

Senate Committee on Appropriations

**Vermont  
Judiciary**

BAA Request for  
IT Infrastructure Modernization Project

February 3, 2023

# IT Modernization Project Components & Costs

- Judiciary IT Network Replacement \$4,680,000
- Internal Network Cabling Upgrade \$750,000
- Courthouses Sound System Replacement \$500,000
- Correctional Facilities Remote Hearings Improvements \$300,000

# Judiciary IT Network Replacement

- Current Network Issues
  - Major network outages
  - Poor network performance – regular congestion periods
  - Judges' inability to issue orders and access files
  - Court staff inability to process files
  - Litigants' inability to connect to hearings
  - Cybersecurity risks

# Judiciary IT Network Replacement

- Future Network Advantages
  - Increased speed
  - Redundancy (firewall at every Judiciary location)
  - Secure Wi-Fi
  - Cybersecurity
  - Proactive Responsiveness
  - Improved Help Desk Customer Service 24/7/365

# Judiciary IT Network Replacement

- The funding request of \$4.68M will cover implementation and 5 years of support. It will result in savings over 5 years of \$3.5M (assumes 5% annual increases).

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	Total
ADS Allocation	\$ 535,000	\$ 561,750	\$ 589,838	\$ 619,329	\$ 650,296	\$ 682,811	
ADS SLA	\$ 540,152	\$ 567,160	\$ 595,518	\$ 625,293	\$ 656,558	\$ 689,386	
							\$ 6,237,938
Comparative Judiciary Costs	\$ 460,000	\$ 483,000	\$ 507,150	\$ 532,508	\$ 559,133	\$ 587,090	
							\$ 2,668,880
						Estimated Cost Savings	\$ 3,569,058

# Internal Network Cabling Upgrade

- **Current Network Cabling Issues**
  - Poor network performance – CAT3 Wiring is 10MB/sec
  - Staff difficulties utilizing Odyssey
  - Issues conducting remote and hybrid hearings (Webex)
- **Future Network Cabling Advantages**
  - Faster network performance – CAT6 Wiring is 1GB/sec (100 times faster)
  - Supports bandwidth requirements of Odyssey and Webex
- Half of the overall cost (\$1.5M) is from Pandemic Funding

# Courthouses Sound System Replacement

- Current Sound System Issues
  - Outdated and inadequate for use with our modern systems
  - Require on-site maintenance and configuration
- Future Sound System Advantages
  - Modern sound mixer systems that can be managed and configured remotely
  - Appropriately sized amplifiers
  - Microphones in judges' chambers for recording/transcription
  - Addresses media access issues
  - Allows for more robust hearing assistance systems
  - 10-year life span

# Correctional Facilities Remote Hearing Improvements

- **Current Situation Issues**
  - Correctional Facilities lack the required infrastructure and equipment to adequately conduct remote hearings
  - This deficiency is a contributor to the increased backlog of court cases stemming from the Pandemic
- **Future Situation Advantages**
  - Pandemic Funding was utilized to increase the number of Webex devices at Vermont's correctional facilities including at least one hardened large screen, hearing device, and multiple mobile units at each facility
  - We would like to utilize BAA funding to upfit each correctional facility with sound proofing materials and install secure Judiciary Wi-Fi networks