

PROBATE COURT

Probate Court has exclusive original jurisdiction over estates of decedents and protected persons (both incapacitated adults and minors); trusts; involuntary commitment of persons suffering from mental illness/retardation, alcohol/drug addiction and active pulmonary tuberculosis; and the issuance of marriage licenses. The staff oversees the administration of the estates and all paperwork filed in order to ensure that all statutory requirements are met. The judges hear and decide any litigation filed in regard to the above matters.

DEPT NUMBER: 1-9256	PROBATE COURT					
FUNDING SOURCE(S)	FY 2007/08 ACTUAL	FY 2008/09 ACTUAL	FY 2009/10 ACTUAL	FY 2010/11 BUDGET	FY 2011/12 BUDGET	INC/DEC FY 12 - 11
General Fund	1,050,023	1,079,205	1,105,846	1,113,318	1,086,630	(26,688)
EXPENDITURES						
Personnel Services Expenditures	987,689	1,034,722	1,075,609	1,078,214	1,055,049	(23,165)
Operating Expenditures	40,524	38,918	30,220	35,104	31,381	(3,723)
Capital Outlay	21,810	5,565	17	0	200	200
Other Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0	0
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$1,050,023	\$1,079,205	\$1,105,846	\$1,113,318	\$1,086,630	(\$26,688)
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL	18	18	18	18	18	0

FY 2011/12 Budget Highlights & Initiatives

- Personnel Services increase due to the SC Retirement System employer contribution rate increase. Overall personnel services decrease due to employee turnover.
- Operating Expenses decrease from FY 2010/11 levels with the across the board reductions to Office Supplies and Professional Development.

Goal:

To provide the most efficient, people-oriented and error-free service in the state

Objectives:

- Maintain optimal service to the public while coping with increased workloads due to population growth, increased use of the court, mandates by court administration and other agencies and lack of personnel increases due to budget constraints
- Maintain accurate records to assist in title searches in regard to real estate and genealogical searches
- Provide emergency assistance to families in crisis in regard to involuntary commitments and ensure due process to the patients committed

Function or Division	Description	Percent of Budget
Estate Division	Probates wills, appoints personal representatives, oversees administration of estates of deceased persons and minors, issues marriage licenses, and handles trust matters	85%
Mental Health Division	Jurisdiction over the involuntary commitment of the mentally ill and chemically dependent persons; appoint and oversee guardians and conservators for adults who are adjudicated incapacitated	15%