



Legislative Appropriations Request

For Fiscal Years 2028 and 2029

Amended

Presented by the

Fourteenth Court of Appeals

Houston, Texas

**Legislative Appropriations Request
for Fiscal Years 2028 and 2029
*Amended***

Submitted to the
Office of the Governor, Budget Division
and the
Legislative Budget Board

by

Fourteenth Court of Appeals
Houston, Texas

Tracy Christopher, Chief Justice

**Justice Ken Wise
Justice Kevin Jewell
Justice Randy Wilson
Justice Brad Hart**

**Justice Tonya McLaughlin
Justice Chad Bridges
Justice Katy Boatman
Justice Maritza Antú**

August 28, 2026

Prepared by
Esthefania Bogany, Accountant/Director

Approved by
Tracy Christopher, Chief Justice
Kevin Jewell, Justice

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Administrator's Statement.....	1-5
Administrator's Statement Exhibits.....	6-9
Organizational Chart.....	1. A.
Certificate of Dual Submission.....	1. B.
Budget Overview.....	1-1
Summary of Base Request By Strategy.....	2. A.
Summary of Base Request By Method of Finance.....	2. B.
Summary of Base Request By Object of Expense.....	2. C.
Operating Cost Detail Base Request.....	2. C.1.
Summary of Base Request Objective Outcomes.....	2. D.
Summary of Exceptional Items Request.....	2. E.
Summary of Total Request By Strategy.....	2. F.
Summary of Total Request Objective Outcomes.....	2. G.
Strategy Request.....	3. A.
Rider Revisions and Additions Request.....	3. B.
Exceptional Items Request Schedule.....	4. A.
Exceptional Items Strategy Allocation Schedule.....	4. B.
Exceptional Items Strategy Request.....	4. C.
Historically Underutilized Business Supporting Schedule.....	6. A.
Estimated Total of All Agency Funds Outside the GAA Bill Pattern.....	6. H.
Interagency Contracts.....	6.L.1

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTEENTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS**ADMINISTRATOR'S STATEMENT**

The core function of Texas' intermediate appellate courts is to process, review, and decide by written opinion every appeal that is filed with them from trial courts, in civil and criminal cases, across numerous counties. These appeals include every substantive area of civil and criminal law—except for death penalty cases—and many of them must be decided on an expedited basis as mandated by the Legislature and the rules of appellate procedure.

The courts of appeals must also resolve a large number of original proceedings each fiscal year seeking extraordinary relief—such as a writ of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, injunction, or quo warranto. Original proceedings, which are often filed during the pendency of litigation, commonly have voluminous records and must also be decided on an expedited basis. And many of them include a request for emergency temporary relief which must be addressed immediately.

Against this backdrop, Texas has gained more residents than any other state during the 21st century. Since 2000, the population of Texas has increased by more than 52%. More than 31 million people now live in Texas. And the vast majority are adults who look to the judiciary for resolution of their disputes as guaranteed by our Constitution. The Legislature has responded to this big increase population by creating nearly 200 new trial courts across Texas. And the Bench and the Bar have taken important steps to increase access to justice for all Texans.

New case filings in the courts of appeals began to return to their pre-COVID levels in fiscal year 2022. During the next three fiscal years (FY '23, FY '24, and FY '25), new case filings in the courts of appeals increased each fiscal year by between 4% to 8%. This is consistent with the increase in new cases experienced by the federal courts of appeals from 2022 to 2025 at nearly 4.4%.

This all changed for Texas' courts of appeals in fiscal year 2026. New case filings are increasing in FY '26 from FY '25 by 20%. And they are increasing by about 30% from FY '24—which is when the Legislature last met. See Administrator's Statement Exhibit #1 Table- New Cases Filed by Fiscal Year. When equalization transfers are taken into account, every court of appeals in Texas (except the 15th court which has different jurisdictional requirements) is experiencing these large increases in new case filings—which are anticipated to continue for the foreseeable future. See Administrator's Statement Exhibit #2- Table- New Cases Filed by Fiscal Year- After Transfers.

Two important components of this big increase in new case filings are original proceedings and pro se appeals. Together, they constitute 54% of the new cases filed in the courts of appeals in FY '26.

Original proceedings are increasing in FY '26 from FY '25 by 49%. And they are increasing in FY '26 from FY '24 by 83%. See Administrator's Statement Exhibit- #3 Table- Original Proceedings.

Meanwhile, pro se appeals are increasing in FY '26 from FY '25 by 36%. And they are increasing in FY '26 from FY '24 by 68%. See Administrator's Statement Exhibit- #3 Table- New Cases Filed by Pro Se Litigants

Yet, in the face of this dramatic growth, the number of staff attorneys (and other staff) at the courts of appeals who assist the justices with their workload has remained largely the same.

A key factor in handling the increasing workload without additional justices is the employment of highly skilled and trained staff attorneys (and other staff). They maximize the productivity of justices by processing complex cases, researching and drafting preliminary drafts of orders and opinions, disposing of voluminous motions, and managing accelerated and emergency matters.

Administrator's Statement

9/3/2026 8:40:29AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
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234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

The large population growth across the State and the magnitude of new case filings, in concert with an ever-increasing number of case types requiring expedited review, make it clear that the courts of appeals require additional staff attorneys, and/or other staff, to manage their growing dockets and to efficiently provide the timely, high-quality justice to which all citizens of Texas are entitled.

In that regard, the courts of appeals, collectively, began in the 79th and 80th Legislative Sessions to work toward a zero-based budget model referred to as “Similar Funding for Same-Sized Courts.” This model quantified the funding required to meet the personnel and operational needs of the courts, thus enabling the courts to accomplish their core function and meet their performance measures. The Similar Funding for Same-Sized Courts initiative was fully funded for the first time in 2015, and the courts had been operating under the same zero-based budget model and funding levels until the 88th Legislative Session when the Legislature increased the budgets for the intermediate appellate courts.

Based upon a template of same-size courts, the courts of appeals are now asking the Legislature for additional staff attorneys, and/or other staff, to match the nearly 30% increase in new case filings since FY '24—subject to the particularized request of each court of appeals. See Administrator’s Statement Exhibit #4- Template of Same-Sized Courts.

Without a sufficient number of qualified staff attorneys, and/or other staff, the courts of appeals are largely unable to handle the increasing volume of new case filings each fiscal year and comply with Legislative mandates to give accelerated and preferential treatment to certain appeals (such as parental-termination and juvenile-certification appeals under the Family Code, mental-health appeals under the Health and Safety Code, and interlocutory appeals under the Civil Practice and Remedies Code) and also comply with the legislatively mandated Clearance Rate requirement.

The courts of appeals are appreciative of the increased funding for existing staff attorneys received last session. It is important and enables the courts of appeals to hire and retain qualified individuals for their existing staff attorney positions, and other staff. The courts of appeals are now faced with the need to increase the number of their staff attorney positions, and/or other staff, in order to keep pace with the growth of Texas and the large increase in new case filings. But they currently lack the funding to do so.

And now the courts of appeals have been instructed to reduce their base appropriation request for the 2028-29 biennium by 3%. Unlike other state agencies, 96.5% of each court of appeals’ budget, on average, is dedicated to salaries and benefits. This budget reduction would thus result in a disproportionate and highly negative impact on the courts of appeals. The only way to absorb such a budget reduction is to cut court staff. This is counter-intuitive and unsustainable in light of the substantial increase in new case filings. Additionally, there is virtually no benefit to the State from a 3% budget cut on the courts of appeals. Indeed, funding for all of the courts of appeals comprises less than 0.04% of the State budget as a whole. And a 3% budget cut on the courts of appeals would approximately yield only a 0.002% reduction in the entire State budget.

Mindful of that, and of the critical role that the courts of appeals perform for all Texans, additional funding for additional staff attorneys, and/or other staff, as specifically requested by each court of appeals, is now necessary for the courts of appeals to ensure the efficient and timely administration of justice going forward.

EXCEPTIONAL ITEM #1: RESTORE THE 3% BUDGET CUT.

To address the highly negative and disproportionate impact of the required 3% reduction on the courts’ funding, especially in light of the substantial increase in new case filings in Fiscal Year '26, the courts of appeals respectfully submit Exceptional Item #1 requesting the restoration of the 3% budget reduction so that their baseline

Administrator's Statement

9/3/2026 8:40:29AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
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234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

funding will be the Fiscal Year 2027 budgeted levels. The Fourteenth Court of Appeals therefore respectfully requests a restoration to General Revenue funding in the amount of \$391,865.

EXCEPTIONAL ITEM #2: ADDITIONAL FULL TIME STAFF ATTORNEYS [AND/OR LAW CLERKS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE CLERKS] DUE TO THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN NEW CASE FILINGS.

