**Project 1: Enterprise FullCourt License**

**Cost: $1,100,000 (OTO)**

**Project Description**: This funding proposal seeks $1.1 million dollars to purchase an "enterprise" license of the FullCourt case management system, imaging and jury management system. It also provides an upgrade strategy to support special needs of Montana's courts of limited jurisdiction and district courts. If funded, this proposal would permit the Judicial Branch to deploy as many licenses of the FullCourt case management, imaging and jury management program as needed by Montana courts and any other entity that works closely with the courts (law enforcement, local and state probation offices, prosecutors, public defenders, child welfare workers, etc.)

**Statement of Problem**

The FullCourt case management system is purchased on a license by license basis. Each license currently costs $2,950 with an annual maintenance fee of $540 per license. Once fully implemented in Montana district courts the State of Montana will have purchased 630 licenses at a cost of $1,858,000 with annual maintenance costs of $340,200.

Justice Systems, Inc., the vendor of FullCourt, also offers a number of add-on modules for courts. Modules of particular importance to Montana courts are the jury module, imaging module, collections module, and an import/export module. In the future, the drug court module and the child welfare module are also expected to be beneficial to certain Montana courts. During the 2005 legislature the Judicial Branch proposed purchasing licenses for the jury module, imaging, collections and the import/export module in a bonding proposal (HB752). This bill received a majority vote, but not the 2/3rd necessary for passage out of the House of Representatives.

The jury program is of particular importance. To buy individual jury licenses for all Montana courts the cost would be $693,000, plus maintenance. The jury program is easy to use and automates the laborious tasks related to jury management:

1. Randomly selects eligible jurors for each court in the county based on a list of eligible jurors and the number of jurors requested by each judge – for example, during the 2006 term Missoula County began with a potential list of 80,000 jurors.
2. Produces notices to potential jurors and provides for the tracking or juror responses (response, no response, available, not available, etc.).
3. Provides for the randomized selection and notification of jurors for actual jury panels. Tracks panel activity (excused, selected, not selected).
4. Provides for the tracking of expenditures and reimbursements due each juror for time served.

The benefits of standard jury processing cannot be overstated.

Rather than purchasing licenses and modules on a per seat basis the Office the Court Administrator asked Justice Systems, Inc. for statewide pricing to enable unlimited use in the state of the FullCourt case management program, imaging and the jury management program, plus a flat maintenance fee. The $1.1 million dollars is the cost to the state to use an unlimited number of licenses. This includes the right to use all other modules when Justice Systems releases their web-version of the product. The enterprise maintenance agreement for all products is $315,000 ($25,200 less per year than individual maintenance on just the case management licenses).

## Project Goal

To complete the procurement and installation of a common case management system and jury management subsystem in Montana's District Courts and Courts of Limited Jurisdiction.

## Project Strategy & Risk

Although the cost is significant the risk is low. The FullCourt case management system is used in Montana's courts of limited jurisdiction and is successfully used in the 4th Judicial District. The jury module, collections module and import/export module are also successfully used by a small number of courts (municipal, justice and district courts). The enterprise license and maintenance agreement applies to the current version of FullCourt and the next major release of FullCourt (web-based). This establishes a clear migration path for the next five-ten years for district courts and limited jurisdiction courts.

## Implementation Plan

The purchase of an enterprise license for FullCourt, FullCourt Imaging, and FullCourt Jury simplifies the management of licenses and maintenance for the Branch and eliminates the need for the Branch to request additional funds each time a new employee is hired in the Branch. The Judicial Branch has completed the roll-out of FullCourt in Courts of Limited Jurisdiction and the roll-out of FullCourt in District Courts has begun and is expected to be complete over the next 18 months. The Office of the Court Administrator would expect requests for additional licenses from Courts of Limited Jurisdiction, however, these licenses can easily be deployed. The Office of the Court Administrator would coordinate the training and installation of the jury and imaging modules with the roll-out of FullCourt in District Courts.