

Courts Summary

	Actual FY 18	Original Budget FY 19	Adjusted Budget FY 19	Budget FY 20	% Change From Orig. FY 19	% Change From Adj. FY 19
Circuit Court	\$2,466,514	\$2,379,960	\$2,422,250	\$2,274,510	-4.43%	-6.10%
Circuit Court Magistrates	576,494	499,930	457,730	407,160	-18.56%	-11.05%
Orphan's Court	58,100	60,510	60,510	61,110	0.99%	0.99%
Volunteer Community Service Program	249,915	211,670	211,960	186,440	-11.92%	-12.04%
Total Courts	\$3,351,023	\$3,152,070	\$3,152,450	\$2,929,220	-7.07%	-7.08%
Total Without Benefits	\$2,334,340	\$2,549,090	\$2,549,430	\$2,606,830	2.27%	2.25%

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Circuit Court for Carroll County is to serve its residents in the determination of litigation in serious criminal matters, substantive civil cases, and domestic and child support cases, in accordance with the Constitution.

Goals include:

- Maintain a commitment to expediting the judicial process in order to preserve and build public trust and confidence in the justice system
- Provide the framework for proper distribution of estates to legal heirs
- Assist children involved in delinquent behavior to utilize the available resources to receive intervention from appropriate agencies
- Provide prompt resolution of family law issues such as visitation, divorce, and custody
- Ensure non-profit organizations and government agencies benefit from the Volunteer Community Service Program

Highlights, Changes, and Useful Information

- The Circuit Court is part of the judicial branch of government. While the Commissioners have a legal requirement to adequately fund the Circuit Court, they do not have operational authority over it.
- The Circuit Court Magistrates and Volunteer Community Service Program are under the supervision of the Circuit Court.
- The State directly pays the salaries and benefits for the Circuit Court Judges, their law clerks, one Standing Magistrate, and reimburses the County for the salary and fringe benefits of one Standing Magistrate.
- In addition to direct funding to the Circuit Court, the County also provides in-kind support, including health benefits, building maintenance, technology services and support, access to the County's fleet of pool vehicles, and Personnel Services staff.

Budget Changes

- The increase from FY 19 Original to Adjusted is due to the addition of a Court Assignment Officer in the Circuit Court budget, offset by the elimination of a position in Circuit Court Magistrates.
- FY 20 Budget reflects a change in OPEB allocations. OPEB is budgeted in the Health and Fringe Benefits Budget, part of Human Resources.

Circuit Court

Description	Actual FY 18	Original Budget FY 19	Adjusted Budget FY 19	Budget FY 20	% Change From Orig. FY 19	% Change From Adj. FY 19
Personnel	\$1,665,506	\$1,812,960	\$1,852,240	\$1,884,330	3.94%	1.73%
Benefits	696,056	420,190	423,200	232,270	-44.72%	-45.12%
Operating	104,911	143,000	143,000	155,100	8.46%	8.46%
Capital	42	3,810	3,810	2,810	-26.25%	-26.25%
Total	\$2,466,514	\$2,379,960	\$2,422,250	\$2,274,510	-4.43%	-6.10%
Total Without Benefits	\$1,770,458	\$1,959,770	\$1,999,050	\$2,042,240	4.21%	2.16%
Employees FTE	35.10	35.10	37.10	37.10	-----	-----

Note: Actuals include allocations for health and fringe, OPEB, and other operating expenditures. The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes. FY 20 Budget reflects a change in OPEB allocations. OPEB is budgeted in the Health and Fringe Benefits Budget, part of Human Resources.

Contact

The Honorable Fred S. Hecker, Administrative Judge
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<https://circuitcourt.carrollcountymd.gov>

Mission

To serve its residents in the determination of litigation in serious criminal matters, substantive civil cases, and domestic and child support cases in accordance with the Constitution.

Description

The Circuit Court is a trial court of general jurisdiction, which handles major civil cases and serious criminal matters, and has appellate jurisdiction over the District Court and certain administrative agencies. The Circuit Court has full common law, equity powers and jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases within the County, and all additional powers and jurisdiction conferred by the Constitution and by law.

Program Highlights

- Carroll County Circuit Judges conducted mock trials for elementary students and judged the Carroll County High School Mock Trial Program.
- The Family Law Supervised Visitation Center had 802 monitored exchanges and 729 supervised visitations.
- 191 participants from Adult Circuit Court Drug Treatment Court have successfully completed the program since its inception on April 13, 2007.

Budget Changes

- The increase from FY 19 Original to Adjusted is due to the addition of a Court Assignment Officer.
- A 3% salary increase is included in FY 20.
- Operating increases due to the annual maintenance for three X-ray machines.
- Capital decreases due to one-time purchase of office equipment in FY 19.

Total County Funding

Department	Estimated Cost
Circuit Court	\$2,274,510
Health Benefits	370,000
OPEB	223,260
Public Safety	1,320
Utilities	227,990
Building Maintenance	143,970
Technology Support	72,640
Cash Match for Grants	56,830
Total	\$3,370,520

Circuit Court Magistrates

Description	Actual FY 18	Original Budget FY 19	Adjusted Budget FY 19	Budget FY 20	% Change From Orig. FY 19	% Change From Adj. FY 19
Personnel	\$361,017	\$374,550	\$335,350	\$345,970	-7.63%	3.17%
Benefits	209,304	118,300	115,300	54,150	-54.23%	-53.04%
Operating	6,174	7,080	7,080	7,040	-0.56%	-0.56%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$576,494	\$499,930	\$457,730	\$407,160	-18.56%	-11.05%
Total Without Benefits	\$367,191	\$381,630	\$342,430	\$353,010	-7.50%	3.09%
Employees FTE	6.00	6.00	4.76	4.76	-----	-----

Note: Actuals include allocations for health and fringe, OPEB, and other operating expenditures. The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes. FY 20 Budget reflects a change in OPEB allocations. OPEB is budgeted in the Health and Fringe Benefits Budget, part of Human Resources.