Due to the substantial increase in new case filings that the courts of appeals are experiencing in FY '26, and which are expected to continue for the foreseeable future, and based on the template of same-size courts above, the Fourteenth Court of Appeals respectfully submits its Exceptional Item # 2 in which it requests funding for eight additional full time staff attorneys.

These additional staff attorneys are necessary because the Fourteenth Court of Appeals has experienced a 24% increase in new case filings from FY '25 to FY '26. And a 44% increase from FY '24 to FY '26. These increases are beyond the current capacity of the Fourteenth Court of Appeals to handle and comply with the Legislative mandates to give accelerated and preferential treatment to certain appeals (such as parental-termination and juvenile-certification appeals under the Family Code, mental-health appeals under the Health and Safety Code, and interlocutory appeals under the Civil Practice and Remedies Code) and also comply with the legislatively mandated Clearance Rate requirement.

The Fourteenth Court of Appeals currently employs 25 full-time attorneys and 1 part-time attorney to assist in managing the docket and writing draft opinions. In the past two years, our caseload has increased 38% even after equalization transfers. We are asking for funds to hire 8 more attorneys to assist the justices in their work. [8 more attorneys corresponds to a 32% increase in the number of attorneys for the court to handle the 38% increase in caseload.]

The Fourteenth Court of Appeals handles a complex caseload. Over 70 percent of our cases are civil cases, many of which the legislature has designated as priority cases. We often get appeals from lengthy trials with large records that take time to analyze properly. And on the flip side we have seen an increase in self-represented litigants who file numerous repetitive motions that slow down our work. Our attorneys have worked very hard this year to help us meet our legislative goals. But they are at a breaking point, and we believe that we might see some attorneys return to private practice, if we cannot get some additional help. Without additional attorneys it is inevitable that our pending cases will increase, with longer resolution times. While the Fourteenth Court of Appeals projects that it will meet the clearance rate each year, doing so may be difficult without additional full-time attorneys.

The total anticipated expense for these requested FTEs in Biennium 2028-29 for the Fourteenth Court of Appeals is broken down as follows:

Biennium Calculation

1001- Salaries and Wages - \$2,272,000

1002 – Other Personnel Costs - \$3,840

2003 – Consumable Supplies - \$1,600

2009 – Other Operating Expense - \$34,864

2009 – Other Operating Expense – IT - \$32,896

Biennium Total \$2,345,200

EXCEPTIONAL ITEM #3: THE SUPREME COURT'S REQUEST FOR 3% INCREASE IN STAFF SALARIES.

Administrator's Statement

9/3/2026 8:40:29AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Recruiting and retaining excellent judicial-branch staff is essential to the fair and efficient administration of justice in Texas. The rising cost of living combined with the draw of more lucrative employment at other government agencies and the private sector continue to create staffing challenges for the courts. A 3% annual increase in staff pay throughout the Article IV courts and agencies would help maintain the judicial branch's position in the competitive market for talented, qualified, and experienced lawyers and staff. The courts of appeals understand that the Supreme Court of Texas is requesting a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 28 and a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 29 for its judicial staff as an exceptional item. To the extent that the Legislature approves that exceptional item in whole or in part for the Supreme Court, then the Courts of Appeals would respectfully request in this Exceptional Item #3 the same 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 28 and a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 29, or such other increase as is approved for the Supreme Court and its judicial staff. This is necessary to keep the court of appeals' staff salaries within \$5,000 of the staff salaries at the Supreme Court.

EXCEPTIONAL ITEM #4: Critical Funding for a Clerk of Court and Accountant

Historically, the First and Fourteenth Courts of Appeals shared a Clerk of Court and Accountant, with each court funding one-half of the cost. As filings, pro se matters, reporting requirements, audits, and other operational responsibilities have increased, the shared staffing model is no longer sustainable. Both courts now require their own dedicated Clerk of Court and Accountant, consistent with the staffing structure used by the majority of Texas Courts of Appeals.

The Clerk of Court's workload has grown with increased filings, caseload activity, and pro se matters. The Accountant's responsibilities have also increased to include additional state reporting, post-payment audits, Texas Workforce Commission and State Office of Risk Management audits, benefits administration, Family and Medical Leave Act management, and paid parental leave administration.

This critical funding is necessary to fully support these essential positions, meet increasing longevity obligations, maintain salaries that are comparable to other Texas appellate courts, and remain competitive within the local Harris County labor market. Without this funding, the Court's ability to maintain timely case processing, strong financial oversight, audit compliance, required reporting, and effective independent operations would be significantly affected.

Accordingly, the amounts below reflect the additional one-half of the cost now required for the Fourteenth Court of Appeals to fully fund its own Clerk of Court and Accountant during the 2028-2029 Biennium.

FY28

1001- Salaries and Wages	\$146,136
1002 – Other Personnel Costs	\$2,640
2009 – Other Operating Expense	\$2,891
Total by Fiscal Year	\$151,667

FY29

1001- Salaries and Wages -	\$146,136
1002 – Other Personnel Costs -	\$2,640
2009 – Other Operating Expense -	\$2,891
Total by Fiscal Year -	\$151,667

Biennium Total - \$303,334

SPECIAL PROVISIONS/RIDER EXCEPTION REQUESTS:

Administrator's Statement

9/3/2026 8:40:29AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

The courts of appeals also request the following with regard to the SPECIAL PROVISIONS – JUDICIARY found in Article IV (beginning at p. IV-42 of the General Appropriations Act for the 2026-27 Biennium) concerning across-the-board riders:

1. Retain Special Provisions – Judiciary, Sec. 3, Appellate Court Exemptions pertaining to the following Article IX riders: Section 6.10, Limitations on State Employment Levels, Section 6.13, Performance Standards, Section 14.03, Transfers – Capital Budget, and Section 3.04, Scheduled Exempt Positions.
2. Retain Special Provisions – Judiciary, Sec. 5, Interagency Contracts for Assigned Judges for Appellate Courts
3. Retain Special Provisions – Judiciary, Sec. 6, Appellate Court Transfer Authority

Historically, the Legislature has granted the courts' exemption from certain limitations in the General Appropriations Act. The Legislature has also granted the courts the authority to carry over unexpended budget balances between years within the biennium. The flexibility afforded by these measures enhances the courts' management ability, and we seek continuation of these budget features.

4. Add Special Provision – Traveling Justices and Judges and Mileage Reimbursement

Appellate court justices and judges that travel for official state business in a personal vehicle should be exempt from the requirement to complete a comparison worksheet showing that mileage reimbursement for travel in a personal vehicle is more cost-effective than the use of a rental car (as is currently the case for children's court and business court state who travel regularly for official state business). (See Article IV Appropriation for OCA, Texas Judicial Council – Item No. 7 entitled "Mileage Reimbursement for Children's Courts and Business Court Staff).

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT:

In order for the courts of appeals to function efficiently, it is vital that the Office of Court Administration (OCA) be adequately funded. The courts of appeals rely on many of the services provided by OCA and, therefore, the courts of appeals fully support the exceptional items the OCA requests as part of its funding. More specifically, the courts of appeals strongly support the request for funding related to the acquisition of a new appellate case management system to replace the current system known as TAMES as well as a case-level data system.

If the Legislature appropriates a cost-of-living increase to state employees, the courts of appeals request that all court employees be included in any such cost-of-living increase.

Finally, the courts of appeals wish to express appreciation to and support for the Judicial Compensation Commission and the Legislature's efforts to strengthen the justice system by increasing judicial salaries to attract and retain a strong judiciary. The courts of appeals request the Legislature implement the Judicial Compensation Commission's recommendations for an increase in judicial compensation.

Note: on Appropriated Receipts – At the direction of the LBB & Governor's Office, the Fourteenth Court of Appeals has included appropriated receipts in the amount of \$500.00 reflecting reimbursement for copies of opinions and other court documents. These amounts are merely an offset for additional expenses incurred by the Court and do not constitute additional funds available for general expenditures for the Court. The amount can vary significantly from year to year.

