





Overview - Mission and Selected Programs

Mission

The mission of the Judiciary, as an independent branch of government, is to administer justice in an impartial, efficient, and accessible manner in accordance with the law.

Access to Justice

- *Self-Help Centers/Access to Justice Rooms*
- *Small Claims Online Dispute Resolution*
- *E-reminders*

Specialty Courts

- *Community Outreach Court*
- *Veteran's Treatment Court*
- *Mental Health Court*
- *Women's Court*
- *Truancy Court*



Operating Requests for FY 2025

**Total: \$3.24m additional in FY 2025 and
4.5 new permanent positions**

Detail:

- **\$1.19m** due to the increasing cost of electricity
- **\$245k** for a critical cybersecurity tool and monitoring services
- **\$530k** to increase compensation for court interpreters
- **\$170k** to implement Act 159 (SLH 2023) by modifying JIMS
- **\$137k** for 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Program operating budget
- **\$882k** to restore funding for 14 defunded positions
 - First Circuit – 6 positions **\$290k**
 - Third Circuit – 4 positions **\$187k**
 - Fifth Circuit – 1 position **\$205k**
 - Administration – 3 positions **\$200k**



Operating Requests for FY 2025 – cont.

A total of 4.5 new permanent full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, of which:

- *2.0 FTE for janitors at the new Wahiawā District Court \$52k*
- *0.5 FTE for a Social Worker IV, Office of the Public Guardian, Maui \$32k*
- *2.0 FTE conversion of temporary positions to permanent \$0*
 - *1.0 FTE conversion for a Human Resources Specialist I \$0*
 - *1.0 FTE conversion for a Court Operations Specialist \$0*



CIP Requests for FY 2025

Priority	Circuit	Request	FY 2025
1	First Circuit	Ka'ahumanu Hale – Continue phased elevator modernization project to ensure the safety of public and employees and comply with ADA. This phase includes upgrading the cabs and mechanical equipment of four obsolete elevators in the public area and installing air conditioning in the elevator machine rooms to control humidity and temperature, which will extend the life of the equipment and minimize breakdowns.	\$9.25m
2	Administration	Kapuāiwa Building – Separate storm and basement level sanitary sewage system. The current combined storm and sanitary systems are in violation of City and County of Honolulu ordinance and a major health hazard, which contributes to severe flooding events and has resulted in damage to the building.	\$1.5m
3	Second Circuit	Hoapili Hale – Phase 2 of 2 to build out a courtroom from an existing area (previously used for file storage) on the first floor to fulfill the need for additional courtroom capacity at Hoapili Hale.	\$1.25m
4	Administration (Systemwide)	Lump Sum CIP (Bond Funds) – Continue long-term improvements, renovations, and upgrades to extend the life of facilities occupied by the Judiciary.	\$2m
5	Administration (Systemwide)	Lump Sum CIP (A Funds) – Continue upkeep of Judiciary facilities, and address emergencies that may arise. This funding may be used for near-term repair and deferred maintenance projects of limited scope at facilities occupied by the Judiciary.	\$3m
Total			\$17m

#1: First Circuit – Continue Phased Ka‘ahumanu Hale Elevator System Upgrades and Modernization \$9.25m



Replacement of these four elevators and A/C installation are the next phase of a comprehensive elevator modernization project over the past 10 years to ensure safety of public and employees.

This will be the largest phase, as these four public elevators must be completed at the same time.

The existing elevators at Ka‘ahumanu Hale are obsolete and prone to fail. They pose a danger to building users as they frequently go offline, often with occupants stuck inside the cabs.

- Elevators are down approximately 35% of the time.
- There were 25 trouble calls including 9 incidents with people trapped inside the elevators last year.
- From 2018 to 2020, there were 188 trouble calls including 25 incidents with people trapped inside the elevators.
- A few years ago, two of the four public elevators were down for several months while the vendor attempted to find used replacement parts required for repair.

Installation of air conditioning in the elevator machine rooms will control the temperature and humidity, which will extend the life of the equipment and minimize breakdowns.

We intend to seek future funding to methodically address the deficiencies in the elevator system until all nine (9) elevators have been replaced, to improve safety and reliable building access at Ka‘ahumanu Hale.

#2: Administration – Kapuāiwa Building Separate Storm Drain and Sanitary Sewage System \$1.5m



Improve and separate basement level storm and sanitary sewage system.

The Kapuāiwa Building currently combines storm drainage and the basement level sanitary sewage systems and discharges into the City and County of Honolulu’s sewer collection system.

These combined storm and sanitary systems are a violation of City and County of Honolulu ordinance and poses a major health hazard.

In addition, the combined discharge has already contributed to several severe flooding events resulting in significant damage to the building.

This project will add a new sanitary sewer lift station with redundant pumps that will discharge to the sanitary sewage collection system.

The area storm drains will also be modified and upgraded to adequately collect and manage storm drainage at the basement level.

#3: Second Circuit – Hoapili Hale Construct New Courtroom (Phase 2 of 2) \$1.25m



Construction of this new courtroom will increase efficiency and reduce the backlog of pending cases, especially for child protective hearings, juvenile matters, and divorce cases.

There is a need for additional courtroom capacity at Hoapili Hale.

Currently, the District Court at Hoapili Hale is assigned only two courtrooms that operate with three District Court judges.

This results in congested calendars due the lack of calendaring flexibility.

The courtroom would be constructed on the first floor of Hoapili Hale by redesigning an existing space and will comply with all building codes and ADA requirements.

Phase 1 (previously funded) is preparing a shell space for the new courtroom and includes spatial, structural, mechanical, and electrical alterations.

Phase 2 (current request) will fit out the shell space to complete the courtroom.

#4 & #5: Administration – Lump Sum CIP



\$5m total; \$2m in Bond Funds and \$3m in A Funds

for FY 2025 to continue to provide the Judiciary with the flexibility to address ongoing and urgent building issues statewide as they arise.