Reimbursement for Injunctions for Protection

FY 2021-22

# **The Pandemic, the Courts, and the Clerks**

* Injunctions for protection from violence are crucial to ensuring public safety. As such, many clerks operate 24/7 staffing to timely process these injunctions. Without these services, victims of violence may suffer additional victimization.
  + Injunctions for protection include Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Repeat Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking.
* Currently, clerks perform these services at no cost to the petitioners, and the clerks support this good public policy.
  + These services include assisting those individuals requesting injunctions, which is time-consuming and labor-intensive.
  + There are many no-fee case types, which require a significant amount of work for the clerk’s office, the cost of which clerks can no longer absorb with the erratic revenue.

# **Reimbursement for Injunctions for Protection**

* Florida Statutes authorizes the Legislature to provide funding for services relating to Injunctions for Protection in the form of a $40 reimbursement for each case worked.
  + s. 741.30, F.S. – Domestic Violence
  + s. 784.046, F.S. – Repeat Violence, Sexual Violence, or Dating Violence
  + s. 784.0485, F.S. – Stalking
* In CFY 2018-19 clerks processed 82,972 injunctions for protection.

**CCOC requests the Legislature to provide the statutorily authorized reimbursement for injunction for protection using an estimate of 82,500 at $40 per injunction totaling $3.3 million in non-recurring General Revenue.**

**Total Request = $3,300,000**