



# JUDICIAL BRANCH

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Oregon Judicial Department

Chief Justice

Recommended Budget 2017-19

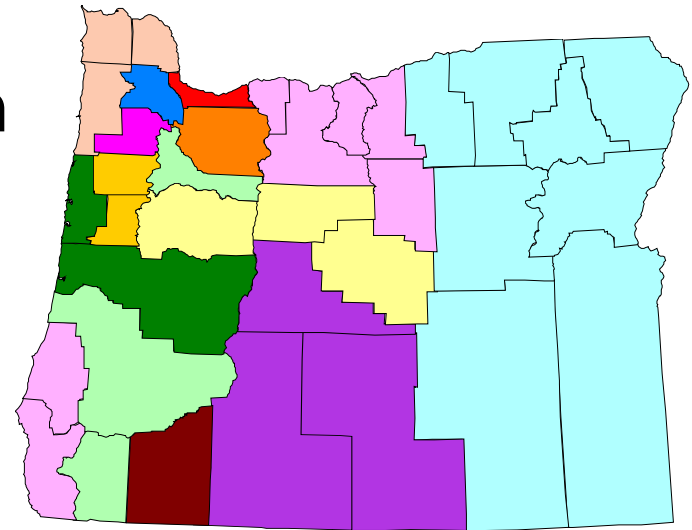
# Chief Justice Budget Priorities

## **IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE COURTS AND TIMELY JUSTICE:**

- Ensure courts are open every judicial day with the ability to decide cases in a timely manner, with necessary central supports.
- Continue benefits of Oregon eCourt with eFiling, electronic document access, and iForms for self-represented litigants; fund training, maintenance, and no-charge access to public entities.
- Advance judicial compensation to enhance retention and recruitment.
- Provide state support to build and furnish the Multnomah County Courthouse, and continue progress on the Lane County Courthouse.
- Targeted additions of judicial resources.
- Provide adequate staff for specialty courts and assisting self-represented litigants.

# Maintain and Develop Oregon eCourt Services

- Successful implementation
- Oregon eCourt system is critical to courts and external users
  - Serves as the business technology platform
  - Provides important external services
  - Promotes internal consistency and efficiency



Yamhill – June 2012  
Crook, Jefferson, Linn – Dec 2012  
Jackson – Mar 2013  
Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook – Aug 2013  
Benton, Polk – Jan 2014  
Multnomah – May 2014  
Douglas, Josephine, Marion – Dec 2014  
Lane, Lincoln – Mar 2015  
Deschutes, Klamath, Lake – June 2015  
Coos, Curry, Gilliam, Hood River, Sherman, Wasco,  
Wheeler – Sept 2015  
Clackamas – Dec 2015  
Washington, Tax Court – Mar 2016  
Baker, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla,  
Union, Wallowa – June 2016

# Oregon eCourt Public-Facing Systems

- Oregon ePay – Online payment website
  - Pay court debt such as traffic ticket or criminal fines / fees
- Oregon File & Serve (eFile) – online case initiation and document filing
  - Mandatory for Bar members, available to all users through OJD Guide & File (iForms)
- Oregon Guide & File (iForms) – online fillable forms for self-represented filers
  - Currently available for these case types (more being developed):
    - **Family Cases** – divorce, separation, custody, parenting time; file and respond
    - **Small Claims** – file or respond to a small claim
    - **Residential FED-Eviction (landlord / tenant)** – file a residential eviction
    - **Satisfaction of Money Award** – court documentation of debt paid
    - **Renew a FAPA Restraining Order** – must have a current Restraining Order
- OJCIN – online information: register of actions, court calendars, case information / documents, used by:
  - Attorneys (public and private, civil and criminal)
  - Public Safety (law enforcement, adult / juvenile corrections, etc.)
  - Human services agencies
  - Private sector (news media, data brokers, private investigators, title companies, etc.)

