

JUDICIAL COMMISSION

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY21 Adjusted Base	FY22 Recommended	% Change Over FY21	FY23 Recommended	% Change Over FY22
GPR	322,200	345,000	7.1	345,600	0.2
TOTAL	322,200	345,000	7.1	345,600	0.2

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY21 Adjusted Base	FY22 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY21	FY23 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY22
GPR	2.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
TOTAL	2.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The commission investigates and prosecutes allegations of misconduct or disability on the part of Wisconsin judges and court commissioners. A judge's or court commissioner's conduct is measured primarily by Supreme Court Rule, Chapter 60, Wisconsin Code of Judicial Conduct. The nine-member commission consists of five members who are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and four members who are appointed by the Supreme Court.

The commission, through its executive director, receives and responds to numerous inquiries from judges, attorneys, court commissioners and other citizens on the issue of judicial conduct. The commission does not issue advisory opinions, but the executive director does respond to requests for informal guidance by judges and court commissioners on the propriety of contemplated conduct. In 2018 and 2019, a total of 351 requests for informal guidance were received and responded to by the executive director. The commission encourages such communications between its staff and judges, court commissioners and the public.

MISSION

The mission of the commission is to hold Wisconsin judges and court commissioners accountable for violations of the Wisconsin Code of Judicial Conduct while maintaining the independence of the judiciary, which is necessary for the proper functioning of a democracy. The commission also strives to strengthen the Wisconsin judiciary and the public's confidence in it by creating a greater awareness, on the part of both the judiciary and the public, of what constitutes proper and improper judicial conduct.

PROGRAMS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Program 1: Judicial Conduct

Goal: Respond in an appropriate and timely manner to increasing caseload with minimal staff.

Goal: Participate in judicial education programs by providing ethics presentations to reduce the incidence of judicial misconduct.

Goal: Increase awareness among judges concerning ethical issues by providing informal guidance.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

2019 AND 2020 GOALS AND ACTUALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2019	Actual 2019	Goal 2020	Actual 2020
1.	Number of complaints received.	475	479	475	256
1.	Investigations pending.	15	16	15	15
1.	Requests for advice (informal guidance).	325	173	325	85

Note: Actuals for 2020 are based on calendar year through August 2020.

2021, 2022 AND 2023 GOALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2021	Goal 2022	Goal 2023
1.	Number of complaints received.	475	475	475
1.	Investigations pending.	15	15	15
1.	Requests for advice (informal guidance).	325	325	325

Note: Based on calendar year.

JUDICIAL COMMISSION

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Standard Budget Adjustments

Table 1
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)

	ACTUAL FY20	ADJUSTED BASE FY21	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$259.7	\$322.2	\$345.0	\$345.6	\$345.0	\$345.6
State Operations	259.7	322.2	345.0	345.6	345.0	345.6
TOTALS - ANNUAL	\$259.7	\$322.2	\$345.0	\$345.6	\$345.0	\$345.6
State Operations	259.7	322.2	345.0	345.6	345.0	345.6

Table 2
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions) (4)

	ADJUSTED BASE FY21	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
TOTALS - ANNUAL	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

Table 3
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)

	ACTUAL FY20	ADJUSTED BASE FY21	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23
1. Judicial conduct	\$259.7	\$322.2	\$345.0	\$345.6	\$345.0	\$345.6
TOTALS	\$259.7	\$322.2	\$345.0	\$345.6	\$345.0	\$345.6

Table 4
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions) (4)

	ADJUSTED BASE FY21	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY22	FY23	FY22	FY23
1. Judicial conduct	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
TOTALS	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

1. Standard Budget Adjustments

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY22		FY23		FY22		FY23	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	22,800	0.00	23,400	0.00	22,800	0.00	23,400	0.00
TOTAL	22,800	0.00	23,400	0.00	22,800	0.00	23,400	0.00

The Governor recommends adjusting the commission's base budget for: (a) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (\$20,600 in each year); and (b) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (\$2,200 in FY22 and \$2,800 in FY23).