charges for Goods/Services	1,069,576	1,000,095	998,312	1,107,458	10.9%	0
Fines & Forfeits	2,435,704	2,501,127	2,552,585	2,468,358	-3.3%	0
Intergovernmental Revenue	41,626	67,625	0	0	0.0%	0
Miscellaneous Revenue	101,982	81,748	93,004	94,770	1.9%	0
Non Revenues	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0
Other Financing Sources	545,876	541,494	520,000	575,000	10.6%	0
Subtotal Dept Group Revenue:	4,194,765	4,192,089	4,163,901	4,245,586	2.0%	0
Beginning Fund Balance	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0
Subtotal Dept Group Revenue:	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0
Total Dept Group Revenue:	4,194,765	4,192,089	4,163,901	4,245,586	2.0%	0
Expenses	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Adopted	2018 Prel. Budget	2018 Prel vs 2017 Adopted	Suppl. Request
Debt Services	4,226	4,736	5,200	500	-90.4%	0
Supplies & Services	225,444	371,726	278,163	140,877	-49.4%	178,110
Salary & Wages	3,184,067	3,207,691	3,367,817	3,348,813	-0.6%	153,977
Employee Benefits	1,141,232	1,227,445	1,410,936	1,442,487	2.2%	0
Subtotal Dept Group Expense:	4,554,969	4,811,598	5,062,116	4,932,677	-2.6%	332,087
Capital	56,298	52,583	0	0	0.0%	0
Subtotal Dept Group Expense:	56,298	52,583	0	0	0.0%	0
Total Dept Group Expense:	4,611,268	4,864,181	5,062,116	4,932,677	-2.6%	332,087
Net Revenue / (Expense)	(416,503)	(672,093)	(898,215)	(687,091)		(332,087)

Revenue

Spokane County District Court 2018 Preliminary Budget Revenues



Revenue - \$4,245,586

Charges for Goods/Services - \$1,107,458

- Inter-local Contracts
- Civil & Small Claim Filing Fees,
- Admin, Certifications & Copy/CD Fees
- Civil Ex Parte Dept. (DUFB)

Fines & Forfeitures - \$2,468,358

- DUI/Criminal Traffic
- DV/Non Traffic Misdemeanor
- Jury Fees
- Parking Infractions
- Proof of Insurance
- Traffic/Non-Traffic Infractions

Miscellaneous Revenue \$94,770

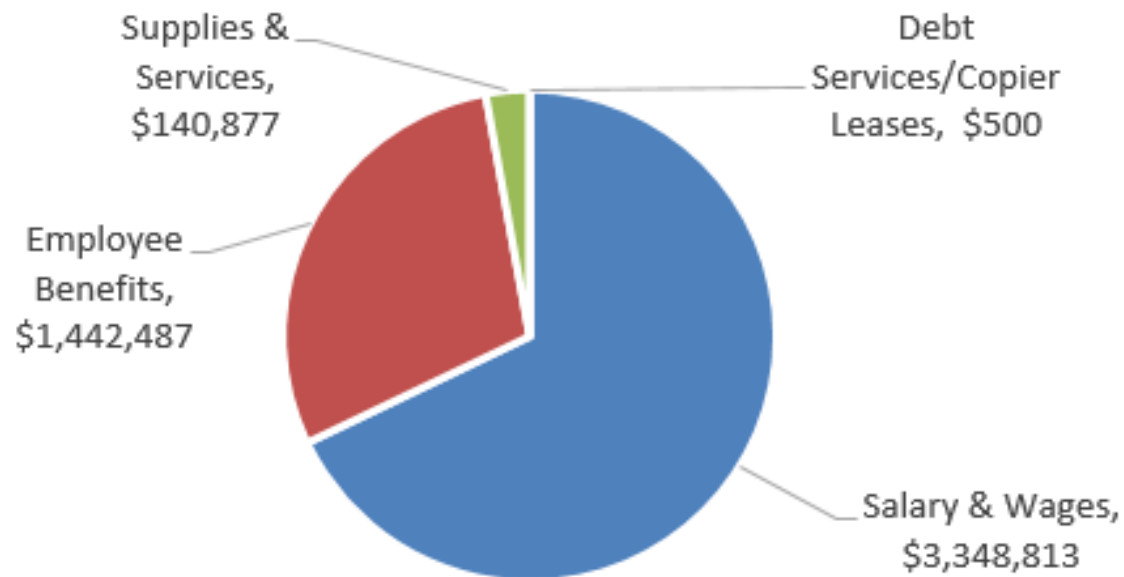
- Other Fees & Interest

Mental Health Court \$575,000

- Not subject to budget reduction
- Funded by a portion of the 1/10 of 1% Sales & Use Tax
- Used exclusively for the Mental Health Court

Programs: Expenditures

Spokane County District Court 2018 Preliminary Budget Expenses



Expenses \$4,932,677

1. Salary & Wages \$3,348,813

- for District Court (\$3,021,264)
- Mental Health Court (\$225,524)
- Civil Ex Parte Dept. (\$102,025)

