

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER**  
***Salaries and Expenses***  
**SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Fiscal Year 2019 Assumed Appropriation</b>	<b>\$29,819,000</b>
<b>Fiscal Year 2020 Requested Appropriation</b>	<b>\$30,736,000</b>
<b>Requested Increase from Fiscal Year 2019 Assumed Appropriation</b>	<b>\$917,000</b>

**APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE**

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER**  
**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Federal Judicial Center, as authorized by Public Law 90-219, [~~\$29,819,000~~]*\$30,736,000*; of which \$1,800,000 shall remain available until September 30, [2020] *2021*, to provide education and training to Federal court personnel; and of which not to exceed \$1,500 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

(H.R. 6147 - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2019, updated to reflect the judiciary's fiscal year 2019 assumed appropriation)

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST  
FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
FISCAL YEAR 2020  
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

**Fiscal Year 2020 Resource Requirements:**

	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Fiscal Year 2019 Assumed Obligations.....</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>30,664</b>
Reimbursements from Federal Accounts and FJC Foundation.....		(415)
Utilization of Judiciary Information Technology Fund.....	-	(430)
<b>Fiscal Year 2019 Assumed Appropriation.....</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>29,819</b>

**Page Adjustments to Base to Maintain Current Services:**

**No.**

**A. PERSONNEL**

*Pay and Benefit Adjustments*

9.10	1. Annualization of assumed January 2019 pay adjustment (1.9% for three months).....	-	96
9.10	2. Promotions and within-grade increases.....	-	155
9.10	3. Benefits increases		
	a. Health benefits.....		13
	b. FICA adjustment.....	-	22
	c. FERS adjustment.....	-	365
9.11	4. One more compensable day.....	-	79

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST  
FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
FISCAL YEAR 2020  
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

		<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>B. OTHER ADJUSTMENTS</b>			
<i>General Inflationary Adjustments</i>			
9.11	5. Inflationary increases in charges for contracts, services, supplies, and equipment.....	-	187
<b>Subtotal, Adjustments to Base to Maintain Current Services.....</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>917</b>
<b>Total Current Services Appropriation Required .....</b>		<b>128</b>	<b>30,736</b>
 <b>Total Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation Required.....</b>		 <b>128</b>	 <b>30,736</b>
<b>Total Appropriation Increase.....</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>917</b>
 <b><u>Financing the Fiscal Year 2020 Request:</u></b>			
<b>Total Appropriation Required, Fiscal Year 2020.....</b>		<b>128</b>	<b>30,736</b>
9.11	6. Estimated reimbursements from federal accounts and the FJC Foundation.....	-	390
<b>Total Estimated Obligations, Fiscal Year 2020.....</b>		<b>128</b>	<b>31,126</b>

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER**  
**Salaries and Expenses**  
**Obligations by Activity (\$000)**

Activity	Fiscal Year 2018			Fiscal Year 2019			Fiscal Year 2020		
	Direct	Offsetting Collections	Total	Direct	Offsetting Collections	Total	Direct	Offsetting Collections	Total
Education & Training	20,091	548	20,639	20,728	415	21,143	21,365	390	21,755
Research	5,307	-	5,307	5,386	-	5,386	5,551	-	5,551
Program Support <sup>1/</sup>	4,168	7	4,175	4,135	-	4,135	3,819	-	3,819
<b>Total Obligations</b>	<b>29,566</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>30,121</b>	<b>30,249</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>30,664</b>	<b>30,736</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>31,126</b>
Unobligated Balance, Start of Year									
Judiciary Information Technology Fund	(301)	-	(301)	(430)	-	(430)	-	-	-
New Deposits	(430)		(430)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unobligated Balance, End of Year									
Judiciary Information Technology Fund	430	-	430	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Direct Obligations</b>	<b>29,265</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>29,820</b>	<b>29,819</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>30,234</b>	<b>30,736</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>31,126</b>
Offsetting Collections									
Reimbursable programs	-	(555)	(555)	-	(415)	(415)	-	(390)	(390)
<b>Available Appropriation</b>	<b>29,265</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,265</b>	<b>29,819</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,819</b>	<b>30,736</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,736</b>

1/ Includes JITF obligations of \$301,000 in FY 2018 and projected \$430,000 in FY 2019.

