

MUNICIPAL COURT

BUDGET FY 2020



MISSION

To timely and efficiently resolve all matters, protect individuals' rights and liberties, uphold and interpret the law, and treat people with compassion, integrity, fairness, and respect.



MEET THE TEAM

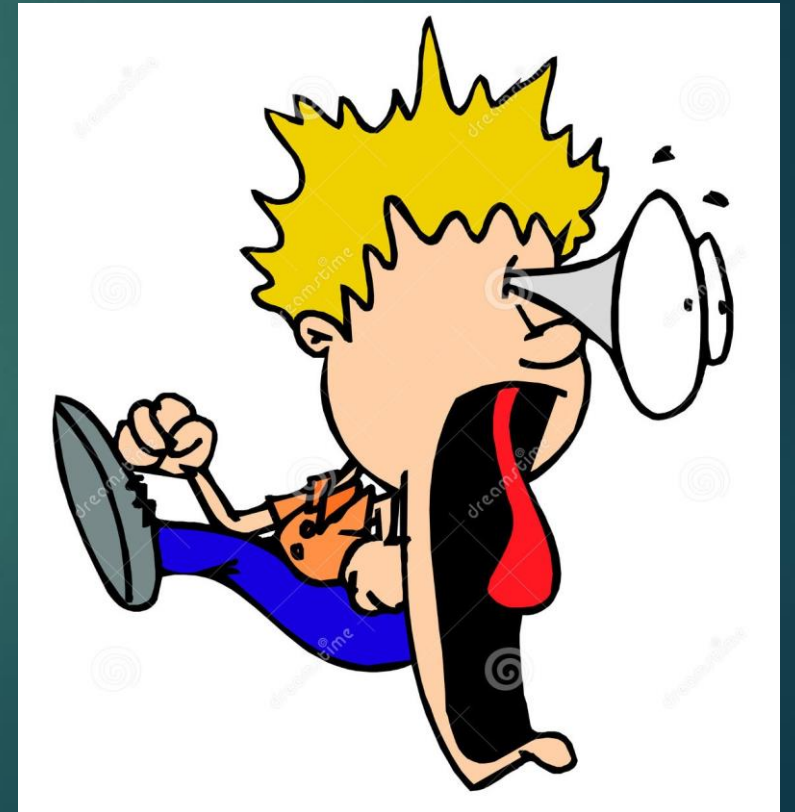


Court currently has 8 employees:

- Judge
- Court Administrator
- 1 Chief Clerk
- 1 Civil Clerk
- 3 Criminal Clerks
- 1 Court Security
- In the process of hiring Court Interpreter

SPECIAL BUDGET REQUESTS

1. City's General Fund to pay for ALL court employee Salaries
2. Jury Trials – Juror Reimbursement
3. Camera Security System
4. Video Conference



EMPLOYEE SALARIES

- ▶ 2013 – Court request for salary increases to be paid with Court's Special Revenue Fund
- ▶ 2014 – New Salary Resolution adopted by City Council
- ▶ 2014 to Present – portion of employee salary increases began to be paid by Court's Special Revenue Fund (approximately \$73,000 annually)
- ▶ 2018 – Effective August 4, City implemented first phase of salary adjustment increase for all city employees
 - New salary market adjustment included 5 court employees – city pays \$3,750 annually from general fund.
 - Brought rest of city employees up to market, including court employees
 - Court Special Revenue Fund continues to pay for portion of employee salaries

COURT'S SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

▶ What?

- Category of funds which account for specific revenues collected by court for court use/special needs
- Court currently has 4 Special Revenue Funds regulated by the State
- Two (2) of those funds are restricted & require State's authorization to access

▶ Where?

- Collected by court, established by funding authority and regulated by the State
- State, Local, and Court/collection

