

Statewide Court Building Code and Energy Upgrade

FY2002 Request: \$400,000

Reference No: 34035

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Renewal and Replacement

Category: Law and Justice

Location: Statewide

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Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2001 - 06/30/2006

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Redesign of courtroom bench configurations to provide adequate space for clerks, witnesses and judges, and to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Earthquake bracing for library shelving in 20 court law libraries.

Funding:	<u>FY2002</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$400,000	\$300,000					\$700,000
Total:	\$400,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$700,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Project Description/Justification:

Redesign/remodeling of existing courtroom bench configurations in Fort Yukon, Tok, Valdez, Juneau and Delta Junction is needed to provide adequate space for clerks, witnesses and judges, and to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The present space and configuration does not provide space for placement of equipment necessary in the courtroom (computers for clerks and judges, printers and recording equipment) nor for ADA accessibility. Without a standard courtroom workspace design, productivity is reduced. ADA access is required for witness and juror boxes. Without making required changes in these areas, the state is not in compliance with ADA. This portion of the project is estimated to cost \$400,000.

The Alaska Court System requests \$300,000 for earthquake bracing for library shelving in 20 court law libraries. Library shelving has a unique vulnerability to earthquake damage. Typically, library reference materials are located on tall, narrow, open shelves. During an earthquake, these shelving units are likely to twist or collapse, spilling their contents to the floor. Experience indicates that earthquakes of magnitude 5.5 have caused library shelving to fall, resulting in damage and injury. The potential for severe injury to library patrons is significant. In studies of library damage following the 1987 and 1989 earthquakes in California, shelving failure was the most frequently reported problem. Damage resulting from these quakes ranged from shelving pulling away from wall anchors to full-scale

collapse of the shelving units in domino fashion. At the library on the Cal State-LA campus, sway braces bent backwards and came unlatched in almost every shelving section. Channel braces, when hit by the quake, either bent with the force or completely collapsed. Library facilities that had either taken corrective measures to reinforce the shelf bracing and anchoring or were designed with earthquakes in mind experienced significantly less damage.

This project will fund the design and installation of steel braces connecting the tops of the ranges, steel straps for diagonal interior bracing and floor bolts. The project will install parallel, heavy-gauged channel or tubular braces with four bolt joints across the top of the ranges, lateral braces between the top of section posts, and bolted sway braces in every section.