

Courts

DESCRIPTION

The Courts system is made up of the Circuit Court, General District Court, Magistrate, and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. The Circuit Court of Hanover is a trial court of general jurisdiction which has authority to try both civil and criminal cases. The Supreme Court of Virginia establishes the rules of practice and procedures for the Circuit Court. The Circuit Court Judge is appointed to an eight year term by the General Assembly. The Circuit Court has appellate jurisdiction over all appeals from the General District Court and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. These cases are heard from the beginning as though there had been no prior trial. A final judgment of the Circuit Court may be appealed to the Virginia Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court of Virginia, depending on the nature of the case.

One of the principal functions of the Magistrate is to provide independent review of complaints from Sheriff's Deputies and citizens of the County. These complaints are the basis used to determine whether a warrant of arrest should be issued. In addition, the Magistrate conducts bail bond hearings, commits offenders to jail, and releases prisoners from jail. The Circuit Court is responsible for the law library which provides a source of reference for local lawyers and judges.

The Circuit Court appoints the following: jury commissioners, grand jurors, special policemen, Board of Zoning Appeals, Electoral Board, Courthouse Committee, Commissioner of Chancery, Marriage Commissioners, and others as provided by the Code of Virginia.

The law library (at the request of the Hanover Bar) contains legal information which may be of interest to local lawyers. The legal assistant to the Circuit Court Judge maintains the Law Library by daily updating, including pocket parts to publication and shelving new and replacement volumes.

The Courts receive direct funding from the Commonwealth, in addition to funds appropriated by the County. Revenues recorded in the General Fund from the Courts represent fines, forfeitures, and excess fees from the Circuit Court.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Maintain file of drug offenders with suspended licenses;
- Maintain collections percentage at 75%;
- Set up receivables for cases within 24 hours; and,
- Send out payment request notices within two days of court.

SERVICE LEVELS

	FY02	FY02	FY03	FY03	FY04
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Forecast</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Per capita cost of operating Courts	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.05	\$ 2.37		\$ 1.85

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

FY03

All Courts have a maintenance level funding. Capital includes furniture and fixtures for the Circuit Court, carpeting for the General District Court, and security enhancements for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

FY04

All Courts have maintenance level funding.

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BUDGET SUMMARY

Circuit Court

Expenditures

	FY02 Budget	FY02 Actual	FY03 Budget	FY04 Budget	Percent Change
Circuit Court					
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ 92,512	\$ 95,696	\$ 108,436	\$ 97,160	-10.4%
Operating Expenditures	50,882	29,009	53,571	40,300	-24.8%
Capital Outlay	20,000	7,118	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 163,394	\$ 131,823	\$ 162,007	\$ 137,460	-15.2%

Revenue

Courthouse Maintenance Fees	\$ 40,000	\$ 35,524	\$ 41,000	\$ 42,000	2.5%
Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ 40,000	\$ 35,524	\$ 41,000	\$ 42,000	2.5%
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	24.5%	26.9%	25.3%	30.6%	

Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 123,394	\$ 96,299	\$ 121,007	\$ 95,460	-21.1%
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	75.5%	73.1%	74.7%	69.4%	

Full-time Positions	2	2	2	2	0.0%
Full-time Equivalents	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0%

FUTURE FUNDING ISSUES

	FY05 Plan	FY06 Plan	FY07 Plan	FY08 Plan
Expenditures				
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ 100,075	\$ 103,077	\$ 106,169	\$ 109,354
Operating Expenditures	41,308	42,340	43,399	44,484
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 141,382	\$ 145,417	\$ 149,568	\$ 153,838

Revenue

Courthouse Maintenance Fees	\$ 43,000	\$ 44,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 46,000
Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ 43,000	\$ 44,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 46,000
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	30.4%	30.3%	30.1%	29.9%

Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 98,382	\$ 101,417	\$ 104,568	\$ 107,838
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	69.6%	69.7%	69.9%	70.1%

Full-time Positions	2	2	2	2
Full-time Equivalents	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

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BUDGET SUMMARY

General District Court

Expenditures

	FY02 Budget	FY02 Actual	FY03 Budget	FY04 Budget	Percent Change
General District Court					
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating Expenditures	17,350	13,457	17,325	17,287	-0.2%
Capital Outlay	10,000	17,660	10,000	-	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 27,350	\$ 31,117	\$ 27,325	\$ 17,287	-36.7%

Revenue

Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 27,350	\$ 31,117	\$ 27,325	\$ 17,287	-36.7%
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
Full-time Positions	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-time Equivalents	-	-	-	-	0.0%

FUTURE FUNDING ISSUES

	FY05 Plan	FY06 Plan	FY07 Plan	FY08 Plan
Expenditures				
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Operating Expenditures	17,719	18,162	18,616	19,082
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 17,719	\$ 18,162	\$ 18,616	\$ 19,082

Revenue

Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 17,719	\$ 18,162	\$ 18,616	\$ 19,082
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Full-time Positions	-	-	-	-
Full-time Equivalents	-	-	-	-

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BUDGET SUMMARY

Magistrates

Expenditures

	FY02 Budget	FY02 Actual	FY03 Budget	FY04 Budget	Percent Change
Magistrates					
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating Expenditures	2,700	1,404	2,700	2,700	0.0%
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,404	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,700	0.0%

Revenue

Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,404	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,700	0.0%
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
Full-time Positions	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-time Equivalents	-	-	-	-	0.0%

FUTURE FUNDING ISSUES

Expenditures

	FY05 Plan	FY06 Plan	FY07 Plan	FY08 Plan
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Operating Expenditures	2,768	2,837	2,908	2,980
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,768	\$ 2,837	\$ 2,908	\$ 2,980

Revenue

Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 2,768	\$ 2,837	\$ 2,908	\$ 2,980
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Full-time Positions	-	-	-	-
Full-time Equivalents	-	-	-	-

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BUDGET SUMMARY

Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court

Expenditures

	FY02 Budget	FY02 Actual	FY03 Budget	FY04 Budget	Percent Change
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court					
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Operating Expenditures	19,800	22,948	23,000	22,546	-2.0%
Capital Outlay	10,000	-	6,500	-	-100.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 29,800	\$ 22,948	\$ 29,500	\$ 22,546	-23.6%

Revenue

Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 29,800	\$ 22,948	\$ 29,500	\$ 22,546	-23.6%
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
Full-time Positions	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-time Equivalents	-	-	-	-	0.0%

FUTURE FUNDING ISSUES

	FY05 Plan	FY06 Plan	FY07 Plan	FY08 Plan
Expenditures				
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Operating Expenditures	23,110	23,687	24,280	24,887
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 23,110	\$ 23,687	\$ 24,280	\$ 24,887

Revenue

Total Department Generated Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Generated Revenue Percent of Budget	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other General Fund Revenue	\$ 23,110	\$ 23,687	\$ 24,280	\$ 24,887
Other General Fund Percent of Budget	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Full-time Positions	-	-	-	-
Full-time Equivalents	-	-	-	-

All of the Courts have maintenance level funding for fiscal years 2005 through 2008.