

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

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Fiscal Year 2020 Enacted Appropriation</b>                         | <b>\$30,436,000</b> |
| <b>Fiscal Year 2021 Requested Appropriation</b>                       | <b>\$31,344,000</b> |
| <b>Requested Increase from Fiscal Year 2020 Enacted Appropriation</b> | <b>\$908,000</b>    |

**APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE**

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

For necessary expenses of the Federal Judicial Center, as authorized by Public Law 90-219, [~~\$30,436,000~~]*\$31,344,000*; of which \$1,800,000 shall remain available until September 30, [2021]2022, 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.

(P.L. 116-93 - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2020)

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST  
FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
FISCAL YEAR 2021  
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

**Fiscal Year 2021 Resource Requirements:**

|  | <u>FTEs</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| <b>Fiscal Year 2020 Assumed Obligations.....</b>             | <b>128</b>  | <b>31,262</b> |
| Reimbursements from Federal Accounts and FJC Foundation..... | -           | (415)         |
| Utilization of Judiciary Information Technology Fund.....    | -           | (411)         |
| <b>Fiscal Year 2020 Enacted Appropriation.....</b>           | <b>128</b>  | <b>30,436</b> |

**Page No.    Adjustments to Base to Maintain Current Services:**

**A. PERSONNEL**

*Pay and Benefit Adjustments*

|      |  |   |      |
|------|--|---|------|
| 9.10 | 1. Proposed 2021 pay adjustment (1.0% for nine months)               | - | 164  |
| 9.10 | 2. Annualization of 2020 pay adjustment (3.1% for three months)..... | - | 163  |
| 9.10 | 3. Promotions and within-grade increases.....                        | - | 165  |
| 9.10 | 4. Benefits increases  |   |      |
|      | a. Health benefits.....  | - | 34   |
|      | b. FICA adjustment.....  | - | 28   |
|      | c. FERS adjustment.....  | - | 255  |
| 9.11 | 5. One less compensable day.....                                     | - | (84) |

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST  
FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
FISCAL YEAR 2021  
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

| <b>B. OTHER ADJUSTMENTS</b>  |  | <u>FTEs</u>    | <u>Amount</u>     |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------|
| <i>General Inflationary Adjustments</i>                                |  |                |                   |
| 9.11   | 6. Inflationary increases in charges for contracts, services, supplies, and equipment..... | -              | 183               |
| <b>Subtotal, Adjustments to Base to Maintain Current Services.....</b> |  | <b>-</b>       | <b>908</b>        |
| <b>Total Current Services Appropriation Required .....</b>             |  | <b>128</b>     | <b>31,344</b>     |
| <br><b>Total Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriation Required.....</b>          |  | <br><b>128</b> | <br><b>31,344</b> |
| <b>Total Appropriation Increase.....</b>                               |  | <b>-</b>       | <b>908</b>        |
| <br><b><u>Financing the Fiscal Year 2021 Request:</u></b>              |  |                |                   |
| <b>Total Appropriation Required, Fiscal Year 2021.....</b>             |  | <b>128</b>     | <b>31,344</b>     |
| 9.11   | 7. Estimated reimbursements from federal accounts and the FJC Foundation.....              | -              | 350               |
| <b>Total Estimated Obligations, Fiscal Year 2021.....</b>              |  | <b>128</b>     | <b>31,694</b>     |

