

JUDICIAL COMMISSION

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY23 Adjusted Base	FY24 Recommended	% Change Over FY23	FY25 Recommended	% Change Over FY24
GPR	352,800	351,700	-0.3	352,400	0.2
TOTAL	352,800	351,700	-0.3	352,400	0.2

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY23 Adjusted Base	FY24 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY23	FY25 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY24
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 2020 and 2021, a total of 330 requests for informal guidance were received and responded to by the executive director.

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.

Judicial Commission

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

2021 AND 2022 GOALS AND ACTUALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2021	Actual 2021	Goal 2022	Actual 2022
1.	Number of complaints received. ¹	475	2,043	475	408
1.	Investigations pending.	15	27	15	21
1.	Requests for advice (informal guidance).	325	190	325	136

Note: Actuals for 2022 are based on calendar year through August 2022.

¹The term complaints also includes "other initial inquiries."

2023, 2024 AND 2025 GOALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2023 ¹	Goal 2024	Goal 2025
1.	Complaints (and other initial inquiries) received. ²	500	500	500
1.	Investigations pending.	25	25	25
1.	Requests for advice (informal guidance).	250	250	250

Note: Based on calendar year.

¹Goals for 2023 have been revised.

²The performance measure has been slightly modified.

JUDICIAL COMMISSION

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Standard Budget Adjustments

Judicial Commission

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

	ACTUAL FY22	ADJUSTED BASE FY23	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$275.0	\$352.8	\$351.0	\$351.0	\$351.7	\$352.4
State Operations	275.0	352.8	351.0	351.0	351.7	352.4
TOTALS - ANNUAL	\$275.0	\$352.8	\$351.0	\$351.0	\$351.7	\$352.4
State Operations	275.0	352.8	351.0	351.0	351.7	352.4

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

	ADJUSTED BASE FY23	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
State Operations	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
TOTALS - ANNUAL	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
State Operations	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

Judicial Commission

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

	ACTUAL FY22	ADJUSTED BASE FY23	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
1. Judicial conduct	\$275.0	\$352.8	\$351.0	\$351.0	\$351.7	\$352.4
TOTALS	\$275.0	\$352.8	\$351.0	\$351.0	\$351.7	\$352.4

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

	ADJUSTED BASE FY23	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
1. Judicial conduct	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
TOTALS	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

Judicial Commission

1. Standard Budget Adjustments

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY24 Dollars	Positions	FY25 Dollars	Positions	FY24 Dollars	Positions	FY25 Dollars	Positions
GPR	-1,800	0.00	-1,800	0.00	-1,100	0.00	-400	0.00
TOTAL	-1,800	0.00	-1,800	0.00	-1,100	0.00	-400	0.00

The Governor recommends adjusting the commission's base budget for: (a) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (-\$1,800 in each year); and (b) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (\$700 in FY24 and \$1,400 in FY25).