2. Employee Benefits \$1,442,487

- for District Court (\$1,276,897)
- Mental Health Court (\$110,239)
- Civil Ex Parte Dept. (\$55,351)

3. Supplies & Services \$140,877

- for District Court (\$27,243)
- Mental Health Court (\$81,134)
- Civil Ex Parte Dept. (\$32,500)

4. Debt Services/Copier Leases \$500

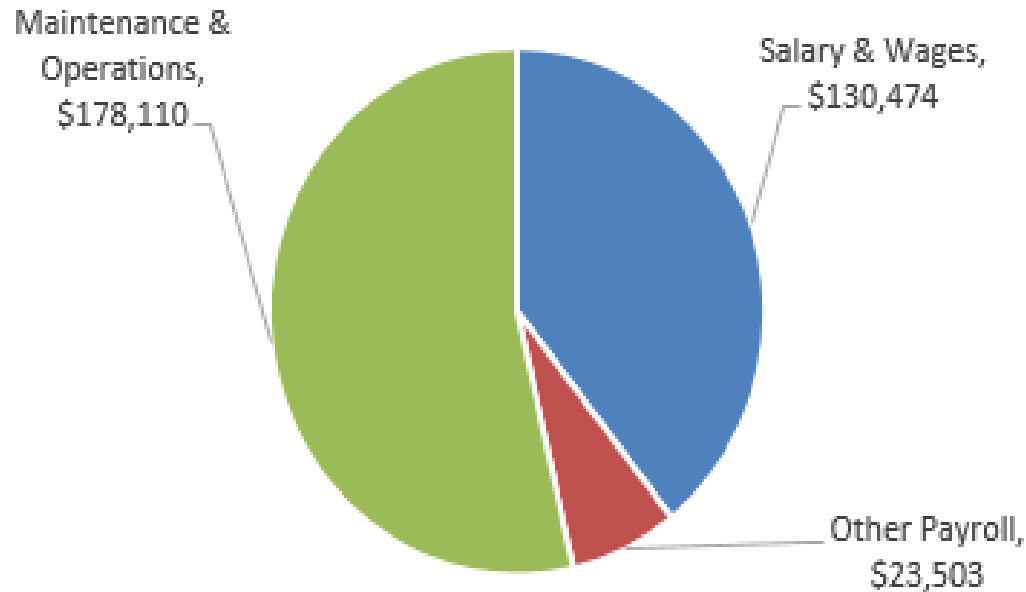
Note: Chart reflects totals after preliminary budget reductions – amounts listed will not be sufficient to maintain mandatory services

2018 Budget Changes (Net \$332,088)

Proposed Change	Service Impact	Dollar Amount
Reduce Other Payroll	Cancellation of Court Dockets	\$23,503
Temporary Alternative Funding for 3 General Fund Full Time Employees	None for 2018	\$130,474
Reduce Maintenance & Operations	Jeopardizes daily operations	\$178,110

2018 Budget Changes: Reductions

Spokane County District Court 2018 Reduction Proposal



REDUCTION – \$332,088

\$130,474 Salary & Wages

Three full time General Fund positions will be temporarily funded from alternative revenue sources

1. \$46,244 – AT2 (Position 190.0.0065)
2018 Funding from Civil Ex Parte DUFB Account
2. \$45,377 – OA3 (Position 190.0.0058)
2018 Funding from Civil Ex Parte DUFB Account
3. \$38,813 – OA3 (Position 190.0.0097)
2018 Funding from Trial Court Improvement Account

\$23,503 Other Payroll

Extra Help. Pro tem coverage & temporary help

\$178,110 Maintenance & Operations

Reduced 29 operational line items to \$1,000 or less.
Normal operational budget is \$198,100
Submitted operational budget is \$20,000

Summary

2018 Impact to the Public in meeting the \$332,088 budget reduction (if proposed solutions are not approved):

1. Three full time General Fund positions will be temporarily funded from alternative revenue sources:
 - a. The \$10 Civil Ex Parte Fee has been increased to \$20 by Resolution; this increase will be used to cover two full time civil employees for 2018; the public will bear the burden of this increase by paying \$10 more for processing certain civil documents
 - b. Trial Court Improvement Funds: not intended to supplant operations, but will be used to fund one full time employee for 2018
 - the public will not have the benefit of court innovations and streamlined services, technology upgrades/improvements

Note: The Court received Union (Local 1553) consent for these funding source changes for 2018 only
2. Reduction of Other Payroll may result in cancellation of court dockets
 - a. Public Safety compromised – Inability to monitor release conditions
 - b. Decrease in ability to provide customer service to court users
 - c. Case resolution delays, additional costs to litigants and other court partners
 - d. Dismissals for speedy trial violations, increased likelihood of failing to appear, warrants and potential arrests
3. Maintenance and Operations Budget will be nearly depleted
 - a. Jeopardizes the Court's ability to provide statutorily mandated services
 - b. Severely limits the Court's ability to provide non-mandated services, i.e. therapeutic courts (including our nationally recognized Veterans Court) , warrant reviews, Relicensing Program

Next 5 Years:

District Court may be unable to meet mandated functions in 2018 and cannot sustain these budget cuts beyond 2018.