

MAY 17 2017

The Supreme Court
State of Washington

OFM DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

MARY E. FAIRHURST
CHIEF JUSTICE
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May 16, 2017

Mr. David Schumacher, Director
Office of Financial Management
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

RE: Judicial Branch Contingency Planning

Dear Mr. Schumacher:

Judicial branch leadership representing the Supreme Court, State Law Library, Court of Appeals, Office of Civil Legal Aid, Office of Public Defense, and the Administrative Office of the Courts, met to discuss functions that must continue in the event that the Legislature fails to approve an omnibus operating budget by July 1, 2017.

We approached our analysis much as we have for our continuity of operations plan; namely, we identified those functions that cannot be stopped even for the shortest period of time. The functions and services outlined below are based on an assumption that normal governmental operations would begin again after two weeks. If a state budget is not passed beyond that time period, we will reevaluate the situation to determine if additional functions and services need to be implemented.

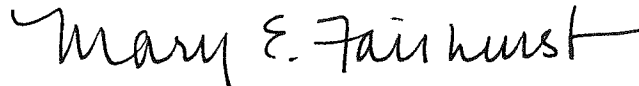
To that end, we have identified the following functions and services that are critical to the continued functioning of the judicial system in Washington State. These include:

1. Maintaining the operations of the statewide court case management and other technology systems and related services in order to prevent interruption of the state's courts.
2. Maintaining staff to ensure that the state meets its obligation to pay appellate court justices' and judges' salaries and benefits and a portion of superior court judges' salaries and benefits which cannot be reduced or eliminated.
3. Maintaining other infrastructure services necessary to ensure courts and state judicial branch agencies can continue to operate uninterrupted.
4. Maintaining appellate, dependency and termination, chapter 71.09 RCW representation, crime victim, and legal aid services.

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If you should have any questions, please contact Ramsey Radwan, Director of the Management Services Division, Administrative Office of the Courts at (360) 357-2406.

Very truly yours,



MARY E. FAIRHURST
Chief Justice

cc: Washington Supreme Court Justices
Hon. Michael Spearman, Court of Appeals
Rob Mead, Washington State Law Library
Joanne Moore, Office of Public Defense
Reiko Callner, Commission on Judicial Conduct
James Bamberger, Office of Civil Legal Aid
Callie T. Dietz, Administrative Office of the Courts
Ramsey Radwan, Administrative Office of the Courts