Administrator's Statement Exhibit #1

New Cases Filed by Fiscal Year

	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26 (Projected)	Difference from FY 25 to FY26	% Difference	Difference from FY 24 to FY26	% Difference
1st/Houston	952	1,042	1,293	251	24%	341	36%
2nd/Fort Worth	1,000	1,133	1,411	278	25%	411	41%
3rd/Austin	922	940	1,193	253	27%	271	29%
4th/San Antonio	861	864	951	87	10%	90	10%
5th/Dallas	1,451	1,629	1,896	267	16%	445	31%
6th/Texarkana	253	269	275	6	2%	22	9%
7th/Amarillo	308	287	311	24	8%	3	1%
8th/El Paso	337	221	283	62	28%	-54	-16%
9th/Beaumont	408	473	568	95	20%	160	39%
10th/Waco	444	443	567	124	28%	123	28%
11th/Eastland	300	290	358	68	23%	58	19%
12th/Tyler	320	290	351	61	21%	31	10%
13th/Corpus Christi	509	552	698	146	26%	189	37%
14th/Houston	923	1,073	1,328	255	24%	405	44%
15th/Statewide	N/A	135	120	-15	-11%	N/A	N/A
Total FYTD	8,988	9,641	11,603	1,962	20%	2,615	29%

Unusual, one-month spike occurred

Administrator's Statement Exhibit #2

New Cases Filed by Fiscal Year - After Transfers

	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26 (Projected)	Difference from FY 25 to FY26	% Difference	Difference from FY 24 to FY26	% Difference	
1st/Houston	981	1,060	1,305	245	23%	324	33%	
2nd/Fort Worth	863	921	1,053	132	14%	190	22%	
3rd/Austin	732	834	879	45	5%	147	20%	
4th/San Antonio	644	782	931	149	19%	287	44%	
5th/Dallas	1,490	1,614	1,817	203	13%	327	22%	
6th/Texarkana	308	330	380	50	15%	72	23%	
7th/Amarillo	431	399	545	146	37%	114	26%	
8th/El Paso	453	319	428	109	34%	-25	-6%	Unusual, one-month spike occurred
9th/Beaumont	417	472	531	59	13%	114	27%	
10th/Waco	322	374	461	87	23%	139	43%	
11th/Eastland	325	330	411	81	25%	86	26%	
12th/Tyler	363	299	427	128	43%	64	18%	
13th/Corpus Christi	626	665	875	210	32%	249	40%	
14th/Houston	950	1,079	1,315	236	22%	365	38%	
15th/Statewide	N/A	254	244	-10	-4%	N/A	N/A	
Total FYTD	8,905	9,732	11,602	1,870	19%	2,697	30%	

Administrator's Statement Exhibit #3

Original Proceedings										
Court	22	23	24	25	FY 26 (projected)	Difference from FY 25		Difference from FY 24 to		
						to FY26	% Difference	FY26	% Difference	
1	221	176	176	186	252	66	36%	76	43%	
2	80	55	97	120	200	80	66%	103	106%	
3	144	113	122	159	261	102	64%	139	114%	
4	112	112	115	141	199	58	41%	84	73%	
5	214	228	225	297	465	168	56%	240	106%	
6	31	29	19	38	49	11	28%	30	157%	
7	59	38	40	25	23	-2	-7%	-17	-42%	
8	29	26	29	49	87	38	78%	58	201%	
9	46	56	51	49	82	33	66%	31	60%	
10	86	81	58	58	115	57	99%	57	99%	
11	48	45	30	34	39	5	15%	9	30%	
12	39	58	36	45	58	13	29%	22	61%	
13	90	97	90	115	190	75	65%	100	111%	
14	219	178	159	187	239	52	28%	80	50%	
15	N/A	N/A	N/A	32	26	-6	-18%	N/A	N/A	
Total original proceedings filed										
New cases filed										
Orig proceedings as % of new cases filed										

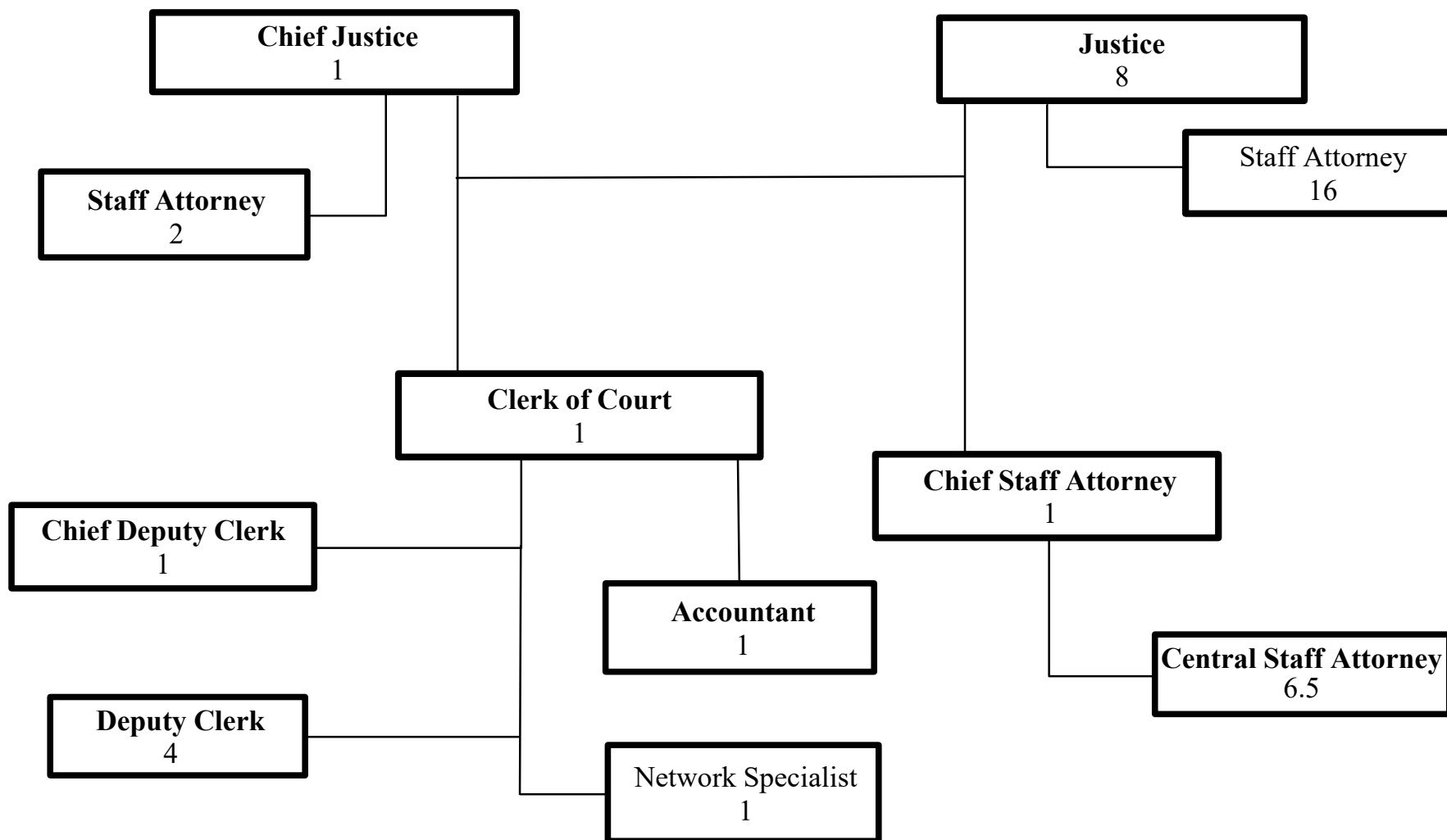
New Cases Filed by Pro Se Litigants										
Court	22	23	24	25	FY 26 (projected)	Difference from FY 25		Difference from FY 24 to		
						to FY26	% Difference	FY26	% Difference	
1	242	228	226	289	357	68	24%	131	58%	
2	198	221	267	334	439	105	31%	172	64%	
3	205	202	229	320	447	127	40%	218	95%	
4	144	151	141	201	265	64	32%	124	88%	
5	373	420	527	600	728	128	21%	201	38%	
6	42	50	39	67	95	28	41%	56	142%	
7	122	119	90	108	124	16	15%	34	37%	
8	61	66	70	62	158	96	154%	88	125%	
9	73	99	86	97	177	80	83%	91	106%	
10	144	120	118	125	191	66	53%	73	62%	
11	110	103	93	103	95	-9	-8%	2	2%	
12	77	56	77	72	92	20	28%	15	20%	
13	136	148	148	167	254	87	52%	106	72%	
14	252	246	236	321	429	108	34%	193	82%	
15	N/A	N/A	N/A	33	89	56	169%	N/A	N/A	
Total cases filed by pro se litigants										
New cases filed										
% of new cases filed by pro se litigants										

Administrator's Statement Exhibit #4

Template of Same-Sized Courts

COURT SIZE	NUMBER OF NEW STAFF ATTORNEYS AND/OR STAFF
13 JUSTICES	9
9 JUSTICES	8
6-7 JUSTICES	6
3-4 JUSTICES	4

**Organizational Chart
Fourteenth Court of Appeals
2028-2029**





CERTIFICATE

Agency Name Fourteenth Court of Appeals

This is to certify that the information contained in the agency Legislative Appropriations Request filed with the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) and the Office of the Governor, Budget and Policy Division, is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the electronic submission to the LBB via the Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST) and the PDF file submitted via the LBB Document Submission application are identical.

