

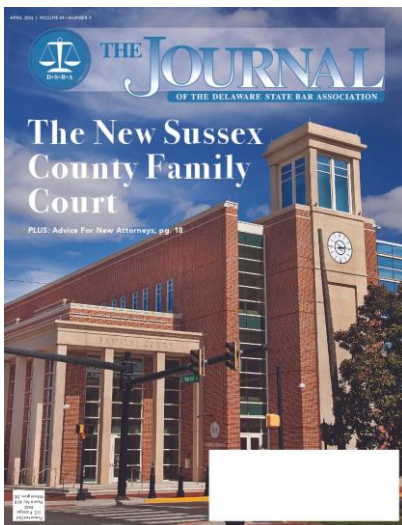


JUDICIAL BRANCH

FY 2027 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT HEARING
April 28, 2026

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Delaware State Bar Association

“There is also a waiting area for children and specially designed rooms that will allow children to appear at proceedings through video instead of having to take the witness stand.”

Coast TV

“trilingual signage in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole”

“With the courthouse now open looking forward to renewed energy and economic growth in downtown Georgetown.”

Delaware Online

“improves experience for public, employees”

Correctional News

“Enhanced security measures are central to each design”

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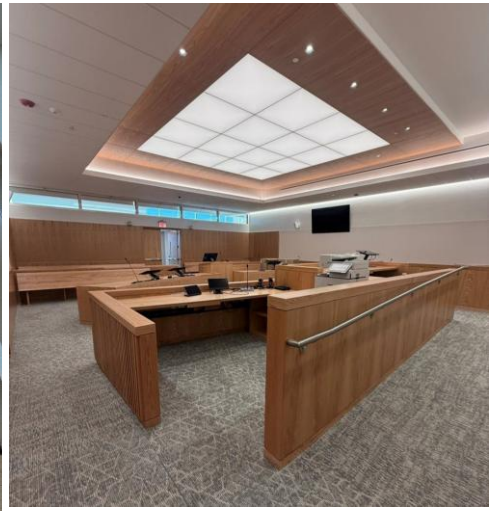
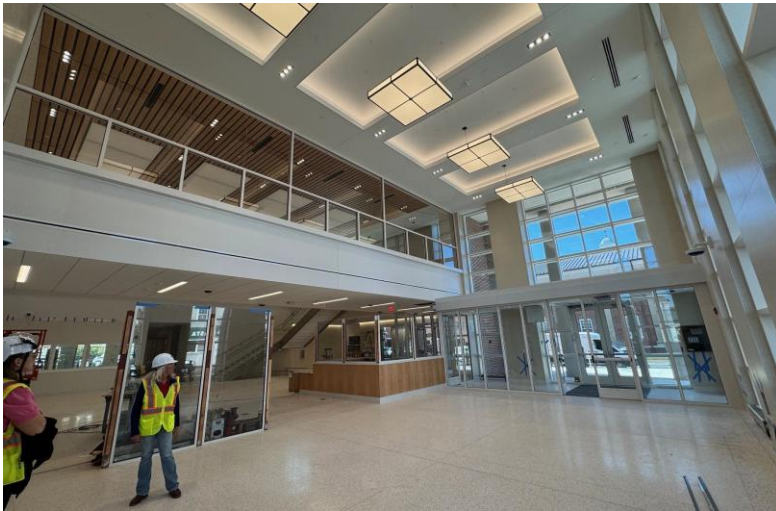
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Thank you for your support

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3



Sussex County Family Court Courthouse

RIBBON-CUTTING WAS NOVEMBER 13, 2025

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Kent County Family Court Courthouse

SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION ANTICIPATED SUMMER 2026

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Custom House

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Custom House

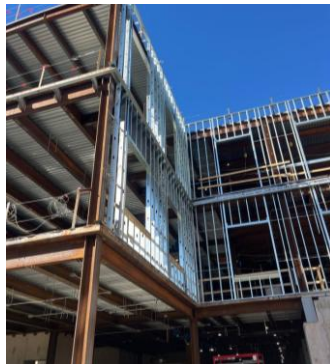
SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION ANTICIPATED FALL 2026

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Custom House

- Finishing structural steel and concrete.
- On-going work includes framing, fireproofing, masonry mobilization, and wall and stucco activities.



8

Summary

FY 27 Project Request	FY 26 Appropriation	Judicial Request	Governor's Recommended	Requested Mark-Up
LLWJC Road Improvements, Safe Visitor Drop-off	-	\$2,000,000	-	Working with DFM to use existing funds
Sussex Courthouse Renovation/Addition	-	\$2,965,200	\$2,965,200	No Change
JP 8/9 Facility	\$4,000,000	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	No Change
Motorola Radios	-	\$300,000	\$300,000	No Change
MCI	\$911,062	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000

9

LLWJC

- **Working with DFM** to create a safe drop-off location for courthouse visitors
- The changes to Alico Road has led to drop-off of courthouse visitors into busy traffic on North King Street



10

Sussex County Courthouse

Recommended:

\$2,965,200 in renovations to maximize space and efficiency for Court of Common Pleas and Superior Court



