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GENERAL COUNSEL

2560-102 BARRINGTON CIRCLE | TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32308 | PHONE 850.386.2223 | FAX 850.386.2224 | WWW.FLCCOC.ORG

# Budget Stabilization Funding Request FY 2021-22

## 1. Pandemic Recovery Plan – \$6.83 M

- Provide \$6.83 million for 102 temporary positions to manage the anticipated backlog of cases identified by the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA).
  - This request parallels with OSCA's request of \$12.5 million for 102 senior judges and magistrates.
  - Increases in the number of judges and magistrates approved by the Legislature equates to an increased workload for the clerks.
  - The Legislature statutorily recognizes this workload increase, explicitly providing the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation (CCOC) the authority to increase clerks' budget for increased judges, in s. 28.36(4), F.S.

## 2. Reimbursement for Injunctions for Protection – \$3.3 M

- Provide \$3.3 million for reimbursement for providing staff to process injunctions for protection (Domestic Violence, Repeat Violence, Sexual Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and the Exploitation of a Vulnerable Adult.)
  - Injunctions for protection are no-fee cases, and there is a significant workload associated with these cases. Clerks processed almost 83,000 injunctions during CFY 2018-19.
  - Current law authorizes a \$40 reimbursement per petition if the Legislature appropriates funding for that purpose.

## 3. Revert and Reappropriate Juror Management Funding

- Request to revert and appropriate for the same purpose unexpended juror management funding from SFY 2020-21, currently estimated to be about \$2.4 million.
  - Due to the impacts of COVID-19, courts suspended in-person jury trials for an extended amount of time.
  - Before SFY 2019-20, clerks expended over \$12 million for juror management.
  - The temporary closure of the courts delayed many civil and criminal trials. CCOC anticipates an increase in jury trials and increased costs associated with summoning more potential jurors during SFY 2021-22.