Additionally, should it become likely at any time that unexpended balances will accrue for any account, the LBB and the Office of the Governor will be notified in writing in accordance with Senate Bill 1, Article IX, Section 7.01, Eighty-ninth Legislature, Regular Session, 2025.

Chief Executive Office or Presiding Judge

Tracy Christopher
Signature

Tracy Christopher
Printed Name

Chief Justice
Title

August 28, 2026
Date

Board or Commission Chair

Signature

Printed Name

Title

Date

Chief Financial Officer

Kevin Jewell
Signature

Kevin Jewell
Printed Name

Justice
Title

August 28, 2026
Date

Budget Overview - Biennial Amounts
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston
Appropriation Years: 2028-29

	GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS		GR DEDICATED		FEDERAL FUNDS		OTHER FUNDS		ALL FUNDS		EXCEPTIONAL ITEM FUNDS
	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2028-29
Goal: 1. Appellate Court Operations											
1.1.1. Appellate Court Operations	9,559,990	9,273,190					397,706	96,000	9,957,696	9,369,190	3,450,370
1.1.2. Appellate Justice Salaries	3,502,169	3,397,104					546,700	546,700	4,048,869	3,943,804	105,065
Total, Goal	13,062,159	12,670,294					944,406	642,700	14,006,565	13,312,994	3,555,435
Total, Agency	13,062,159	12,670,294					944,406	642,700	14,006,565	13,312,994	3,555,435
Total FTEs									43.5	44.0	8.0

2.A. Summary of Base Request by Strategy

8/7/2026 10:42:32AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Goal / Objective / STRATEGY	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
1 Appellate Court Operations					
1 Appellate Court Operations					
1 APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS	4,690,507	5,007,158	4,950,538	4,684,595	4,684,595
2 APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES	1,595,745	2,013,424	2,035,445	1,961,222	1,982,582
TOTAL, GOAL 1	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177
TOTAL, AGENCY STRATEGY REQUEST	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177
TOTAL, AGENCY RIDER APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST*				\$0	\$0
GRAND TOTAL, AGENCY REQUEST	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177

2.A. Summary of Base Request by Strategy

8/7/2026 10:42:32AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Goal / Objective / STRATEGY	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
<u>METHOD OF FINANCING:</u>					
General Revenue Funds:					
1 General Revenue Fund	5,732,526	6,520,069	6,542,090	6,324,467	6,345,827
SUBTOTAL	\$5,732,526	\$6,520,069	\$6,542,090	\$6,324,467	\$6,345,827
Other Funds:					
573 Judicial Fund	273,350	273,350	273,350	273,350	273,350
666 Appropriated Receipts	7,296	3,539	3,539	500	500
777 Interagency Contracts	273,080	223,624	167,004	47,500	47,500
SUBTOTAL	\$553,726	\$500,513	\$443,893	\$321,350	\$321,350
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177

*Rider appropriations for the historical years are included in the strategy amounts.

2.B. Summary of Base Request by Method of Finance

8/7/2026 10:42:56AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code:	234	Agency name:	Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston			
METHOD OF FINANCING		Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
<u>GENERAL REVENUE</u>						
<u>1</u>	General Revenue Fund					
	<i>REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS</i>					
	Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	\$5,627,049	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	\$0	\$5,919,594	\$5,941,615	\$0	\$0
	Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,324,467	\$6,345,827
	<i>RIDER APPROPRIATION</i>					
	89th Leg., SB 293 Article IX, Sec. 18.83 Judicial Salary Increase (2026-2027)	\$0	\$395,975	\$395,975	\$0	\$0
	<i>TRANSFERS</i>					
	89th Leg., SB 1, Article IX, Sec. 17.15 Salary Increase for Licensed Attorneys	\$0	\$204,500	\$204,500	\$0	\$0
	Comments: expected balance transfer from comptroller					
	<i>LAPSED APPROPRIATIONS</i>					

2.B. Summary of Base Request by Method of Finance

8/7/2026 10:42:56AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 234		Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston				
METHOD OF FINANCING		Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
<u>GENERAL REVENUE</u>						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)		\$(63,511)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Comments: change in positions and delay in hiring/onboarding						
UNEXPENDED BALANCES AUTHORITY						
Art. IV, Special Provisions, Sec. 9, Unexpended Balance Authority (2024-25 GAA)		\$190,692	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Comments: UB Authority in biennium						
BASE ADJUSTMENT						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)		\$(21,704)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Comments: Lapse of estimated and nontransferable Strategy A.1.2 funds (Judicial Salaries)						
TOTAL,	General Revenue Fund	\$5,732,526	\$6,520,069	\$6,542,090	\$6,324,467	\$6,345,827
TOTAL, ALL	GENERAL REVENUE	\$5,732,526	\$6,520,069	\$6,542,090	\$6,324,467	\$6,345,827

OTHER FUNDS

573 Judicial Fund No. 573

2.B. Summary of Base Request by Method of Finance

8/7/2026 10:42:56AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 234		Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston				
METHOD OF FINANCING		Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>						
<i>REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS</i>						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)		\$273,350	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)		\$0	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$0	\$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$273,350	\$273,350
TOTAL,	Judicial Fund No. 573	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350
 <u>666</u> Appropriated Receipts						
<i>REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS</i>						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)		\$11,539	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)		\$0	\$11,539	\$11,539	\$0	\$0

2.B. Summary of Base Request by Method of Finance

8/7/2026 10:42:56AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 234		Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston				
METHOD OF FINANCING		Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500
Comments: The reduction in appropriated receipts is due to the decrease in request of copies.						
<i>LAPSED APPROPRIATIONS</i>						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)		\$(4,243)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)		\$0	\$(8,000)	\$(8,000)	\$0	\$0
TOTAL,	Appropriated Receipts	\$7,296	\$3,539	\$3,539	\$500	\$500
 <u>777</u> Interagency Contracts						
<i>REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS</i>						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)		\$167,004	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)		\$0	\$167,004	\$167,004	\$0	\$0

2.B. Summary of Base Request by Method of Finance

8/7/2026 10:42:56AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 234		Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston				
METHOD OF FINANCING		Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>						
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)						
		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$47,500	\$47,500
Comments: The decrease in interagency contracts is due to the First and Fourteenth Court of Appeals no longer sharing personnel (Clerk of Court, Accountant, Administrative Assistant).						
<i>RIDER APPROPRIATION</i>						
Art IX, Sec 8.02, Reimbursements and Payments (2024-25 GAA)						
		\$106,076	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Art IX, Sec 8.02, Reimbursements and Payments (2026-27 GAA)						
		\$0	\$56,620	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL,	Interagency Contracts	\$273,080	\$223,624	\$167,004	\$47,500	\$47,500
TOTAL, ALL	OTHER FUNDS	\$553,726	\$500,513	\$443,893	\$321,350	\$321,350
GRAND TOTAL		\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177

2.B. Summary of Base Request by Method of Finance

8/7/2026 10:42:56AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 234	Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston				
METHOD OF FINANCING	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
FULL-TIME-EQUIVALENT POSITIONS					
REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS					
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	44.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	0.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0
UNAUTHORIZED NUMBER OVER (BELOW) CAP					
Unauthorized number over/below cap	(1.9)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Comments: Positions have been filled as appropriations have become available.					
Unauthorized number over/below cap	0.0	(1.5)	(0.5)	0.0	0.0
Comments: Change due to retirement and new hire expected to start in FY27					
TOTAL, ADJUSTED FTES	42.1	42.5	43.5	44.0	44.0

**NUMBER OF 100% FEDERALLY
FUNDED FTEs**

2.C. Summary of Base Request by Object of Expense

8/7/2026 10:43:50AM

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)**234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston**

OBJECT OF EXPENSE	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
1001 SALARIES AND WAGES	\$5,498,384	\$6,386,224	\$6,443,226	\$6,227,754	\$6,249,114
1002 OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	\$541,476	\$432,392	\$346,482	\$237,315	\$237,315
2001 PROFESSIONAL FEES AND SERVICES	\$7,310	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2003 CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	\$4,246	\$90	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
2004 UTILITIES	\$5,702	\$2,628	\$3,060	\$2,628	\$2,628
2005 TRAVEL	\$7,187	\$1,211	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
2009 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$221,947	\$198,037	\$187,215	\$174,120	\$174,120
OOE Total (Excluding Riders)	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177
OOE Total (Riders)					
Grand Total	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177