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER**  
**Salaries & Expenses**  
**Obligations by Object Class (\$000)**

Description	Fiscal Year 2018			Fiscal Year 2019			Fiscal Year 2020		
	Direct	Offsetting Collections	Total Oblig.	Direct	Offsetting Collections	Total Oblig.	Direct	Offsetting Collections	Total Oblig.
	1100 Personnel compensation	14,936	112	15,048	15,448	112	15,560	15,719	112
1200 Personnel benefits	4,701	28	4,729	5,026	28	5,054	5,485	28	5,513
2100 Travel	5,557	415	5,972	6,202	275	6,477	6,326	250	6,576
2200 Transportation of things	50	0	50	47	0	47	48	0	48
2330 Communications, utilities & misc	504	0	504	578	0	578	590	0	590
2400 Printing and reproduction	21	0	21	57	0	57	58	0	58
2500 Other services	1,353	0	1,353	1,024	0	1,024	1,044	0	1,044
2600 Supplies and materials	622	0	622	743	0	743	758	0	758
3100 Equipment	1,822	0	1,822	1,124	0	1,124	708	0	708
<b>Total Obligations<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>29,566</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>30,121</b>	<b>30,249</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>30,664</b>	<b>30,736</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>31,126</b>

1/ Includes JITF obligations of \$301,000 in FY 2018 and projected \$430,000 in FY 2019.

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER**  
**Salaries & Expenses**  
**Relation of Obligations to Outlays (\$000)**

	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Assumed Obligations	FY 2020 Request	Difference (+) or (-)
Total Obligations	30,121	30,664	31,126	462
Obligated balance, start of year	4,084	4,483	4,564	81
Adjustment of prior year activity	(558)	(568)	(577)	(9)
Obligated balance, end of year	<u>(4,483)</u>	<u>(4,564)</u>	<u>(4,633)</u>	<u>(69)</u>
Total Outlays	29,164	30,015	30,480	465
Less Judiciary Information				
Technology Fund Obligations	(293)	(300)	0	300
Less offsetting collections:				
Reimbursable Programs	(259)	(264)	(572)	(308)
Net Outlays	28,612	29,451	29,908	457

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER**  
**Salaries and Expenses**  
**Full Time Equivalents by Activity**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2018</b>			<b>Fiscal Year 2019</b>			<b>Fiscal Year 2020</b>		
	Direct	Program	Total	Direct	Program	Total	Direct	Program	Total
Education & Training	88	0	88	90	0	90	90	0	90
Research	27	0	27	28	0	28	28	0	28
Program Support	9	0	9	9	0	9	9	0	9
<b>Total, Full Time Equivalents</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>128</b>

## GENERAL STATEMENT AND INFORMATION

This appropriation request is for the salaries and operating expenses of the Federal Judicial Center (the Center), which was established by P.L. 90-219 (81 Stat. 664) on December 20, 1967. This statute directs the Center “to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration” in the federal courts.

The fiscal year (FY) 2020 request for the Federal Judicial Center totals \$30,736,000 to support the operations of the Center at a current services level.

### **Functional Responsibilities of the Center**

The Center’s functions are outlined in statute, especially 28 U.S.C. §§ 620(b) and 623(a). Pursuant to those mandates, it teaches judges and other Judicial Branch personnel about legal developments and efficient litigation management and court administration. Examples include various educational programs that teach judges and court legal staff about new laws and emerging issues; programs that help judges and court executives promote efficiency in the just resolution of cases and in court administration; and programs that educate court staff on effective court operations. Over 80 percent of Center training participants attend the training in their home cities through in-court seminars, Center video programs, manuals, web-based conferences, and interactive computer programs. The Center also conducts empirical research into court operations and activities. Most Center research is performed at the request of the Judicial Conference of the United States in order to inform policy decisions of the Conference. Center research also contributes to improved judicial administration by assessing the efficacy of case and court management procedures. For example, it continues to assess case management tools for complex litigation. (The Center’s statute also assigns it less extensive duties with regard to state-federal judicial relations, assisting foreign judiciaries, and federal judicial history, which it also performs.) Program planning is coordinated among the Center, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO), and the U.S. Sentencing Commission to maximize efficiency in meeting their distinct responsibilities.



## **Duties of the Board**

A Board of nine supervises the Center. The Chief Justice of the United States is the Board Chairman. The Board includes two judges of the U.S. Courts of Appeals, three judges of the U.S. District Courts, one bankruptcy judge, and one magistrate judge; each elected by the Judicial Conference of the United States for a four-year term. The Director of the AO is an ex-officio Board member. By statute, the Board is responsible for developing overall policy to guide the Center's operations and approving the Center's appropriations requests. The Board appoints a Director and a Deputy Director, who are responsible for supervising the Center's staff and carrying out the Center's programs. The Center coordinates as necessary with the Judicial Conference's Budget Committee and the AO in developing the Center's appropriation requests.

### **FISCAL YEAR 2019 APPROPRIATIONS ASSUMPTION**

In the absence of enacted full year FY 2019 appropriations, the judiciary made assumptions to construct a FY 2020 budget request. The judiciary built the FY 2020 budget request for the Federal Judicial Center assuming the FY 2019 House and Senate mark as an estimate for final FY 2019 appropriations. This amount would fund the Center's full FY 2019 requirements.

