



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 14, 2025

DATE: Monday, July 28, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Brooke Howard, Specialty Courts Program Manager,
Second Judicial District Court (775) 328-3839,
Brooke.Howard@washoecourts.us

THROUGH: Alicia Lerud, District Court Administrator and Clerk of Court

SUBJECT: Recommendation to retroactively acknowledge the grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, in the amount of [\$1,111,200.64] (no match required), to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. District Court (All Commission Districts). FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

The Second Judicial District Court has been awarded \$1,111,200.64 in state grant funding to support existing Specialty Court programs. This award will be used to help fund the Adult Drug, Diversion, Veterans, Felony DUI, Youth Offender, Mental Health, Medication-Assisted Treatment, and Prison Reentry Courts. The costs to the Court associated with serving these populations include substance use and mental health counseling, drug testing, operational expenses, salaries and benefits for District Court's Specialty Court staff, bus passes, and incentives.

County Priority supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

The Board of County Commissioners previously acknowledged a grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, in the amount of \$1,080,935.64 (no match required). The grant was acknowledged at the August 27, 2024, BCC meeting.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

The Board of County Commissioners previously acknowledged a grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$1,075,936 (no match required). The grant was acknowledged at the August 2023, BCC meeting.

The Board of County Commissioners previously acknowledged a grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$1,068,889 (no match required). The grant was acknowledged at the August 16, 2022, BCC meeting.

The Board of County Commissioners previously acknowledged a grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, in the amount of \$1,068,889 (no match required). The grant was acknowledged at the August 17, 2021, BCC meeting.

The Board of County Commissioners previously acknowledged two grant awards from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. The first grant was in the amount of \$646,040 (no match required). The second grant was in the amount of \$261,336 (no match required). The two grants were acknowledged at the June 23, 2020, BCC meeting.

BACKGROUND

This grant award for the fiscal year 2026 is made available through two sources. The first source was made available through the 2003 passage of Assembly Bill 29 (NRS 176.0613), which also established the State of Nevada Specialty Court Funding Committee. Since that time, the Committee has overseen the grant application process, set standards for funding criteria, and made recommendations to the Statewide Judicial Council for the distribution of funds. The Second Judicial District Court has received grant funding each year through the AB29 appropriation for Adult Drug, Diversion, Youth Offender, Felony DUI, Mental Health, and Veterans Courts.

The second source of grant funding was made available through the 78th and 79th sessions of the Nevada Legislature. State general fund appropriations of three million dollars each year of each biennium were provided to enhance specialty court programs statewide. The Second Judicial District Court has received grant funding for the past three years through the State general fund dollars for Medication-Assisted Treatment and Prison Reentry Courts.

All courts receiving AOC funds must comply with best practices and specific criteria outlined in *Nevada Specialty Court Funding Guidelines and Criteria*, as established by the Specialty Court Funding Committee and approved by the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Second Judicial District Court's Specialty Courts.

Scope of the Project: The Second Judicial District Court will contract with community providers for substance use and mental health treatment, drug testing, and housing as well as pay for costs associated with operational expenses, salaries and benefits for District Court's Specialty Court staff, bus passes, and incentives. Salaries and benefits for Specialty Courts staff are not fully paid for by County general fund dollars.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: The mission of the Second Judicial District Court's Specialty Courts is to improve quality of life, reduce recidivism, and increase community safety and awareness by engaging the drug and alcohol abusing defendant, or the defendant with a mental health illness, in an intensive, court supervised, treatment program. A multidisciplinary team of a judge, defense and prosecution counsel, court officers, treatment providers, parole and probation officers, and drug testing staff work with the defendant.

On-Going Program Support: These funds are made available through the Administrative Office of the Courts and will support the Second Judicial District Court's needs in providing professional services, funding for Court staff, and maintaining compliance with the funding criteria and drug court best practices. These programs rely on annual grant funding from the AOC.

Award Amount: \$1,111,200.64

Grant Period: July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026

Funding Source: State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts – Assembly Bill 29 (NRS 176.0613) funding and State general fund dollars

Pass Through Entity: N/A

CFDA Number: N/A

Grant ID Number: N/A

Match Amount and Type: N/A

Sub-Awards and Contracts: The Second Judicial District Court will contract with treatment and housing providers in Washoe County. Contracts for services are expected to be retroactively executed to July 1, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board acknowledge this grant award, the adopted budget will not change as grant funds were anticipated and accounted for in the FY26 adopted budget. This grant requires no match and has no indirect costs. The grant award is received in four quarterly installments during the fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend to retroactively acknowledge the grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, in the amount of [\$1,111,200.64] (no match required), to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Move to retroactively acknowledge the grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, in the amount of [\$1,111,200.64] (no match required), to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.