11

Justice of the Peace Court



Recommended: \$4.5 million to merge the Middletown and Smyrna facilities for improved space and staffing efficiencies

12

12



Branch-wide

Recommended: \$300.0 for replacement of discontinued 800 MHz radios

- Model currently in use is being discontinued and no longer supported
- Branch has a total of 200 radios, not all of which will need to be immediately replaced
- This funding recommendation would allow the replacement of approximately 50 radios

13

13

Requests for Safety and Security

LLWJC Space
Efficiency Review

Statewide Judicial
Branch Security
Audit

Courthouse
Security Systems

14

CNN US Crime + Justice

READY THE DAY 10PM
 Greenland tensions loom over Oscars, DOJ investigating church service protesters, Solar radiation storm headed to Earth

Police: Texas judge shot outside her home

By Greg Botelho and Camila Hoang, CNN
 5 min read · Updated 10:28 PM EDT, Mon November 9, 2020

News Article

Man Accused of Trying to Assassinate Brett Kavanaugh Receives Trial Date

NEWS RELEASE
 NOV 20, 2024 AT 07:05 PM EDT

Maryland judge killed in his driveway, authorities search for suspect who 'targeted' him over divorce case ruling

Washington County Circuit Court Judge Andrew Wilkinson, 52, granted custody of Pedro Argote's children to their mother hours before the judge was found shot outside his home.

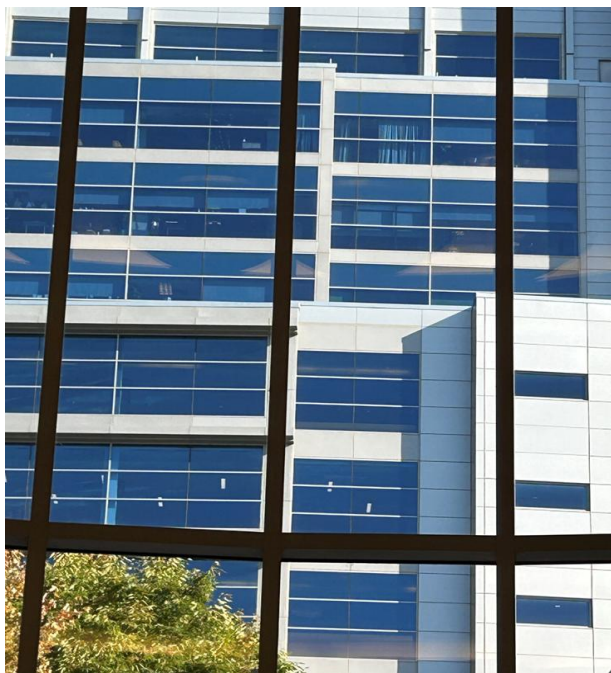
Texas judge left for dead in driveway

WRC

Indiana Judge and His Wife Are Shot at Their Suburban Home

The police in Lafayette, Ind., said they were investigating the nonfatal shootings of a Tippecanoe County Superior Court judge and his wife on Sunday.

Listen to this article: 3:25 min



Requests for Safety and Security LLWJC Space Study

- Critical review of entire building.
- Running out of space for staff, files, and evidence storage in Wilmington
 - Studying courtroom usage for better sharing of space between courts
 - Includes security considerations



Security Audit

Recommendations from a recent branch-wide security audit are being reviewed and prioritized.

Work on recommendations is in progress.

Security requires continuous reviews and upgrades.

17

17

Statewide Security Operations Center



The Judicial Branch Security Audit strongly recommended the addition of a statewide Security Operations Center (SOC).

The Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch are awaiting recommendations from security audits.

The Judicial Branch has requested \$300.0 in the Operating Budget as a start to a statewide upgrade to video security.

18

18

Minor Capital Improvements



Request: Increase MCI to \$1.5 million

Primary Needs:

- Courthouse Security
- Courtroom Technology Infrastructure
- Facilities Maintenance

History of Judicial MCI Appropriation:

- Amount has averaged about \$1,000,000 since FY 16

19

19

Minor Capital Improvements



Complete: SCCH Juror Entrance Enclosure

Before the project, Sussex County jurors had to wait outside in the summer sun and rain/snow where there was no protective covering.

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20

CASCADE



Unified Civil e-Filing, Case Management, Document Management *On-Time and In-Budget (Kicked Off – July 2024)*

Phase 1 will Go-Live December 2026:

- Court of Chancery
- Superior Court
- Court of Common Pleas
- Justice of the Peace

Phase 2 will Go-Live December 2028:

Family Court

- First Digital Doc Management System
- First E-Filing System

21

21

Future Cost: Criminal System Modernization

- Judicial Branch criminal records are paper-based
- Many important initiatives are hindered by manual, resource-intensive, and time-consuming processes
- No ARPA or federal funding available; filing fees cannot be applied to criminal dockets
- This fall, the Branch will work with a consultant to help us collect the system needs and process requirements, which will be used to plan an RFP for Criminal Case Management, Document Management, and e-Filing Solutions
 - ❖ Criminal Justice Technology Improvement funding from FY 24 Capital Budget



22

22



Thank You!