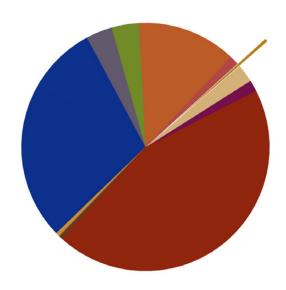
# **Circuit Court Judges**

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Prince William County Circuit Court Judges Chambers is to serve the public. It accomplishes this mission by providing a fair, responsive, and efficient system of justice that fully utilizes technological advancements, committed to excellence, fostering public trust, understanding and confidence by protecting rights and liberties, upholding, and interpreting the law, and resolving disputes peacefully, fairly, and effectively.



Expenditure Budget: \$1,874,118



0.4% of Public Safety

### **Programs:**

Circuit Court Judges Chambers: \$1,874,118

Public Safety Expenditure Budget: \$472,166,990

### **Mandates**

The Code of Virginia requires that every county shall have a courthouse with suitable space and facilities to accommodate the various courts and officials serving the county.

**State Code:** <u>15.2-1638</u> (County or city governing body to provide courthouse, clerk's office, jail and suitable facilities for attorney for the Commonwealth; acquisition of land)

# **Circuit Court Judges**

### **Expenditure and Revenue Summary**



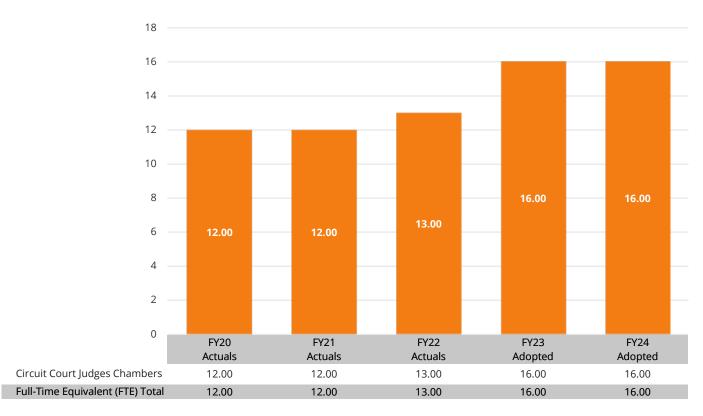
Expenditure by Program	FY20 Actuals	FY21 Actuals	FY22 Actuals	- 1	FY24 Adopted	% Change Budget FY23/ Budget FY24
Circuit Court Judges Chambers	\$1,063,329	\$1,136,806	\$1,294,000	\$1,756,328	\$1,874,118	6.71%
Total Expenditures	\$1,063,329	\$1,136,806	\$1,294,000	\$1,756,328	\$1,874,118	6.71%

### **Expenditure by Classification**

Salaries & Benefits	\$957,432	\$1,044,241	\$1,179,428	\$1,556,423	\$1,697,149	9.04%
Contractual Services	\$12,895	\$119	\$97	\$1,305	\$1,305	0.00%
Internal Services	\$36,320	\$36,320	\$39,207	\$79,691	\$79,692	0.00%
Purchase of Goods & Services	\$52,179	\$51,822	\$70,593	\$114,417	\$92,417	(19.23%)
Leases & Rentals	\$4,503	\$4,305	\$4,675	\$4,492	\$4,492	0.00%
Reserves & Contingencies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$937)	-
Total Expenditures	\$1,063,329	\$1,136,806	\$1,294,000	\$1,756,328	\$1,874,118	6.71%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0	\$609	\$2,467	\$0	\$0	-
<b>Total Designated Funding Sources</b>	\$0	\$609	\$2,467	\$0	\$0	-
Net General Tax Support	\$1,063,329	\$1,136,197	\$1,291,533	\$1,756,328	\$1,874,118	6.71%
Net General Tax Support	100.00%	99.95%	99.81%	100.00%	100.00%	

### Staff History by Program





## **Circuit Court Judges**

### **Future Outlook**

**Circuit Court Space** – The Judicial Center expansion project included in the FY2024-2029 Capital Improvement Program will address long-term space needs. In addition, there has been progress in providing a dedicated courtroom for the additional judge authorized during the 2022 Virginia General Assembly session. The Court is looking forward to the Judicial Center master plan and how it will address the current need and future growth for the County and the residents the Court serves.

Restructuring in the Court – The Circuit Court Judges Chambers is always looking to improve the way it serves the citizens of Prince William County. With the addition of the seventh judge last year and additional staff that goes with that courtroom, the Court is looking at restructuring to find efficiencies. One efficiency the Court is wanting to do is to have a centralized reporting structure for the judicial clerks. At present the judicial law clerks report directly to the judge they support. For continuity the current on-board judicial law clerks to stay on for additional weeks to provide initial training to the annual incoming judicial law clerks. This process holds up the out-going judicial law clerks from their next career assignment, and it lacks consistent training and corporate knowledge of case research and history with each passing judicial law clerk class. Another advantage of this restructuring by having a centralized reporting structure is there would be a dedicated resource for three judge panel cases and recusal judge hearings.

### **General Overview**

**A.** Removal of One-Time Costs – One-time costs of \$22,000 associated with the three additional positions to support the seventh judge and Drug Court Program in FY23 have been removed in FY24. The three positions included a Judicial Law Clerk, a Drug Court program coordinator, and an Administrative Specialist.

### **Program Summary**

### **Circuit Court Judges Chambers**

The Judicial Circuit Court has general trial court jurisdiction, as well as appellate jurisdiction for General District and Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court. It is a separate branch of government. Circuit Court in Virginia decides the most serious cases in each jurisdiction presiding over criminal, civil, concealed handgun permits (CHPs), miscellaneous, and other cases. The 31st Judicial Circuit currently has seven full-time judges.

Key Measures	FY20 Actuals				
Annual criminal disposition percentage	29.5%	66.0%	41.0%	82.0%	82.0%
Annual civil and CHPs disposition percentage	53.1%	74.0%	60.0%	93.0%	93.0%
Annual miscellaneous and other disposition percentage	17.3%	41.0%	26.0%	63.0%	67.0%
Total average annual disposition rate	94.4%	64.0%	77.0%	85.0%	85.0%
Annual clearance rates	94.0%	70.0%	75.0%	87.0%	87.0%

Program Activities & Workload Measures (Dollar amounts expressed in thousands)	FY20 Actuals				
Court Case Docket Management and Administrative Support	\$1,063	\$1,137	\$1,294	\$1,756	\$1,874
Cases per Circuit Court Judge	2,956	2,365	3,380	3,380	3,540
Cost per case concluded	\$64	\$65	\$45	\$69	\$69