



MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH








Supplemental Budget Request *Safety & Maintaining Core Operations*

Supplemental Budget Item	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29
Judicial Safety & Security		\$2.88M	\$1.365M	\$1.365M
Paid Family Leave	\$644,000	\$1.287M	\$1.287M	\$1.287M
Total	\$644,000	\$4.174M	\$2.652M	\$2.652M

Judicial Branch Safety & Security

Safe courts are essential to public access to justice. Minnesotans must be able to attend hearings, serve as jurors, and work in courthouses without fear. This request responds to escalating threats and acts of intimidation by strengthening security at critical points – judicial officers’ homes, online environments, and courthouse facilities – ensuring the justice system remains accessible, stable, and secure statewide.

-  Personal data protection services to remove or mask judges’ and court administrators’ home addresses and personal information from online data brokers and search sites.
-  Reimbursement for the purchase, installation, and ongoing monitoring of home security systems for judges and court administrators.
-  Expansion of the Judicial Security Unit to increase capacity for threat assessment, coordination with law enforcement, training, and emergency planning.
-  A dedicated protection detail for the Chief Justice while traveling to, from, and attending official public events.
-  Reestablishment of the Safe and Secure Courthouse Initiative, providing matching grants to counties for courthouse security assessments, equipment, access control improvements, construction modifications, and training.

Rising Threats to Judges & Public Officials

An internal review of reported safety and security incidents at the Judicial Branch was conducted in 2024 and 2025. The results showed:

- Total incidents reported went up 47%
- Threats to a person, self, or property reported to the Branch went up 85%
- Reported disturbances occurring in a court facility went up 50%

State Funding for Minnesota Paid Leave

The Minnesota Judicial Branch is seeking legislative funding to cover the employer costs of the new Minnesota Paid Leave Program. This funding will ensure that the Judicial Branch will not need to divert resources from core court operations to fund this new state-mandated expense.