2.C.1. Operating Costs Detail ~ Base Request

Date: 8/7/2026
Time: 10:44:39AM90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency Code: 234 Agency: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

BASE REQUEST STRATEGY: 1-1-1 Appellate Court Operations

Code	Type of Expense	Expended	Estimated	Budgeted	Requested	Requested
6	Registrations/Training	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7	Subscriptions/Periodicals	53,547	49,417	60,000	60,000	60,000
12	Maintenance & Repair - Equipment	625	0	0	0	0
13	Furniture & Equipment (Expensed)	13,979	0	0	0	0
24	Freight/Delivery	822	121	100	200	200
27	Membership Dues	18,747	12,905	11,192	12,905	12,905
28	Liability Insurance	10,921	10,190	10,293	10,190	10,190
35	Computer Equip./Software, Non-cap	643	775	775	775	775
56	Computer Equipment - Expensed	45,702	0	0	0	0
64	SORM Assessment	4,863	4,216	5,286	4,216	4,216
94	Awards	222	98	200	200	200
187	1% salary benefits fee	37,341	60,334	55,984	42,249	42,249
195	Payroll Health Insurance Contrib.	19,726	39,570	24,000	24,000	24,000
Total, Operating Costs		\$207,338	\$177,626	\$167,830	\$154,735	\$154,735

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency Code: 234 Agency: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

BASE REQUEST STRATEGY: 1-1-2 Appellate Justice Salaries. Estimated and Nontransferable

Code	Type of Expense	Expended	Estimated	Budgeted	Requested	Requested
187	1% salary benefits fee	\$14,609	\$20,411	\$19,385	\$19,385	\$19,385
	Total, Operating Costs	\$14,609	\$20,411	\$19,385	\$19,385	\$19,385

2.D. Summary of Base Request Objective Outcomes
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation system of Texas (ABEST)

8/7/2026 10:45:03AM

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Goal/ Objective / Outcome		Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
1	Appellate Court Operations					
	1 Appellate Court Operations					
KEY	1 Clearance Rate					
		95.60%	95.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
KEY	2 Percentage of Cases Under Submission for Less Than One Year					
		98.76%	99.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
KEY	3 Percentage of Cases Pending for Less Than Two Years					
		99.40%	99.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

2.E. Summary of Exceptional Items Request
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026
TIME : 10:45:23AM

Agency code: 234

Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

		2028			2029			Biennium	
Priority	Item	GR and GR/GR Dedicated	All Funds	FTEs	GR and GR Dedicated	All Funds	FTEs	GR and GR Dedicated	All Funds
1	Restore 3% GR reduction	\$195,602	\$195,602		\$196,263	\$196,263		\$391,865	\$391,865
2	Additional FTE's- Staff Attorneys	\$1,186,224	\$1,186,224	8.0	\$1,158,976	\$1,158,976	8.0	\$2,345,200	\$2,345,200
3	Judicial Staff Salary Increase	\$169,979	\$169,979		\$345,057	\$345,057		\$515,036	\$515,036
4	Critical Court Staffing	\$151,667	\$151,667		\$151,667	\$151,667		\$303,334	\$303,334
Total, Exceptional Items Request		\$1,703,472	\$1,703,472	8.0	\$1,851,963	\$1,851,963	8.0	\$3,555,435	\$3,555,435
Method of Financing									
	General Revenue	\$1,703,472	\$1,703,472		\$1,851,963	\$1,851,963		\$3,555,435	\$3,555,435
	General Revenue - Dedicated								
	Federal Funds								
	Other Funds								
		\$1,703,472	\$1,703,472		\$1,851,963	\$1,851,963		\$3,555,435	\$3,555,435
Full Time Equivalent Positions				8.0				8.0	
Number of 100% Federally Funded FTEs									

2.F. Summary of Total Request by Strategy
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE : 8/7/2026
TIME : 10:46:39AM

Agency code: 234	Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston					
Goal/Objective/STRATEGY	Base 2028	Base 2029	Exceptional 2028	Exceptional 2029	Total Request 2028	Total Request 2029
1 Appellate Court Operations						
1 Appellate Court Operations						
1 APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS	\$4,684,595	\$4,684,595	\$1,651,270	\$1,799,100	\$6,335,865	\$6,483,695
2 APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES	1,961,222	1,982,582	52,202	52,863	2,013,424	2,035,445
TOTAL, GOAL 1	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177	\$1,703,472	\$1,851,963	\$8,349,289	\$8,519,140
TOTAL, AGENCY STRATEGY REQUEST	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177	\$1,703,472	\$1,851,963	\$8,349,289	\$8,519,140
TOTAL, AGENCY RIDER APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST						
GRAND TOTAL, AGENCY REQUEST	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177	\$1,703,472	\$1,851,963	\$8,349,289	\$8,519,140

2.F. Summary of Total Request by Strategy
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE : 8/7/2026
TIME : 10:46:39AM

Agency code: 234		Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston					
Goal/Objective/STRATEGY		Base 2028	Base 2029	Exceptional 2028	Exceptional 2029	Total Request 2028	Total Request 2029
General Revenue Funds:							
1	General Revenue Fund	\$6,324,467	\$6,345,827	\$1,703,472	\$1,851,963	\$8,027,939	\$8,197,790
		\$6,324,467	\$6,345,827	\$1,703,472	\$1,851,963	\$8,027,939	\$8,197,790
Other Funds:							
573	Judicial Fund	273,350	273,350	0	0	273,350	273,350
666	Appropriated Receipts	500	500	0	0	500	500
777	Interagency Contracts	47,500	47,500	0	0	47,500	47,500
		\$321,350	\$321,350	\$0	\$0	\$321,350	\$321,350
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177	\$1,703,472	\$1,851,963	\$8,349,289	\$8,519,140
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS		44.0	44.0	8.0	8.0	52.0	52.0

2.G. Summary of Total Request Objective Outcomes
 90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
 Automated Budget and Evaluation system of Texas (ABEST)

Date : 8/7/2026
 Time: 10:47:00AM

Agency code: **234** Agency name: **Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston**

Goal/ Objective / Outcome

		BL 2028	BL 2029	Excp 2028	Excp 2029	Total Request 2028	Total Request 2029
1	Appellate Court Operations						
1	Appellate Court Operations						
KEY	1 Clearance Rate						
		100.00%	100.00%			100.00%	100.00%
KEY	2 Percentage of Cases Under Submission for Less Than One Year						
		100.00%	100.00%			100.00%	100.00%
KEY	3 Percentage of Cases Pending for Less Than Two Years						
		100.00%	100.00%			100.00%	100.00%

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations
OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations
STRATEGY: 1 Appellate Court Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
Output Measures:						
1	Number of Civil Cases Disposed	855.00	993.00	1,191.00	1,429.00	1,714.00
2	Number of Criminal Cases Disposed	363.00	414.00	496.00	595.00	714.00
Explanatory/Input Measures:						
1	Number of Civil Cases Filed	760.00	1,003.00	1,203.00	1,443.00	1,731.00
2	Number of Criminal Cases Filed	319.00	325.00	390.00	468.00	561.00
3	Number of Cases Transferred in	15.00	9.00	9.00	11.00	11.00
4	Number of Cases Transferred out	9.00	22.00	22.00	27.00	27.00
Objects of Expense:						
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$3,945,118	\$4,428,535	\$4,462,490	\$4,321,241	\$4,321,241
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	\$513,606	\$397,068	\$311,158	\$201,991	\$201,991
2001	PROFESSIONAL FEES AND SERVICES	\$7,310	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2003	CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	\$4,246	\$90	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
2004	UTILITIES	\$5,702	\$2,628	\$3,060	\$2,628	\$2,628
2005	TRAVEL	\$7,187	\$1,211	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$207,338	\$177,626	\$167,830	\$154,735	\$154,735
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$4,690,507	\$5,007,158	\$4,950,538	\$4,684,595	\$4,684,595

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations
OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations
STRATEGY: 1 Appellate Court Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
Method of Financing:						
1	General Revenue Fund	\$4,410,131	\$4,779,995	\$4,779,995	\$4,636,595	\$4,636,595
SUBTOTAL, MOF (GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS)		\$4,410,131	\$4,779,995	\$4,779,995	\$4,636,595	\$4,636,595
Method of Financing:						
666	Appropriated Receipts	\$7,296	\$3,539	\$3,539	\$500	\$500
777	Interagency Contracts	\$273,080	\$223,624	\$167,004	\$47,500	\$47,500
SUBTOTAL, MOF (OTHER FUNDS)		\$280,376	\$227,163	\$170,543	\$48,000	\$48,000
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE (INCLUDING RIDERS)					\$4,684,595	\$4,684,595
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE (EXCLUDING RIDERS)		\$4,690,507	\$5,007,158	\$4,950,538	\$4,684,595	\$4,684,595
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:		33.1	33.5	34.5	35.0	35.0
STRATEGY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:						

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations
OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations
STRATEGY: 1 Appellate Court Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
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The Fourteenth Court of Appeals was created in 1967 by amendment to the Article 1817, V.T.C.S. pursuant to the authority granted by Article 5, Section 1, Texas Constitution. This court has intermediate appellate jurisdiction in civil cases in which the judgment rendered exceeds \$100, exclusive of costs, and, effective September 1, 1981, in criminal cases, except those in which the death penalty has been assessed.