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

| Activity   | Fiscal Year 2019<br>Actuals |                           |               | Fiscal Year 2020<br>Assumed Obligations |                           |               | Fiscal Year 2021<br>Request |                           |               |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
|  | Direct                      | Offsetting<br>Collections | Total         | Direct                                  | Offsetting<br>Collections | Total         | Direct                      | Offsetting<br>Collections | Total         |
| Education & Training   | 20,254                      | 417                       | 20,671        | 21,193                                  | 415                       | 21,608        | 21,825                      | 350                       | 22,175        |
| Research   | 4,928                       | -                         | 4,928         | 5,571                                   | -                         | 5,571         | 5,737                       | -                         | 5,737         |
| Program Support  | 4,872                       | -                         | 4,872         | 4,083                                   | -                         | 4,083         | 3,782                       | -                         | 3,782         |
| <b>Total Obligations</b>   | <b>30,054</b>               | <b>417</b>                | <b>30,471</b> | <b>30,847</b>                           | <b>415</b>                | <b>31,262</b> | <b>31,344</b>               | <b>350</b>                | <b>31,694</b> |
| Unobligated Balance, Start of Year:<br>Judiciary Information Technology Fund | (431)                       | -                         | (431)         | (411)                                   | -                         | (411)         | -                           | -                         | -             |
| Deposits and Other Adjustments:<br>Judiciary Information Technology Fund     | (215)                       | -                         | (215)         | -                                       | -                         | -             | -                           | -                         | -             |
| Unobligated Balance, End of Year:<br>Judiciary Information Technology Fund   | 411                         | -                         | 411           | -                                       | -                         | -             | -                           | -                         | -             |
| <i>Subtotal, Other Obligations</i>   | <i>(235)</i>                | <i>-</i>                  | <i>(235)</i>  | <i>(411)</i>                            | <i>-</i>                  | <i>(411)</i>  | <i>-</i>                    | <i>-</i>                  | <i>-</i>      |
| <b>Direct Obligations</b>  | <b>29,819</b>               | <b>417</b>                | <b>30,236</b> | <b>30,436</b>                           | <b>415</b>                | <b>30,851</b> | <b>31,344</b>               | <b>350</b>                | <b>31,694</b> |
| Offsetting Collections<br>Reimbursable programs                              | -                           | (417)                     | (417)         | -                                       | (415)                     | (415)         | -                           | (350)                     | (350)         |
| <b>Available Appropriation</b>   | <b>29,819</b>               | <b>-</b>                  | <b>29,819</b> | <b>30,436</b>                           | <b>-</b>                  | <b>30,436</b> | <b>31,344</b>               | <b>-</b>                  | <b>31,344</b> |

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

| Description                           | Fiscal Year 2019 |                        |               | Fiscal Year 2020    |                        |               | Fiscal Year 2021 |                        |               |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|
|                                       | Actuals          |                        |               | Assumed Obligations |                        |               | Request          |                        |               |
|                                       | Direct           | Offsetting Collections | Total Oblig.  | Direct              | Offsetting Collections | Total Oblig.  | Direct           | Offsetting Collections | Total Oblig.  |
| 1100 Personnel compensation           | 15,240           | 112                    | 15,352        | 16,136              | 112                    | 16,248        | 16,430           | 112                    | 16,542        |
| 1200 Personnel benefits               | 4,787            | 28                     | 4,815         | 5,165               | 28                     | 5,193         | 5,597            | 28                     | 5,625         |
| 2100 Travel                           | 5,951            | 277                    | 6,228         | 6,279               | 275                    | 6,554         | 6,406            | 210                    | 6,616         |
| 2200 Transportation of things         | 65               | -                      | 65            | 61                  | -                      | 61            | 62               | -                      | 62            |
| 2300 Communications, utilities & misc | 497              | -                      | 497           | 532                 | -                      | 532           | 542              | -                      | 542           |
| 2400 Printing and reproduction        | 28               | -                      | 28            | 56                  | -                      | 56            | 57               | -                      | 57            |
| 2500 Other services                   | 1,329            | -                      | 1,329         | 949                 | -                      | 949           | 967              | -                      | 967           |
| 2600 Supplies and materials           | 687              | -                      | 687           | 735                 | -                      | 735           | 749              | -                      | 749           |
| 3100 Equipment                        | 1,235            | -                      | 1,235         | 523                 | -                      | 523           | 533              | -                      | 533           |
| <b>Direct Obligations</b>             | <b>29,819</b>    | <b>417</b>             | <b>30,236</b> | <b>30,436</b>       | <b>415</b>             | <b>30,851</b> | <b>31,344</b>    | <b>350</b>             | <b>31,694</b> |
| Other Obligations (JITF Obligations)  | 235              | -                      | 235           | 411                 | -                      | 411           | -                | -                      | -             |
| Total Obligations                     | 30,054           | 417                    | 30,471        | 30,847              | 415                    | 31,262        | 31,344           | 350                    | 31,694        |

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

|                                   | FY 2019<br>Actual | FY 2020<br>Assumed<br>Obligations | FY 2021<br>Request |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Obligations incurred              | 30,236            | 30,851                            | 31,694             |
| Obligated balance, start of year  | 3,224             | 3,609                             | 2,456              |
| Adjustment of prior year activity | 33                | 34                                | 35                 |
| Obligated balance, end of year    | <u>(3,609)</u>    | <u>(2,456)</u>                    | <u>(1,336)</u>     |
| <b>Total Outlays</b>              | <b>29,884</b>     | <b>32,038</b>                     | <b>32,849</b>      |
| Less Offsets                      | (417)             | (415)                             | (350)              |
| Net Outlays                       | 29,467            | 31,623                            | 32,499             |