For bill language, the judiciary used the language from H.R. 6147, the House-passed FY 2019 Financial Services and General Government appropriations act, updated with the assumed funding level as described above, as the closest approximation of eventual enacted FY 2019 appropriations language.

After full year FY 2019 appropriations are enacted, the judiciary will re-estimate its FY 2020 budget request and transmit to the Appropriations Committees any changes to FY 2020 appropriations requirements and language.

## **JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES**

The Federal Judicial Center's FY 2020 appropriation request is \$30,736,000 representing an overall increase of \$917,000 (3.1 percent) over the assumed FY 2019 appropriation of \$29,819,000. The total requested increase, \$917,000, is for adjustments to base to maintain current services. These adjustments include pay and benefits cost increases for current staff. Also included are general inflationary increases for operating expenses such as travel, utilities, printing, contractual services, supplies and materials, furniture and equipment. The Center requests no program increases.

### **ADJUSTMENTS TO BASE TO MAINTAIN CURRENT SERVICES**

#### **A. PERSONNEL**

##### ***Pay and Benefit Adjustments***

##### **1. Annualization of assumed 2019 pay adjustment**

##### **Requested Increase: \$96,000**

The requested increase provides for the annualized costs of an assumed 2019 pay adjustment for Employment Cost Index (ECI) and locality pay. Based on the FY 2019 appropriations action to date, federal pay rates are assumed to increase by an average of 1.9 percent, effective as of January 2019. The requested increase provides for the cost of three months (from October 2019 to December 2019) of the assumed 2019 pay increase in FY 2020. (If Congress ultimately does not enact a

2019 pay adjustment for federal civilian workers, or one is provided at a rate different than 1.9 percent, the judiciary will revise this line item in its FY 2020 budget re-estimate.)

##### **2. Promotions and within-grade increases**

##### **Requested Increase: \$155,000**

The requested amount provides for an increase to allow Federal Judicial Center personnel to be granted adjustments in compensation for merit. The salary plan for judicial support personnel provides for periodic within-grade increases for staff who receive at least a satisfactory performance rating.

##### **3. Benefits increases**

##### **a. Health benefits**

##### **Requested Increase: \$13,000**

Based on information from the Office of Personnel Management, health benefit premium contributions are projected to increase by an average of 1.2 percent both in January 2019 and January 2020. The requested increase annualizes the 2019 premium increase, and includes a nine-month provision for the increase anticipated for fiscal year 2020.

**b. FICA adjustment**

**Requested Increase: \$22,000**

Based on information from the Social Security Administration, employer contributions to the Old Age, Survivor, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) portion of the FICA tax will increase in 2019. The salary cap for OASDI increased from \$128,400 to \$132,900 in January 2019. The requested amount is needed to pay the agency contribution in FY 2020.

**c. FERS adjustment**

**Requested Increase: \$365,000**

Consistent with guidance from the Office of Management and Budget, funds are requested for an increase in the agency contribution rate to Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) plans for FY 2020. For most employees, the agency contribution rate will increase from 13.7 percent to 16.0 percent. Any FERS increase is in accordance with revised estimates of the cost of providing benefits by the Board of Actuaries of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability System.

**4. One more compensable day**

**Requested Increase: \$79,000**

There is one more compensable day in FY 2020 than in FY 2019. The requested amount increases personnel

compensation and benefits associated with one more compensable day for biweekly paid employees.

**B. OTHER ADJUSTMENTS**

**5. Inflationary increases in charges for contracts, services, supplies, and equipment**

**Requested Increase: \$187,000**

Consistent with guidance from the Office of Management and Budget, this request of \$187,000 is required to fund inflationary increases of 2.0 percent for operating expenses such as travel, communications, printing, contractual services, supplies and materials, and furniture and equipment.

**FINANCING THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 REQUEST**

**OFFSETTING COLLECTIONS**

**6. Estimated reimbursements from federal accounts and the FJC Foundation.**

**Estimated Reimbursement: \$390,000      FTE: 0**

The Center enters into reimbursable agreements to provide additional services to, or to allow economizing by, the AO, the courts, and non-judicial federal entities. For example, on occasion, the AO will add on to scheduled FJC programs additional training days for judges and thereby avoid incurring duplicative transportation costs for such efforts. In addition, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 629, the Center receives support from

occasional donations to the Federal Judicial Center Foundation which the Center uses to conduct additional educational programs for judges. The Center estimates that \$390,000 will be reimbursed to it in FY 2020.

**Estimated obligation of available balance from Judiciary Information Technology Fund (JITF)**

At the beginning of FY 2019, the Federal Judicial Center had \$430,000 available in the Judiciary Information Technology Fund (JITF) from deposits that were made in previous fiscal years. A total of \$430,000 is planned for obligation in FY 2019. These funds will provide for the estimated costs associated with IT infrastructure, contract services to support maintenance of IT systems, and planned life-cycle replacement of various office automation and technology equipment.