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# Benefits From Oregon eCourt

- **For Litigants and Stakeholders**

- 24/7 ability to file pleadings, and access court calendars and case documents
- Increased statewide consistency in court processes
- 'Intelligent' forms assist self-represented litigants provide complete information, file pleadings
- Better integrations to send / receive information
- Easier search function in a person-based system

- **For the Public**

- More efficient and effective court system
- Ability to make payments online
- Enhanced security to protect information
- Self-guided forms and eFiling support
- Online access to court calendars

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# Oregon eCourt: What's Next?

- **Operations and Maintenance**
  - Maintain system viability: Analyze, test, and install upgrades, fixes (patches), and enhancements
  - Provide training (in-person, computer-based, webinars, etc.)
  - Analyze and update statewide business processes
    - Legislative changes
    - Process improvements and efficiencies
    - Change requests
- **Continuous Improvement**
  - Increase consistency of business processes toward best practice
  - Refine and enhance iForms, ePay, eFile, and eService for court users
  - Improve data transfers and exchanges
- **Funding**
  - Detail in presentation on POP 404 (State Court Technology Fund)



# State Court Technology Fund

**Policy Option Package 404 – State Court Technology Fund (\$10.7 million OF):** This package provides the limitation necessary for increased funding to support public access and statewide support for court electronic applications, system, and services.

Additional revenue will be necessary as proposed through fee and fine increases. The use of placeholder bills for fee and fine increases would be necessary in conjunction with HB 2606.

## **Expected Outcomes of Package:**

- Fund software licensing and system maintenance costs
- Ensure viability and response times of this new system
- Fund increased use of eFile service
- Sustain benefits of this new system by continuing to:
  - Test and implement software patches and upgrades
  - Provide prompt user support, training, and communication of issues and changes
  - Improve statewide consistency / efficiency (e.g. eFiling; iForms)
  - Achieve efficiencies from centralized accounting
  - Review and respond to law changes in electronic systems

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# State Court Technology Fund Services