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

| Activity                            | Fiscal Year 2019 |                       |            | Fiscal Year 2020 |                       |            | Fiscal Year 2021 |                       |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------|
|                                     | Direct           | Offsetting<br>Collec. | Total      | Direct           | Offsetting<br>Collec. | Total      | Direct           | Offsetting<br>Collec. | Total      |
| Education & Training                | 88               | 0                     | 88         | 90               | 0                     | 90         | 90               | 0                     | 90         |
| Research                            | 26               | 0                     | 26         | 27               | 0                     | 27         | 27               | 0                     | 27         |
| Program Support                     | 11               | 0                     | 11         | 11               | 0                     | 11         | 11               | 0                     | 11         |
| <b>Total, Full Time Equivalents</b> | <b>124</b>       | <b>0</b>              | <b>124</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) 2021 request for the Federal Judicial Center totals \$31,344,000 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 other duties regarding state-federal judicial relations, assistance to 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 2020 APPROPRIATIONS**

The judiciary built the FY 2021 budget request for the Federal Judicial Center on the FY 2020 enacted appropriation, which is \$30,436,000. This amount maintains current services in FY 2020. For bill language, the judiciary used the language from P.L. 116-93, Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2020.

## JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES

The Federal Judicial Center's FY 2021 appropriation request is \$31,344,000 representing an overall increase of \$908,000 (2.98 percent) over the enacted FY 2020 appropriation of \$30,436,000. The total requested increase, \$908,000, 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. Proposed 2021 pay adjustment

**Requested Increase: \$164,000**

The judiciary is assuming federal pay rates will increase by 1.0 percent in January 2021. The requested increase provides for the cost of nine months of the anticipated pay raise in FY 2021, from January 2021 to September 2021. (If the pay adjustment included in the President's FY 2021 budget request is different than 1.0 percent, the judiciary will revise this line item in its FY 2021 budget re-estimate.)

#### 2. Annualization of 2020 pay adjustment

**Requested Increase: \$163,000**

The requested increase provides for the annualized costs of the 2020 pay adjustment associated with the Employment Cost Index (ECI) and locality pay. Based on the FY 2020 enacted appropriations bill, federal pay rates increased by an average of 3.1 percent, effective as of January 2020. The requested increase provides for the cost of three months (from October 2020 to December 2020) of the enacted 2020 pay increase in FY 2021.

#### 3. Promotions and within-grade increases

**Requested Increase: \$165,000**

The requested increase provides for promotions and within-grade increases for personnel. The salary plan for judicial support personnel provides for periodic within-grade increases for staff who receive at least a satisfactory performance rating.

#### 4. Benefits increases

##### a. Health benefits

**Requested Increase: \$34,000**

Based on information from the Office of Personnel Management, agency health benefit premium contributions are projected to increase by an average of 3.2 percent both in January 2020 and January 2021. The requested increase annualizes the 2020 premium increase and includes a nine-

month provision for an estimated 3.2 percent increase anticipated for FY 2021.

**b. FICA adjustment**

**Requested Increase: \$28,000**

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 2020. The salary cap for OASDI increased from \$132,900 to \$137,700 in January 2020. The requested amount is needed to pay the agency contribution in FY 2021.

**c. FERS adjustment**

**Requested Increase: \$255,000**

Consistent with guidance from the Office of Management and Budget, funds are requested for an increase in the agency contribution rate to Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) plans for FY 2021. For most employees, the agency contribution rate will increase from 16.0 percent to 17.3 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.

**5. One less compensable day**

**Requested Decrease: (\$84,000)**

There is one less compensable day in FY 2021 than in

FY 2020. The requested amount decreases personnel compensation and benefits associated with one less compensable day for biweekly paid employees.

**C. OTHER ADJUSTMENTS**

*General Inflationary Adjustments*

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

**Requested Increase: \$183,000**

Consistent with guidance from the Office of Management and Budget, this requested increase is required to fund inflationary adjustments 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 2021 REQUEST**

**OFFSETTING COLLECTIONS**

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

**Estimated Reimbursement: \$350,000**

**FTE: 0**

The Center enters into reimbursable agreements to provide additional services to, or to allow economizing by, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO), the courts, and non-judicial federal entities. For example, on occasion, the AO will add on to scheduled Center programs additional training

days for judges and thereby avoid incurring duplicative transportation costs for such efforts. In addition, pursuant to Title 28, Section 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 \$350,000 will be reimbursed to it in FY 2021.