

**5% Base Budget Reduction Form**  
[17-7-111-3\(f\)](#)

**AGENCY CODE & NAME:**

|   |   | Minimum Requirement         |                                      |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|   |   | General Fund                | State Special Revenue Fund           |
| TARGETED REDUCTION TO EQUAL 5% OF CURRENT BASE BUDGET |   | \$ 1,820,331                | \$ 17,160                            |
| Priority  | SERVICE(S) TO BE ELIMINATED OR REDUCED                    | General Fund Annual Savings | State Special Revenue Annual Savings |
|   |   |                             |                                      |
| 1   | Supreme Court Operations Program - Civil Legal Assistance |                             | \$ 10,249                            |
| 2   | Supreme Court Operations - Operational Categories         |                             | \$ 3,232                             |
| 3   | District Court Operations - Probation Fees                |                             | \$ 3,679                             |
| 4   | Law Library - Operational Categories                      | \$ 44,344                   |                                      |
| 5   | Clerk of Court - Operational Categories                   | \$ 24,286                   |                                      |
| 6   | District Court Operations - Witness Costs                 | \$ 129,106                  |                                      |
| 7   | District Court Operations - Jury Costs                    | \$ 459,439                  |                                      |
| 8   | District Court Operations - Evaluations                   | \$ 122,255                  |                                      |
| 9   | Supreme Court Operations - Drug Courts                    | \$ 1,040,901                |                                      |
| 10  |   |                             |                                      |
| 11  | <b>TOTAL SAVINGS</b>                                      | <b>\$ 1,820,331</b>         | <b>\$ 17,160</b>                     |
|   | <b>DIFFERENCE</b>   | <b>0</b>                    | <b>0</b>                             |

**Form A**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, Supreme Court Operations

#### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Reduction of spending authority to transfer filing fee state special revenue to Montana Legal Services for providing legal representation for indigent victims in civil matters in domestic violence cases and for alternative dispute resolution initiatives in family law cases.

#### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$10,249 State Special Revenue

#### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Payment to Montana Legal Services will be reduced which may result in revenue exceeding spending authority. Services provided by Montana Legal Services to indigent victims of domestic violence cases will be reduced.

#### #4

#### HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

#### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

Yes. 3-2-714 and 25-1-201 (3) (a) MCA

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, Supreme Court Operations

#### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ***ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION***:

Reduction of operational categories including printing, contracted services, office supplies, postage, long distance and other telephone costs, travel, and meeting costs. State Special expenditure reduction due to funds collected for training conferences for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Judges and Clerks.

#### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$3,232 State Special Revenue Funds

#### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ***ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION***:

Reductions in costs related to statutorily mandated training of Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Judges.

#### #4

#### HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

#### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

Yes. 3-10-203 MCA

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, District Court Operations

**#1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:**

Reduction of expenses related to probation fees revenue. Reduction would be to training, supplies and materials and other miscellaneous expenditure categories.

**#2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:**

\$3,679 State Special Revenue Fund

**#3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:**

Reduced operational costs in all areas affect staff efficiency and effectiveness. Reduction of training and related travel directly affect the professional development of staff. Reductions in equipment maintenance and replacement threaten Branch missions. The Branch would be unable to comply with state standards, react to technological changes or provide the tools necessary for staff to perform critical work.

**#4**

**HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:**

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

**#5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:**

Yes. Titls 41, MCA.

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, Law Library

#### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Reduction in purchase of books and other library materials.

#### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$44,344 General Fund

#### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Cuts will be made to materials purchased and used by the legislative branch and executive agencies. In past years this has led to those agencies each purchasing duplicate titles, but being unaware of the redundancies in spending. Required titles will not be available for loaning to public libraries, the other courts around the state, court officers, and the general public. Litigants will be less prepared for trial, which will delay judicial opinions and sentences.

#### #4

#### HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

#### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

Yes. Title 22, Chapter 1, Part 5, MCA.

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, Clerk of Court

### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR *ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION*:

Reduction of all operational categories including copying, office supplies, postage, records storage, long distance and other telephone charges, travel, office equipment maintenance and training.

### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$24,286 General Fund

### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED *ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION*:

Reductions would severely impede the Clerk of Court from performing required duties in support of the Montana Supreme Court.

### #4

#### HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

Yes, Title 3, Chapter 2, Part 4, MCA.

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, District Court Operations

#### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Eliminate the reimbursement of witness and expert witness fees and related costs in District Courts.

#### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$129,106 General Fund

#### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Costs of witnesses called by the Attorney General or County Attorneys would not be paid or would be paid by local governments. Costs were assumed by the state from the counties in 2002. Statutory change would be necessary.

#### #4

##### HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

#### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

Yes, 26-2-506 and 46-15-116, MCA.

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, District Court Operations

#### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Eliminate the reimbursement of jury fees and related costs in District Courts.

#### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$459,439 General Fund

#### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION:

Jury fees and related costs (mileage, postage, etc) would not be paid or would be paid by local governments. Costs were assumed by the state from the counties in 2002. Statutory change would be necessary.

#### #4

##### HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

#### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

Yes, 3-5-901 and 3-15-201, MCA.

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, District Court Operations

#### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR *ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION*:

Eliminate the payment of court ordered evaluations, fitness to proceed evaluations and psychosexual evaluations in criminal cases in District Courts.

#### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$122,255 General Fund

#### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED *ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION*:

Evaluation costs of defendants in criminal cases would not be paid or would be paid by local governments. Costs were assumed by the state from the counties in 2002. Statutory change would be necessary.

#### #4 HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

#### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

Yes, 46-14-206, 46-14-221 and 46-18-111, MCA.

**Form B**

## 5% Base Budget Reduction Form

### AGENCY CODE & NAME:

21100, Judicial Branch, Supreme Court Operations

### #1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR *ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION*:

Eliminate the payment for alcohol and drug treatment court costs and administration.

### #2 THE SAVINGS THAT ARE EXPECTED:

\$1,040,901 General Fund

### #3 THE CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED *ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION*:

Nationally and in Montana, drug court programs have resulted in lowered recidivism rates for offenders, substantially reduced drug use, allowed offenders to stay in their communities to support their families, work and pay taxes and reduced the number of babies born drug addicted. Eliminating drug courts would reverse these impacts.

### #4

#### HOW THE IMPACT TO CONSTITUENTS AND STAFF MIGHT BE MITIGATED:

The Judicial Branch does not currently have any other option to mitigate this reduction.

### #5 WHETHER THE SERVICE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY STATE & /OR FEDERAL STATUTE - YES OR NO:

No, allowed but not required 46-1-1104, MCA

**Form B**