Contact

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Mission

To see that children are given the appropriate services to assist them, and that all children involved in delinquent behavior receive intervention from appropriate agencies.

Description

The Juvenile Court functions as part of the Circuit Court and the Circuit Court Magistrates preside over the hearings. The Juvenile Court works closely with other agencies, such as the Department of Juvenile Services, the Carroll County Department of Social Services, State's Attorney's Office, Office of the Public Defender, and the Board of Education.

Program Highlights

The County is reimbursed by the State for the salary and benefits of one full-time Standing Circuit Court Magistrate.

Budget Changes

- The decrease from FY 19 Original to Adjusted is due to the elimination of a Judicial Assistant position.
- A 3% salary increase is included in FY 20.

Total County Funding

Title	Estimated Cost
Circuit Court Magistrates	\$407,160
Health Benefits	92,500
OPEB	58,320
Total	\$557,980

Orphans Court

Description	Actual FY 18	Original Budget FY 19	Adjusted Budget FY 19	Budget FY 20	% Change From Orig. FY 19	% Change From Adj. FY 19
Personnel	\$44,581	\$46,500	\$46,500	\$46,500	0.00%	0.00%
Benefits	12,404	12,050	12,050	12,650	4.98%	4.98%
Operating	1,115	1,960	1,960	1,960	0.00%	0.00%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$58,100	\$60,510	\$60,510	\$61,110	0.99%	0.99%
Total Without Benefits	\$45,696	\$48,460	\$48,460	\$48,460	0.00%	0.00%
Employees FTE	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-----	-----

Note: Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

The Honorable Charles M. Coles, Jr., Chief Judge

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Mission and Goals

To review all estates, verify personal representatives have complied with the Annotated Code of Maryland-Estates and Trusts, and distributed estates according to the deceased persons' wills.

Goals include:

- Educate the public about the need for a will
- Provide the framework for the proper distribution of the net distributable estate to the legal heirs
- Read and examine every estate of deceased Carroll County residents

Description

The Judges of the Orphans Court probate wills greater than \$50,000. Their functions are to:

- Ensure that all wills are carried out in accordance with the desires of the deceased
- Protect the rights of heirs in the absence of a will
- Preside over probate hearings where there are disputes as to the administration of the estate

In addition, the Court approves all petitions for personal representative fees, attorney fees, and funeral expenses in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland.

The County pays the salaries and expenses of three Orphans Court Judges. Salaries of the Orphans Court Judges are set by law and may change only at the beginning of their four-year term.

Volunteer Community Service Program

Description	Actual FY 18	Original Budget FY 19	Adjusted Budget FY 19	Budget FY 20	% Change From Orig. FY 19	% Change From Adj. FY 19
Personnel	\$148,980	\$153,420	\$153,680	\$158,290	3.17%	3.00%
Benefits	98,920	52,440	52,470	23,320	-55.53%	-55.56%
Operating	2,015	5,810	5,810	4,830	-16.87%	-16.87%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$249,915	\$211,670	\$211,960	\$186,440	-11.92%	-12.04%
Total Without Benefits	\$150,995	\$159,230	\$159,490	\$163,120	2.44%	2.28%
Employees FTE	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	-----	-----

Note: Actuals include allocations for health and fringe, OPEB, and other operating expenditures. The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes. FY 20 Budget reflects a change in OPEB allocations. OPEB is budgeted in the Health and Fringe Benefits Budget, part of Human Resources.

Contact

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- Supplying manpower to public and private non-profit agencies

Mission and Goals

To offer a positive alternative to the traditional sentencing options used by the Courts.

Goals include:

- To assist offenders in finding opportunities to perform court-ordered community service at private companies, non-profit organizations, and governmental agencies
- To ensure as many organizations and agencies as possible benefit from the services that Volunteer Community Service Program (VCSP) provides

Description

VCSP, functioning under the authority of the Circuit Court of Carroll County, has been in operation since October 1980. VCSP interviews, places, and monitors juvenile and adult non-violent offenders who have been referred to the program by the Circuit Court, District Court, Juvenile Court, and the Department of Juvenile Justice as part of their rehabilitation.

VCSP's crew works from 7 a.m. until 12 noon most Sunday mornings, staffed by Community Service workers and supervised by the Community Service Coordinator. The group travels throughout Carroll County helping various County agencies and non-profit organizations with special projects.

Benefits of the program include:

- Providing sentencing alternatives for Judges
- Reducing the jail population
- Enabling offenders to meet family and employment commitments
- Utilizing work as a rehabilitation tool
- Making clients personally accountable for their actions

Program Highlights

Since the inception of the program in 1980 through October 2018, a total of 33,826 volunteers have been referred to the program and volunteered a total of 1,399,855 hours.

Budget Changes

- A 3% salary increase is included in FY 20.
- Operating decreases due to a reduction in casualty insurance cost.

Total County Funding

Title	Estimated Cost
Volunteer Community Service Program	\$186,440
Health Benefits	55,500
OPEB	34,990
Total	\$276,930