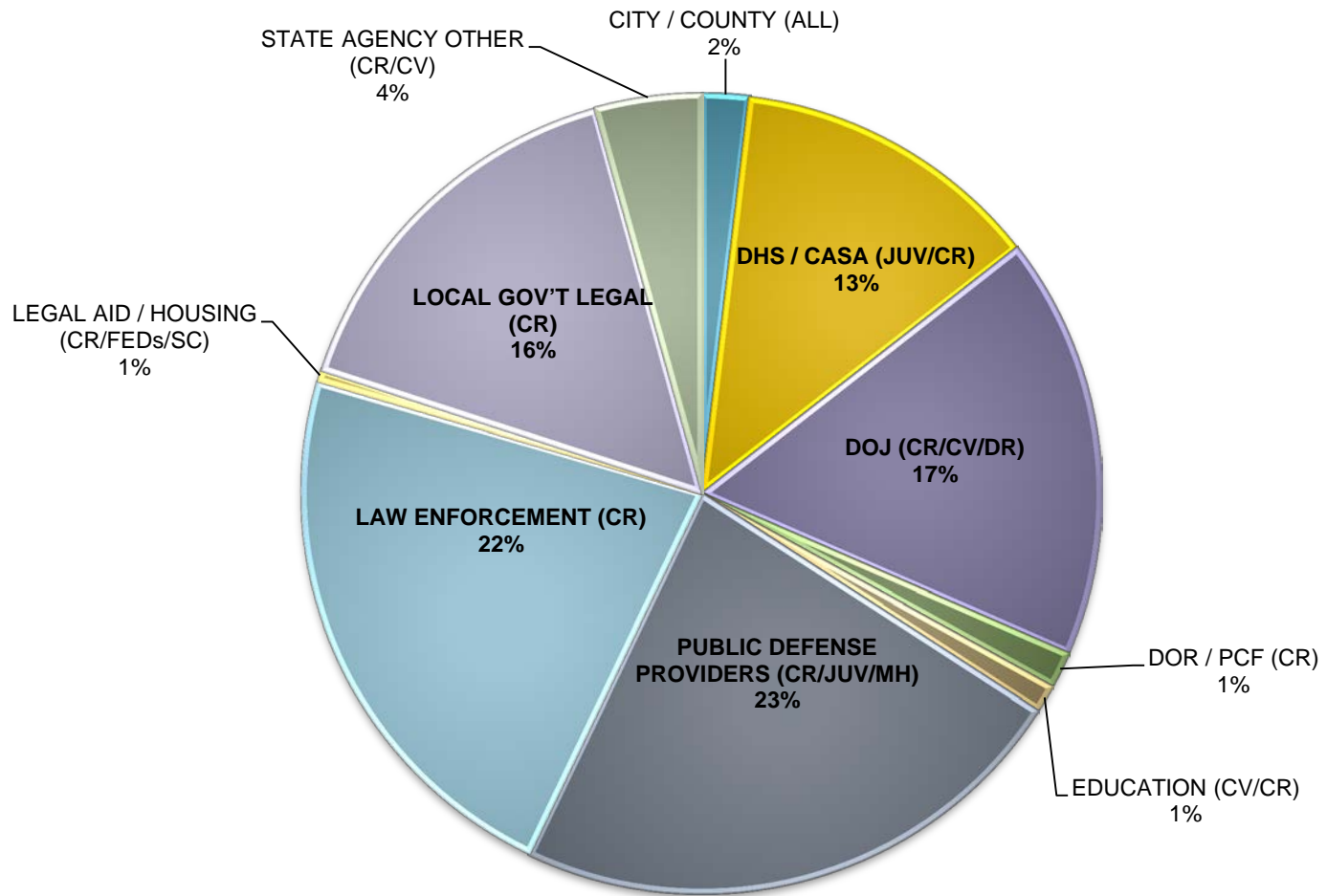
- **eFiling and electronic case access for external users**
  - Pays transaction fees for eFiling (case filing fees fund OJD payments to vendor)
  - Free access by public to court calendars
  - Free access to court case documents by government users, indigent defense attorneys
  - Interview-based forms to help self-represented litigants provide required information to the court
- **Business processes and training functions**
  - Establish statewide business processes to ensure statewide consistency, improve data and reporting, develop efficiencies
  - Ensure business processes conform to law changes (coding, data entry, forms)
  - Provides training and peer networking / analysis
- **Technical services to maintain the Odyssey system**
  - Provide Help Desk for internal and external users
  - Test and implement periodic patches and annual updates, conform to law changes
  - Perform general system support and maintenance
- **Business services support**
  - Centralize accounting services to relieve courts and achieve efficiencies

