

**Replacement Equipment****FY2003 Request: \$1,265,000****Reference No: 35897****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment**Category:** Law and Justice**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Rhonda McLeod**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)264-8215**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2002 - 06/30/2005**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Statewide replacement of court system technology and communications resources

<b>Funding:</b>	<b>FY2003</b>	<b>FY2004</b>	<b>FY2005</b>	<b>FY2006</b>	<b>FY2007</b>	<b>FY2008</b>	<b>Total</b>
Gen Fund	\$1,265,000	\$800,000	\$650,000	\$633,000			\$3,348,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,265,000</b>	<b>\$800,000</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>	<b>\$633,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,348,000</b>

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<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	
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:****Project Description/Justification:**

The Alaska Court System requests \$1,265,000 for the second phase of a project to address replacement costs for the court system's information technology and communications resources. Much of the court system's current information and communications infrastructure has been in place well beyond its expected useful life.

Telephone Communications Systems:

The Alaska Court System conducts telephonic hearings more frequently than any other court system as a way to minimize travel costs for the courts, the Department of Law, OPA, and the Public Defender as well as private attorneys and litigants. Teleconferencing is also used extensively as a way of minimizing training costs.

By the end of FY02, more than 25% of the court's telephone systems will have been in place for twelve or more years. The majority of the phone systems in the court system do not support modern digital operations and do not provide modern digital functionality. They have limited or no capabilities to support voice mail and teleconferencing. This project will replace our aging and non-standard resources and create a modernized communication system in our courts.

Modernization of the court's phone systems primarily has occurred when facilities are either constructed or leased. The majority of court locations continue to use older systems that have limited functionality. Due to a lack of available funding, new or newly leased courthouses are forced to continue using old phone switches. These older telecommunications systems do not have the capability to upgrade to meet the modern demands for voice, data and digital services. They do not uniformly provide many of the modern services that court users expect. (Voice-mail, automatic call distribution, conference calling, call accounting and computer telephone integration.) Most of the phone systems in the court system do not support modern digital operations and do not provide modern digital functionality. Funding acquired during this second phase of the project will be used to address improved phone systems in Petersburg, Wrangell, Nome, Barrow, Kenai, Unalaska, Dillingham, Cordova, Naknek, Palmer, Nenana, and Healy.

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### Technological Equipment:

Through capital project funding, the court system has been installing new technological equipment and systems. Much of this technology has a life expectancy of approximately five years. With the installation of new systems, it is optimal to have a planned life-cycle replacement of equipment and software running on this equipment. At the same time, the court system must also address the problem of aged, non-standard equipment still located in several courts. A scheduled replacement of this equipment will establish uniform technical resources throughout the state. By the end of FY01, over 25% of the computer technology equipment had been in place for five or more years. Funding acquired through this project will be used to replace aged computer systems and other technological resources throughout the court system on a priority basis. This replacement will be accomplished through a planned, life-cycle approach.

### Summary

Through capital funding, the court system has been tackling large systemic problems in the areas of technology. Without a funding source to continue and sustain these efforts, the court system will lose much ground in its attempt to modernize court operations. The court system must also have adequate communications systems to conduct its important business throughout the state. Without a source of funding to purchase switches and peripheral communications devices, the court's communications systems will begin failing.