

CIP-2
Issues and Narratives

Exhibit D-3A

COL A03		COL A04		COL A05	
AGY REQUEST		AGY REQ N/R		AG REQ ANZ	
FY 2023-24		FY 2023-24		FY 2023-24	
POS	AMOUNT	POS	AMOUNT	POS	AMOUNT

STATE COURT SYSTEM
 PGM: DIST COURTS OF APPEAL
 COURT OPER/APPELLATE COURT
 STATE COURTS
 STATE COURT SYSTEM
 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
 SPECIAL PURPOSE
 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 6TH DCA CONS - DMS MGD

GENERAL REVENUE FUND	-STATE	50,000,000	50,000,000		
		=====	=====	=====	

AGENCY NARRATIVE:

2023-2024 BUDGET YEAR NARRATIVE: 6TH DCA CONS - DMS MGD IT COMPONENT? NO

The District Courts of Appeal (DCAs) request \$50,000,000 in non-recurring General Revenue funds to construct a courthouse for the newly created Sixth District Court of Appeal.

On March 14, 2022, the legislature passed House Bill 7027, which, in part, created a Sixth DCA. Effective January 1, 2023, the legislation divides the state into six appellate districts by realigning and renaming the current appellate districts in the following manner:

- * The First DCA will consist of the First, Second, Third, Eighth, and Fourteenth, judicial circuits (Tallahassee headquarters).
- * The Second DCA will consist of the Sixth, Twelfth, and Thirteenth judicial circuits (Pinellas headquarters).
- * The Fifth DCA will consist of the Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, and Eighteenth judicial circuits (Daytona Beach headquarters).
- * The Sixth DCA will consist of the Ninth, Tenth, and Twentieth judicial circuits (Lakeland headquarters).
- * The Third and Fourth DCAs are not affected by the realignment and renaming of appellate districts.

The legislation further revised the number and allocation of appellate judgeships to support the realigned appellate districts, which resulted in a net increase of seven new appellate judgeships. Effective January 1, 2023, the bill provides for the following allocation of judges among the appellate districts:

- * Thirteen appellate judges in the First DCA (15 currently).
- * Fifteen appellate judges in the Second DCA (16 currently).
- * Twelve appellate judges in the Fifth DCA (11 currently).
- * Nine appellate judges in the Sixth DCA.

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STATE COURT SYSTEM
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* The Third and Fourth DCA are not affected by the reallocation of judgeships.

The legislature also provided funding to implement the provisions of House Bill 7027. The Fiscal Year 2022-23 General Appropriations Act (GAA) provided 62 FTE, \$7,200,952 in recurring General Revenue funds, and \$2,456,278 in non-recurring General Revenue funds to fund the seven additional DCA judgeships, various support staff, and operational expenses related to the realignment of the DCAs.

The GAA also included \$50 million in funding to construct a new courthouse for the Sixth DCA in Lakeland, Florida. However, on June 2, 2022, the governor approved House Bill 7027, but vetoed the \$50 million in funding for a new Sixth DCA courthouse.

The newly created Sixth DCA will have 75 FTE (nine judges and staff) when fully operational. The court is fully exploring the possibilities of remote workplaces for judges and employees as contemplated in House Bill 7027, but the need for a permanent building to serve as its headquarters remains critical.

The DCAs request \$50,000,000 in non-recurring General Revenue funds to construct a courthouse for the newly created Sixth DCA. The funds will be used for architectural and engineering professional services and construction management to prepare the cost projection for the new courthouse; the purchase of privately owned land, if needed; demolition or other expenses related to repurposed land, if needed; relocation expenses of state workers at a repurposed site, if needed; general site preparation; and construction. Funding is needed in the 2023 Legislative Session to begin planning for the construction of a building as soon as practicable, given the extensive amount of time involved in site identification, architectural engagement, and other activities that must occur before construction can begin.