In FY2019 Strategy A.1.2. was requested and approved to be part of the GAA in FY2020 separating out Judicial Salaries, therefore the 0573 fund in now reflected in Strategy A.1.2.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS IMPACTING STRATEGY:

Courts of Appeals are by nature, small agencies with highly specialized staff . The main factor which drives this strategy is the need to attract and retain highly trained and knowledgeable professional staff to work on an increasing caseload.

EXPLANATION OF BIENNIAL CHANGE (includes Rider amounts):

<u>STRATEGY BIENNIAL TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</u>		<u>BIENNIAL CHANGE</u>	<u>EXPLANATION OF BIENNIAL CHANGE</u>	
<u>Base Spending (Est 2026 + Bud 2027)</u>	<u>Baseline Request (BL 2028 + BL 2029)</u>		<u>\$ Amount</u>	<u>Explanation(s) of Amount (must specify MOFs and FTEs)</u>
\$9,957,696	\$9,369,190	\$(588,506)	\$(588,506)	The biennial change reflects lower interagency contract fundings because the First and Fourteenth Court of Appeals now have separate staff and the required 3% GR reduction.
			\$(588,506)	Total of Explanation of Biennial Change

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

GOAL:	1	Appellate Court Operations	
OBJECTIVE:	1	Appellate Court Operations	Service Categories:
STRATEGY:	2	Appellate Justice Salaries. Estimated and Nontransferable	Service: NA Income: NA Age: NA

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
Objects of Expense:						
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$1,553,266	\$1,957,689	\$1,980,736	\$1,906,513	\$1,927,873
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	\$27,870	\$35,324	\$35,324	\$35,324	\$35,324
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$14,609	\$20,411	\$19,385	\$19,385	\$19,385
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$1,595,745	\$2,013,424	\$2,035,445	\$1,961,222	\$1,982,582
Method of Financing:						
1	General Revenue Fund	\$1,322,395	\$1,740,074	\$1,762,095	\$1,687,872	\$1,709,232
SUBTOTAL, MOF (GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS)		\$1,322,395	\$1,740,074	\$1,762,095	\$1,687,872	\$1,709,232
Method of Financing:						
573	Judicial Fund	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350
SUBTOTAL, MOF (OTHER FUNDS)		\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350	\$273,350
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE (INCLUDING RIDERS)					\$1,961,222	\$1,982,582
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE (EXCLUDING RIDERS)		\$1,595,745	\$2,013,424	\$2,035,445	\$1,961,222	\$1,982,582
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:		9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0

234 Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

GOAL:	1	Appellate Court Operations	
OBJECTIVE:	1	Appellate Court Operations	Service Categories:
STRATEGY:	2	Appellate Justice Salaries. Estimated and Nontransferable	Service: NA Income: NA Age: NA

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
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STRATEGY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

In FY2019 Strategy A.1.2. was requested and approved to be part of the GAA in FY2020, therefore there are no expenditures or funding represented for Strategy A.1.2.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS IMPACTING STRATEGY:

Approximately one-third of the courts' General Revenue funding is dedicated to Strategy A.1.2. (judicial salaries). As judicial salaries are set by statute, the courts are unable to make any reduction to that portion of their budgets. Consequently, any budget reduction to this strategy must be applied only to the remaining two-thirds of the courts' General Revenue: Strategy A.1.1. (appellate court operations) and would effectively result in a budget cut to the court that is significantly higher than the cuts directed to other State agencies.

EXPLANATION OF BIENNIAL CHANGE (includes Rider amounts):

<u>STRATEGY BIENNIAL TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</u>		<u>BIENNIAL CHANGE</u>	<u>EXPLANATION OF BIENNIAL CHANGE</u>	
Base Spending (Est 2026 + Bud 2027)	Baseline Request (BL 2028 + BL 2029)		\$ Amount	Explanation(s) of Amount (must specify MOFs and FTEs)
\$4,048,869	\$3,943,804	\$(105,065)	\$(105,065)	The biennial change for judicial funding reflects the required 3% reduction in General Revenue limits.
			\$(105,065)	Total of Explanation of Biennial Change

SUMMARY TOTALS:

OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177
METHODS OF FINANCE (INCLUDING RIDERS):				\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177
METHODS OF FINANCE (EXCLUDING RIDERS):	\$6,286,252	\$7,020,582	\$6,985,983	\$6,645,817	\$6,667,177
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:	42.1	42.5	43.5	44.0	44.0

3.B. Rider Revisions and Additions Request

Agency Code: 234	Agency Name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals, District	Prepared By: Jennifer Henry	Date: 08/05/26	Request Level: Baseline
Current Rider Number	Page Number in 2026–2027 GAA	Proposed Rider Language		

2, 3, 4, 6,
7, 8

No changes recommended for Riders 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8

5

IV-43

Sec. 5. Interagency Contracts for Assigned Judges for Appellate Courts. Out of funds appropriated in this Article to Strategies A.1.1., Appellate Court Operations, the Supreme Court of Texas, the Court of Criminal Appeals, or any of the 15 Courts of Appeals may enter into a contract with the Office of the Comptroller for fiscal years ~~2026~~2028 and ~~2027~~2029, for the purpose of reimbursing the Comptroller for amounts expended for judges assigned under Chapter 74, Government Code to hear cases of the appellate courts. It is the intent of the Legislature that any amounts reimbursed under this contract for judges assigned to the appellate courts are in addition to amounts appropriated for the use of assigned judges in Strategy A.1.3. Visiting Judges – Appellate in the Judiciary Section, Comptroller’s Department.

Adjusting the years in the rider for the 2028-2029 biennium.

9

IV-44

Sec. 9. Unexpended Balance Authority. Any unexpended and unobligated balances remaining in non-estimated strategies at the Supreme Court of Texas, Court of Criminal Appeals, 15 Courts of Appeals, Office of Court Administration, Office of Capital and Forensic Writs, Office of the State Prosecuting Attorney, State Commission on Judicial Conduct, and State Law Library as of August 31, ~~2026~~2028, are appropriated to the respective court or agency for the fiscal year beginning September 1, ~~2026~~2028, for the same purpose.

Updating the rider to adjust the years for the 2028-2029 biennium.

701

IV

Mileage Reimbursement for Appellate Court Staff. Appellate court staff who travel regularly to hear case dockets may be reimbursed for mileage at the state-approved rate when they travel for official state business in a personal vehicle. These staff are also exempt from the requirement to complete a comparison worksheet showing that mileage reimbursement for travel in a personal vehicle is more cost-effective than the use of a rental car.

3.B. Rider Revisions and Additions Request (continued)

Requesting addition of the cost comparison exemption for the appellate courts that is afforded to the other court personnel within the judiciary.

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 9/3/2026
TIME: 8:39:47AM

Agency code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

CODE	DESCRIPTION		Excp 2028	Excp 2029
	Item Name:	Restore Biennial General Revenue to 100%		
	Item Priority:	1		
	IT Component:	No		
	Anticipated Out-year Costs:	Yes		
	Involve Contracts > \$50,000:	No		
	Includes Funding for the Following Strategy or Strategies:	01-01-01 Appellate Court Operations		
		01-01-02 Appellate Justice Salaries. Estimated and Nontransferable		
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:				
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES		192,668	193,319
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE		2,934	2,944
	TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$195,602	\$196,263
METHOD OF FINANCING:				
1	General Revenue Fund		195,602	196,263
	TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$195,602	\$196,263

DESCRIPTION / JUSTIFICATION:

To address the highly negative and disproportionate impact of the required 3% reduction on the courts' funding, especially in light of the substantial increase in new case filings in Fiscal Year '26, the courts of appeals respectfully submit Exceptional Item #1 requesting the restoration of the 3% budget reduction so that their baseline funding will be the Fiscal Year 2027 budgeted levels. The Fourteenth Court of Appeals therefore respectfully requests a restoration to General Revenue funding in the amount of \$391,865.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS:

The Courts of Appeals are relatively small agencies with highly specialized staffing requirements. Because the majority of the Fourteenth Court's budget is dedicated to personnel, there are limited funds available to absorb a 3% reduction. As a result, the required reduction would likely result in the loss of approximately 1.5 FTEs or require essential positions to remain vacant.