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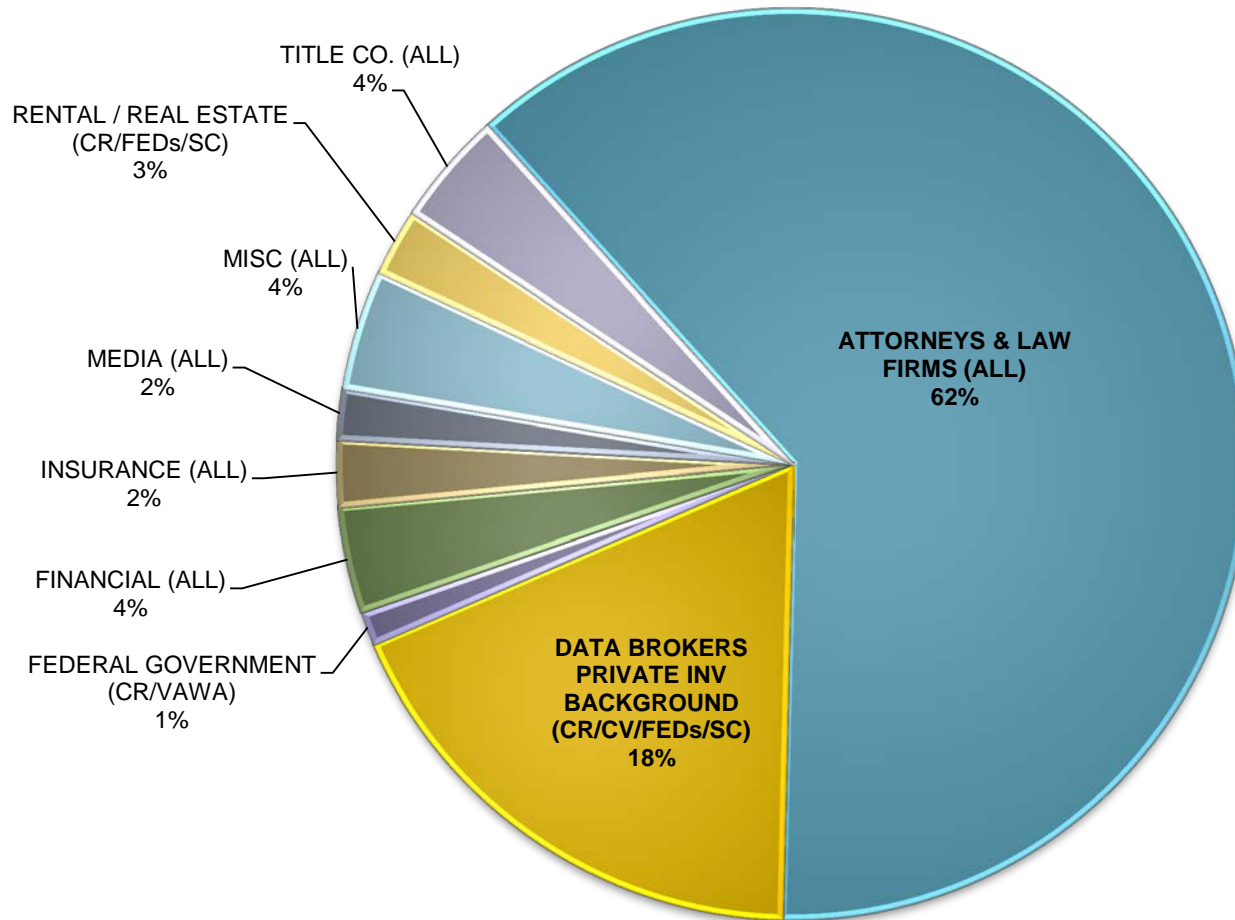
# State Court Technology Fund External Users

**Non-Paying (Public Subscribers)  
~ 5,000 users (60% of total)**



# State Court Technology Fund External Users

**Paying (Private) Subscribers  
~ 3,500 (40% of total)**



# State Court Technology Fund Component Cost Increases

2017-19

- Oregon File & Serve (electronic filing / service)      \$2,241,000
  - SCTF receives 4.75% of filing fees
  - OJD pays per-transaction charge from vendor
  - Transactions increasing due to statewide usage, iForms
  
- Continuing staff to support system      \$3,262,000
  - Fund IT technical support, patch/ / upgrade testing, reports, training, iForms, business processes, centralized accounting
  
- Software License / Maintenance / Supplies      \$3,390,568
  - Includes contractual maintenance fee starting 2017
  
- Subtract: State Court Tech Fund cash reserve      -\$866,757
  
- Total 2017-19 deficit to keep current services:      \$8,026,811
  - Projected 2019-21 costs = \$10,594,970

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# State Court Technology Fund Revenue Increase Proposal\*

2017-19

- Civil Filing Fees: 5% (effective 10/1/17) \$3,205,990
  - Contributes to eFile, iForms, software licensing / supplies, and staffing
  
- Criminal Fines: \$5 (effective 1/1/18) \$3,575,598
  - Apply increase to Mandatory State Amount
  - Contributes to software licensing / supplies and staffing
  - Most non-paying users are public safety entities
  
- OJCIN User Fees: (effective 7/1/17) \$1,534,512
  - Contributes to software licensing / supplies and staffing
  
- Total 2017-19 Tech Fund revenue proposal: \$8,316,100
  - Expenditure limitation included in POP 404

\* A new state agency assessment could be used as an additional or alternative revenue source.