

Memo

To: BOCC
From: Scott Tinney
Date: 7-22-2023
Re: Budget Amendment

I am requesting a budget amendment that is necessary due to recently enacted legislation. RCW 7.105.105 requires Superior Court Clerks to accept electronically submitted documents related to the filing of civil protection orders which includes Anti-harassment, Domestic Violence, Extreme Risk, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Vulnerable Adult.

We do not accept any other court document by electronic submission because we do not yet have the technical capability to do so. We have been able to meet the statutory requirement of accepting electronic submission for civil protection orders by using an extended trial subscription to Legal Atoms. Legal Atoms has provided a tool that allows us to accept electronic submission of civil protection order petitions. The program that they have created ensures that a person filing for a protection order has all of the necessary forms for their particular situation, and it ensures that all required forms are filled out completely before they are submitted.

Many victims that truly need protection orders are unable to come to the courthouse for a variety of reasons. By using Legal Atoms, petitioners are able to obtain a protection order without having to leave their home.

Legal Atoms is the only product available that is specifically designed for this task. We have been using it for 6 months, and it has worked flawlessly.

Request For Budget Amendment

Fund
 Department
 Program

Type of appropriation:
 Supplemental
 Emergency

- Reason For Request:**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Program or Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Cost Due to Increased Level of Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Expenditure | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Cost With No Increase in Level of Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain) | <input type="checkbox"/> Correct/Adjust Budget within Fund/Department |

Please Describe Need For Additional Funding & Attach Related Documentation

Due to recently enacted legislation, RCW 7.105.105 now requires the Clerk's Office to accept petitions for protection orders and all other filings in connection with those petitions to be submitted remotely through an electronic submission process. After much research and testing we have concluded that the most efficient method for receiving and processing the electronic submissions is by using a service offered by Legal Atoms. This appears to be the only available option specifically designed for the purpose that will allow the Clerk's Office to comply with the time requirements mandated in the new legislation. We have been using this service on an extended trial base for about six months, but we will now need to start paying an annual fee in order to continue using it.

Use of Funds

- Increase Expenditures Increase Fund Balance Operating Transfer Out

Account Description	ORG CODE	OBJECT	Current Budget	Requested Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
Legal Atoms subscription for E-filing	00751230		\$ -	\$ 14,400	\$ 14,400
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Increase in Estimated Ending Fund Balance	XXX00000	291800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Use of Funds:			\$ -	\$ 14,400	\$ 14,400

Source of Funds

- Increase Revenues Decrease Fund Balance Operating Transfer In Use of Fund Balance

Account Description	ORG CODE	OBJECT	Current Budget	Requested Increase/Decrease	Revised Budget
Legal Atoms subscription for E-filing	00751230		\$ -	\$ 14,400	\$ 14,400.00
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Use of Estimated Ending Fund Balance	XXX00000	291800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Source of Funds:			\$ -	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 14,400.00

Elected / Director _____ Date _____