The Court relies on experienced professional staff to support the timely processing and disposition of civil and criminal appeals. Reducing that staff while appellate filings are increasing would directly affect the Court's ability to manage the increased workload.

The Court remains committed to meeting its clearance rate goals. However, the loss of 1.5 FTEs could make it more difficult to manage incoming appeals, potentially lowering the Court's clearance rate, increasing the number of pending cases, and extending the time cases remain pending. The loss of specialized personnel could also affect productivity and efficiency.

This exceptional item would allow the Court to maintain its historical performance levels while preserving the highest quality of legal analysis. The citizens of Texas deserve no less.

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 9/3/2026
TIME: 8:39:47AM

Agency code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
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PCLS TRACKING KEY:

DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS :

Anticipated out-year costs reflect the recurring general revenue necessary to maintain the Court's staffing capacity and avoid the loss of any full-time employees. Continued funding is necessary to support the Court's workload and maintain current service and performance levels.

ESTIMATED ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS FOR ITEM:

	2030	2031	2032
OUT-YEAR ALL FUNDS:	\$196,263	\$196,263	\$196,263

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
 90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
 Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 9/3/2026
 TIME: 8:39:47AM

Agency code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name: Additional Full-Time Staff Attorneys Item Priority: 2 IT Component: No Anticipated Out-year Costs: Yes Involve Contracts > \$50,000: No Includes Funding for the Following Strategy or Strategies: 01-01-01 Appellate Court Operations			
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	1,136,000	1,136,000
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	1,920	1,920
2003	CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	800	800
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	47,504	20,256
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$1,186,224	\$1,158,976
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1	General Revenue Fund	1,186,224	1,158,976
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$1,186,224	\$1,158,976
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS (FTE):		8.00	8.00

DESCRIPTION / JUSTIFICATION:

The Fourteenth Court of Appeals currently employs 25 full-time attorneys and 1 part-time attorney to assist in managing the docket and writing draft opinions. In the past two years, our caseload has increased 38% even after equalization transfers. We are asking for funds to hire 8 more attorneys to assist the justices in their work. [8 more attorneys corresponds to a 32% increase in the number of attorneys for the court to handle the 38% increase in caseload.]

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS:

The Fourteenth Court of Appeals handles a complex caseload. Over 70 percent of our cases are civil cases, many of which the legislature has designated as priority cases. We often get appeals from lengthy trials with large records that take time to analyze properly. And on the flip side we have seen an increase in self-represented litigants who file numerous repetitive motions that slow down our work. Our attorneys have worked very hard this year to help us meet our legislative goals. But they are at a breaking point, and we believe that we might see some attorneys return to private practice, if we cannot get some additional help. Without additional attorneys it is inevitable that our pending cases will increase, with longer resolution times. While the Fourteenth Court of Appeals projects that it will meet the clearance rate each year, doing so may be difficult without additional full-time attorneys.

PCLS TRACKING KEY:

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 9/3/2026
TIME: 8:39:47AM

Agency code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
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DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS :

Anticipated out-year costs reflect the recurring annual salaries required to continue funding the additional full-time attorney positions. These positions are ongoing and are necessary to address the increase in appellate filings and support the Court's ability to maintain performance levels.

ESTIMATED ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS FOR ITEM:

	<u>2030</u>	<u>2031</u>	<u>2032</u>
OUT-YEAR ALL FUNDS:	\$1,160,896	\$1,160,896	\$1,162,816

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 9/3/2026
TIME: 8:39:47AM

Agency code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name: Recruitment and Retention of Judicial-Branch Staff Item Priority: 3 IT Component: No Anticipated Out-year Costs: Yes Involve Contracts > \$50,000: No Includes Funding for the Following Strategy or Strategies: 01-01-01 Appellate Court Operations			
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	167,467	339,957
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	2,512	5,100
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$169,979	\$345,057
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1	General Revenue Fund	169,979	345,057
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$169,979	\$345,057

DESCRIPTION / JUSTIFICATION:

Recruiting and retaining excellent judicial-branch staff is essential to the fair and efficient administration of justice in Texas. The rising cost of living combined with the draw of more lucrative employment at other government agencies and the private sector continue to create staffing challenges for the courts. A 3% annual increase in staff pay throughout the Article IV courts and agencies would help maintain the judicial branch's position in the competitive market for talented, qualified, and experienced lawyers and staff. In conjunction with the rest of the judicial branch, the Fourteenth Court of Appeals requests a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 28 and an additional 3% increase in Fiscal Year 29.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS:

Recruiting and retaining excellent judicial-branch staff is essential to the fair and efficient administration of justice in Texas. The rising cost of living combined with the draw of more lucrative employment at other government agencies and the private sector continue to create staffing challenges for the courts. A 3% annual increase in staff pay throughout the Article IV courts and agencies would help maintain the judicial branch's position in the competitive market for talented, qualified, and experienced lawyers and staff. The courts of appeals understand that the Supreme Court of Texas is requesting a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 28 and a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 29 for its judicial staff as an exceptional item. To the extent that the Legislature approves that exceptional item in whole or in part for the Supreme Court, then the Courts of Appeals would respectfully request in this Exceptional Item #3 the same 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 28 and a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 29, or such other increase as is approved for the Supreme Court and its judicial staff. This is necessary to keep the court of appeals' staff salaries within \$5,000 of the staff salaries at the Supreme Court.

PCLS TRACKING KEY:

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: **9/3/2026**
TIME: **8:39:47AM**

Agency code: **234** Agency name: **Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston**

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
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DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS :

Anticipated out-year costs reflect the ongoing annual cost of maintaining the salary increases implemented during the biennium. Continued funding is necessary to maintain the adjusted salary levels and support the recruitment and retention of experienced and qualified employees.

ESTIMATED ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS FOR ITEM:

	2030	2031	2032
OUT-YEAR ALL FUNDS:	\$345,057	\$345,057	\$345,057

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
 90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
 Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 9/3/2026
 TIME: 8:39:47AM

Agency code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name: Critical Funding for Clerk of Court and Accountant Item Priority: 4 IT Component: No Anticipated Out-year Costs: Yes Involve Contracts > \$50,000: No Includes Funding for the Following Strategy or Strategies: 01-01-01 Appellate Court Operations			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	149,392	149,392
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	2,275	2,275
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$151,667	\$151,667
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1	General Revenue Fund	151,667	151,667
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$151,667	\$151,667

DESCRIPTION / JUSTIFICATION:

Historically, the First and Fourteenth Courts of Appeals shared a Clerk of Court and Accountant, with each court funding one half of the cost of those positions. As the workload and responsibilities of both courts have increased, this shared staffing model is no longer operationally sustainable. The Fourteenth Court is requesting exceptional item funding for the additional amount needed to support its own dedicated Clerk of Court and Accountant.

Each court now requires its own personnel to manage its caseload, financial operations, reporting requirements, and compliance obligations. This staffing structure is consistent with many of the Courts of Appeals, which have their own Clerk of Court and accountant.

The requested funding is critically necessary to fully support these essential positions, meet increasing longevity obligations, and provide salaries that are comparable to those at other Texas Courts of Appeals and competitive within the Harris County employment market.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS:

The Clerk of Court's workload has increased due to growth in filings, caseload activity, and a rise in pro-se matters, which often require additional review, communication, and processing. The Accountant's workload has increased due to an increase in state reporting requirements, post-payment audits, Texas Workforce Commission audits, State Office of Risk Management audits, benefits administration, and paid parental leave administration.

These responsibilities are recurring, time-sensitive, and essential to the court's operations. The court's existing resources are not sufficient to absorb the additional workload without affecting timely case processing, financial oversight, audit compliance, required reporting, and employee benefits administration. Local labor market conditions also increase the need for sufficient funding to recruit and retain qualified personnel for these critical positions.

PCLS TRACKING KEY:

4.A. Exceptional Item Request Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: **9/3/2026**
TIME: **8:39:47AM**

Agency code: **234** Agency name: **Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston**

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
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DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS :

Anticipated out-year costs reflect the recurring salaries associated with maintaining the Court's Clerk of Court and Accountant. These positions are ongoing and are necessary to support the Court's caseload, financial operations, reporting requirements, and compliance responsibilities.

