



## Legislation Text

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**File #: 2980-2020, Version: 1**

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### **BACKGROUND:**

The Franklin County Municipal Court is the busiest court in the state of Ohio. It continually strives to improve services to every litigant who appears before the Court and strives to be a wise and efficient steward of taxpayer resources. To this end, the Court charges a variety of court fees to provide additional support to the administration of its departments and programs.

This ordinance authorizes the appropriation of \$4,094,077 for fiscal year 2021 within the following Franklin County Municipal Court Special Funds:

IDAT Fund - to provide sufficient funds to pay the cost of attendance at court-ordered drug and alcohol treatment centers. The Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services (ADAMH) Board administers the indigent driver alcohol treatment program of the Court, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 4511.191 (N).

Security Fund - to provide funds to pay the cost of staff, supplies, and services to promote the mission and support the security department efforts.

Dispute Resolution Fund - The Franklin County Municipal Court instituted its pre-filing mediation program for small claims cases in 1984; the program provides mediation services for individuals and business who wish to resolve their disputes and avoid filing a small claims case.

Home Incarceration Fund - to provide sufficient funds to pay the cost of electronic monitoring and state charged work release of probationers.

Specialized Dockets Fund - The Specialized Docket consists of five programs which address drug and alcohol addiction, heroin addiction, mental health issues, and the special needs of human trafficking victims and veterans. The Solicitation Program (CATCH), Mental Health Program (LINC), Military and Veterans Program (MAVS), and the Addiction Programs (HART and RECOVERY COURT). Each docket has received certification after submitting written materials and undergoing a site review to ensure that statewide, minimum standards are met. The Specialized Dockets hold criminal offenders accountable while linking them with comprehensive treatment and services, which leads to a reduction in recidivism and an increase in community safety.

Self Help Assisted Civil Fund - The program began in January 2016. The program provides information about the court system and non-legal assistance to civil litigants qualifying as indigent and appearing pro se before the Court.

Probation Fund - These funds are collected as a one-time probation supervision fee for all individuals placed under probation supervision by the Court effective December 1, 1995. The collection of said funds was authorized by Amended Substitute House Bill Number 406, signed into law in August, 1994. The intent of these funds is to provide for specialized probation staff, the purchase of needed equipment, services, and other similar probation-related expenses not currently available to the Court's probation services department.

IDIAM Fund - to provide sufficient funds to pay the cost of attendance at court-ordered treatment centers.

Environmental Fund - The intent of these funds is to provide for the purchase of services and other similar environmental court related expenses not currently available to the Court's environmental department.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There are sufficient funds available within the above listed funds to support the requested appropriation level for 2021.

**EMERGENCY:** An emergency is being requested so that funds can be established at the start of the 2021 budget year.

To authorize the appropriation of \$4,094,077.00 from the 2021 unappropriated balances of the Franklin County Municipal Court Special Funds to the Franklin County Municipal Court for all anticipated expenses; and to declare an emergency. (4,094,077.00)

**WHEREAS,** an appropriation of \$4,094,077 for fiscal year 2021 within the Franklin County Municipal Court's Special Funds is necessary in order to continue with the services; and

**WHEREAS,** an emergency exist in the usual daily operation of the Franklin County Municipal Court in that it is immediately necessary to appropriate the aforementioned funds, in order for the Court to commence expending these funds. thereby preserving the public health, peace, safety, and welfare; now, therefore;

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

**SECTION 1.** That from the monies in the fund known as the computer system procurement & maintenance fund, fund no. 2227, and from all monies estimated to come into said fund from any and all sources during the 12 months ending December 31, 2021, there be and hereby are appropriated for the object level ones for which the corporation has to provide the following sums for use during the 12 months ending December 31, 2021:

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222703 (Probation Services)

See attached breakdown of fund by main account.

TOTAL \$500,266

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222704 (Electronic Alcohol Monitoring (IDIAM))

Obj Class 03

Amount \$250,000

TOTAL \$250,000

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222706 (Environmental Court)

Obj Class 02

Amount \$5,000

Obj Class 03

Amount \$5,000

TOTAL \$10,000

TOTAL Fund No. 2227 \$760,266

**SECTION 2.** That from the monies in the fund known as the municipal court special projects fund, fund no. 2226, and from all monies estimated to come into said fund from any and all sources during the 12 months ending December 31, 2021, there be and hereby are appropriated for the object level ones for which the corporation has to provide the following sums for use during the 12 months ending December 31, 2021:

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222601 (Municipal Court Security Facilities)

See attached breakdown of fund by main account.

TOTAL \$802,637

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222602 (Dispute Resolution)

Obj Class 03

Amount \$50,000

TOTAL \$50,000

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222603 (Home Incarceration)

Obj Class 03

Amount \$135,000

TOTAL \$135,000

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222604 (Specialty Docket Programs)

See attached breakdown of fund by main account.

TOTAL \$1,661,607

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222605 (Assisted Civil Self Help - Indigent)

See attached breakdown of fund by main account.

TOTAL \$134,567

TOTAL Fund No. 2226 \$2,783,811

**SECTION 3.** That from the monies in the fund known as the municipal court special projects fund, fund no. 2225, and from all monies estimated to come into said fund from any and all sources during the 12 months ending December 31, 2021, there be and hereby are appropriated for the object level ones for which the corporation has to provide the following sums for use during the 12 months ending December 31, 2021:

Division No. 2501 Municipal Court Judges Subfund 222501 (Indigent Drivers Alcohol Training (IDAT))

Obj Class 03

Amount \$550,000

TOTAL \$550,000

TOTAL Fund No. 2225 \$550,000

**SECTION 4.** That the monies appropriated in Sections 1-3 shall be paid upon the order of the Administrative and Presiding Judge, and that no Order shall be drawn down or paid except by voucher, the form of which shall be approved by the City Auditor.

**SECTION 5.** That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.