

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F C O L O R A D O

Office of the Chief Justice

RESTRICTION OF EXPENDITURES OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR
FISCAL YEAR 1986

Current revenue estimates by both the Executive Branch and the Legislative Council forecast lower than anticipated revenues for the current year. As a result, General Fund revenues will be inadequate to fully fund this year's appropriations, and the state is constitutionally prohibited from deficit spending.

The Governor, by Executive Order, has required the executive branch to reserve 2% of its general fund appropriation in a restricted account. These funds will not be available for expenditure, and if the revenue picture does not improve, the funds will be reverted to the general fund. Based on the Governor's request to this Department, and the Joint Budget Committee's agreement that restricting expenditures is necessary, the Judicial Department will also place 2% of its general fund appropriations in a restricted reserve account.

The following policies shall be implemented immediately and will be in effect until July 1, 1986 or until further notice:

1. In the absence of an extreme emergency, no positions shall be filled until the requirement for a two percent reserve is no longer needed or total savings resulting from vacancy savings and other program restrictions equal the two percent reserve goal of \$1,423,438. This includes positions advertised and currently in the selection process. Emergency requests are subject to the approval of the Chief Justice.

2. Colorado Judicial System Personnel Rule 14 (Reclassification of Filled Positions, Creation, Abolition and Reclassification of Positions) is suspended. Any pending requests which are on file in the State Court Administrator's Office will be honored, but no changes which require additional expenditures will be effective until July 1, 1986.

3. Trial court, probation department, and other budgets will be reduced by the State Court Administrator's Office and will reflect the changes necessitated by the 2% reserve reduction. No expenditures shall be authorized which will exceed the revised budget allocation totals.

4. No new contracts for services shall be entered into nor any contracts extended without permission of the State Court Administrator. Requests for contract court reporters should be limited to emergencies.

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5. Payments for court appointed counsel who have been appointed on or after November 1, 1985, and requests for fees in excess of authorized maximums for Guardian Ad Litem, Dependency and Neglect, Mental Health, and "Other Appointments" should be approved only when clearly justified. Requests for expert witness and investigation fees should also be closely scrutinized and approved only when clearly justified.

6. Voluntary furloughs, in accordance with the provision of the personnel rules, should be encouraged and permitted, within organization staffing needs at the time.

7. Chief Judges are directed to carefully scrutinize all district level expenditures. This is especially necessary for travel requests. All employees are directed to limit travel to the minimum necessary.

APPROVED BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Joseph R. Quinn

Date

11/14/85