ESTIMATED ANTICIPATED OUT-YEAR COSTS FOR ITEM:

	2030	2031	2032
OUT-YEAR ALL FUNDS:	\$151,667	\$151,667	\$151,667

4.B. Exceptional Items Strategy Allocation Schedule

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026

TIME: 10:51:20AM

Agency code: 234

Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Code	Description	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name:		Restore Biennial General Revenue to 100%	
Allocation to Strategy:		1-1-1	Appellate Court Operations
STRATEGY IMPACT ON OUTCOME MEASURES:			
<u>1</u>	Clearance Rate	100.00%	100.00%
<u>2</u>	Percentage of Cases Under Submission for Less Than One Year	100.00%	100.00%
<u>3</u>	Percentage of Cases Pending for Less Than Two Years	100.00%	100.00%
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	141,249	141,249
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	2,151	2,151
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$143,400	\$143,400
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1	General Revenue Fund	143,400	143,400
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$143,400	\$143,400

Agency code: 234		Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston	
Code	Description	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name:		Restore Biennial General Revenue to 100%	
Allocation to Strategy:		1-1-2 Appellate Justice Salaries. Estimated and Nontransferable	
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	51,419	52,070
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	783	793
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$52,202	\$52,863
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1	General Revenue Fund	52,202	52,863
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$52,202	\$52,863

4.B. Exceptional Items Strategy Allocation Schedule

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1

Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026

TIME: 10:51:20AM

Agency code: 234

Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Code	Description	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name:		Additional Full-Time Staff Attorneys	
Allocation to Strategy:		1-1-1	Appellate Court Operations
STRATEGY IMPACT ON OUTCOME MEASURES:			
<u>1</u>	Clearance Rate	100.00%	100.00%
<u>2</u>	Percentage of Cases Under Submission for Less Than One Year	100.00%	100.00%
<u>3</u>	Percentage of Cases Pending for Less Than Two Years	100.00%	100.00%
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	1,136,000	1,136,000
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	1,920	1,920
2003	CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	800	800
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	47,504	20,256
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$1,186,224	\$1,158,976
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1 General Revenue Fund		1,186,224	1,158,976
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$1,186,224	\$1,158,976
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS (FTE):		8.0	8.0

Agency code: 234		Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston	
Code	Description	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name:		Recruitment and Retention of Judicial-Branch Staff	
Allocation to Strategy:		1-1-1	Appellate Court Operations
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	167,467	339,957
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	2,512	5,100
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$169,979	\$345,057
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1	General Revenue Fund	169,979	345,057
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$169,979	\$345,057

4.B. Exceptional Items Strategy Allocation Schedule

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026

TIME: 10:51:20AM

Agency code:	234	Agency name:	Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston		
Code	Description		Excp 2028		Excp 2029
Item Name:		Critical Funding for Clerk of Court and Accountant			
Allocation to Strategy:		1-1-1	Appellate Court Operations		
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:					
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES		149,392		149,392
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE		2,275		2,275
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE			\$151,667		\$151,667
METHOD OF FINANCING:					
1	General Revenue Fund		151,667		151,667
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING			\$151,667		\$151,667

4.C. Exceptional Items Strategy Request
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026
TIME: 10:51:46AM

Agency Code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations

OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations

STRATEGY: 1 Appellate Court Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
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OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:

1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	1,594,108	1,766,598
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	1,920	1,920
2003	CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	800	800
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	54,442	29,782

Total, Objects of Expense

\$1,651,270	\$1,799,100
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METHOD OF FINANCING:

1 General Revenue Fund

1,651,270	1,799,100
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Total, Method of Finance

\$1,651,270	\$1,799,100
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FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS (FTE):

8.0	8.0
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EXCEPTIONAL ITEM(S) INCLUDED IN STRATEGY:

Restore Biennial General Revenue to 100%

Additional Full-Time Staff Attorneys

Recruitment and Retention of Judicial-Branch Staff

Critical Funding for Clerk of Court and Accountant

4.C. Exceptional Items Strategy Request
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026
TIME: 10:51:46AM

Agency Code: 234 Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations

OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations

STRATEGY: 2 Appellate Justice Salaries. Estimated and Nontransferable

Service Categories:

Service: NA Income: NA Age: NA

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
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OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:

1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	51,419	52,070
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	783	793
Total, Objects of Expense		\$52,202	\$52,863

METHOD OF FINANCING:

1	General Revenue Fund	52,202	52,863
Total, Method of Finance		\$52,202	\$52,863

EXCEPTIONAL ITEM(S) INCLUDED IN STRATEGY:

Restore Biennial General Revenue to 100%

6.A. Historically Underutilized Business Supporting Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Date: 8/7/2026
Time: 10:53:26AM

Agency Code: 234 Agency: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

COMPARISON TO STATEWIDE HUB PROCUREMENT GOALS

A. Fiscal Year - HUB Expenditure Information

Statewide HUB Goals	Procurement Category	% Goal	HUB Expenditures FY 2024			Total Expenditures		HUB Expenditures FY 2025			Total Expenditures	
			% Actual	Diff	Actual \$	FY 2024	% Goal	% Actual	Diff	Actual \$	FY 2025	
26.0%	Other Services	0.0 %	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	\$20,147	0.0 %	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	\$14,705	
21.1%	Commodities	0.0 %	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	\$1,971	0.0 %	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	\$42,000	
	Total Expenditures		0.0%		\$0	\$22,118		0.0%		\$0	\$56,705	

B. Assessment of Attainment of HUB Procurement Goals

Attainment:

The agency did not attain the statewide HUB procurement goals for Other Services and Commodities for FY2024 and FY2025.

Applicability:

The Heavy Construction, Building Construction, Special Trade and Professional Services categories are not applicable to agency operations in either Fiscal Year 2024 or 2025. The agency does not have any strategies or programs related to these categories.

Factors Affecting Attainment:

In Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025, the goal of Other Services and Commodities were not met due to the following:

- the lowest bid was from a non-HUB vendor;
- TXSmartBuy offered a higher bid than the vendor's website;
- Availability was either limited or nonexistent.

C. Good-Faith Efforts to Increase HUB Participation

Outreach Efforts and Mentor-Protégé Programs:

The agency made the following good faith efforts to comply with statewide HUB procurement goals:

- ensured that contract specifications, terms and conditions reflected the agency's requirements and did not impose unreasonable or unnecessary contract requirements;
- gathered information on HUB vendors from the online system and contacted the vendor directly for a bid;
- used the Statewide Procurement Division where applicable, not always resulting in the use of a HUB vendor.

HUB Program Staffing:

The Court has a dedicated purchasing group that researches for HUB vendors and the TXSmartBuy website when purchasing is involved to make sure the agency is receiving the best bid and prioritizing the HUB Procurement program.

6.A. Historically Underutilized Business Supporting Schedule
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Date: **8/7/2026**
Time: **10:53:26AM**

Agency Code: **234** Agency: **Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston**

Current and Future Good-Faith Efforts:

The Court supports the HUB procurement program and will continue to make a good faith efforts to meet HUB goals by giving HUB vendors preference for purchases when possible.

6.H. Estimated Total of Agency Funds Outside the GAA

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026
TIME : 10:54:16AM

Agency code: 234

Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Fund Name	2028-2029 Outside GAA Pattern Total	Estimated Beginning Balance in 2026	FY 2026 Revenue	FY 2027 Revenue	FY 2026 - 2027 Total	Estimated Beginning Balance in 2028	FY 2028 Revenue	FY 2029 Revenue	FY 2028 - 2029 Total
Ch.22 - Appellate Court Fund	929,848	20,000	464,924	464,924	949,848	0	464,924	464,924	929,848
Total Sources:	\$929,848	\$20,000	\$464,924	\$464,924	\$949,848	\$0	\$464,924	\$464,924	\$929,848

6.H. Estimated Total of Agency Funds Outside the GAA

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 8/7/2026
TIME : 10:54:16AM

Agency code: 234

Agency name: Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston

Fund Name	Constitutional or Statutory Creation and Use of Funds	Method of Calculation and Revenue Assumption	FY 2028 - 2029 Total
Ch.22 - Appellate Court Fund	Chapter 22, Sec. 22.215	Chapter 22 revenue for the Fourteenth Court of Appeals is used primarily to reimburse eligible judicial salary supplements benefit costs. It may also include eligible expenses for supplies, services, and utilities. Harris County initially pays these costs and remains responsible for its share. The Harris County Auditor's Office allocates the remaining reimbursable amount among the other nine counties within the Court's jurisdiction and bills each county for its respective share. Revenue amounts will vary by fiscal year based primarily on changes in judicial salary supplements and benefits, as well as changes in other costs. Revenue projections assume that the nine participating counties will pay the amounts billed by Harris County in accordance with Chapter 22, Section 22.215 of the Texas Government Code.	\$929,848

Part 6.L. Interagency Contracts
90th Regular Session, Agency Submission

Agency Code: 234	Agency: Fourteenth Court of Appeals	Prepared by: Esthefania Bogany
Date: 08/02/26		

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