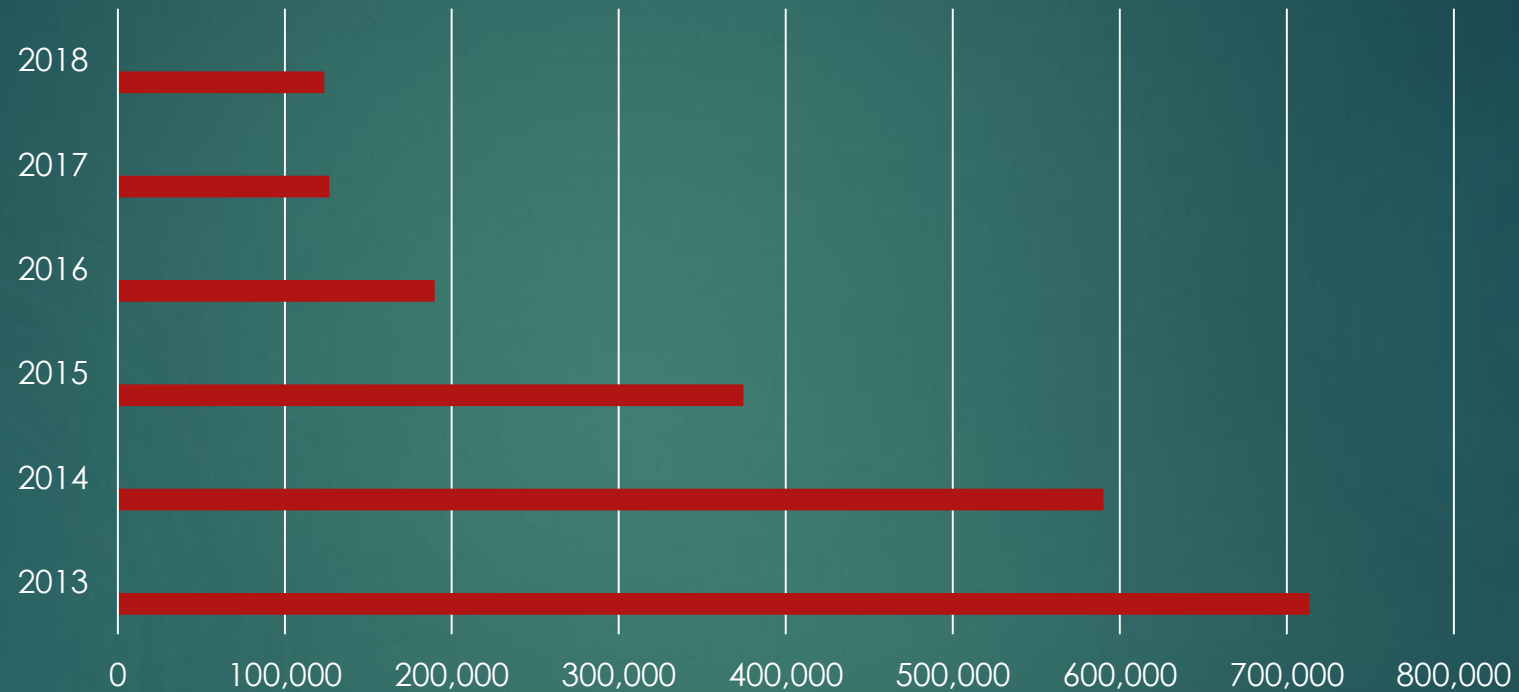
▶ How?

- Generated through various court fees

▶ Why?

- Funds purpose and dedication are to enhance court's operations, system of justice, case flow management, and related expenses

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND



**City pays 3rd portion (market study (\$3,750 - GF)
Court pays second portion (\$73,000 approx – SRF)
City pays 1st portion (\$ - GF)**

2013 - PRESENT

- ▶ What happened to special revenue fund?
 - Court Remodeling
 - Salary Reclassifications
 - Police Department
 - Personnel
 - Equipment
 - Vehicle
 - Electronic Citations - Hand Held Devices
 - City
 - Parking Meters
 - Personnel for Parking Enforcement

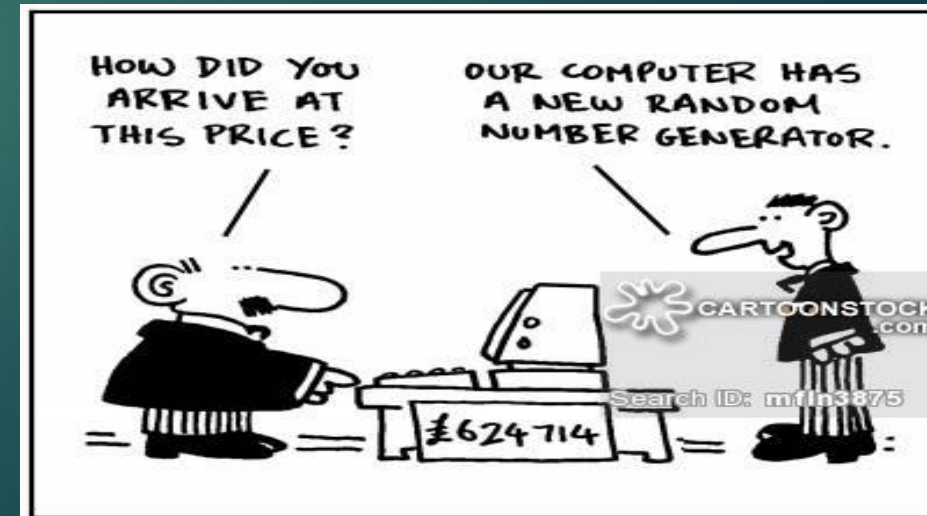
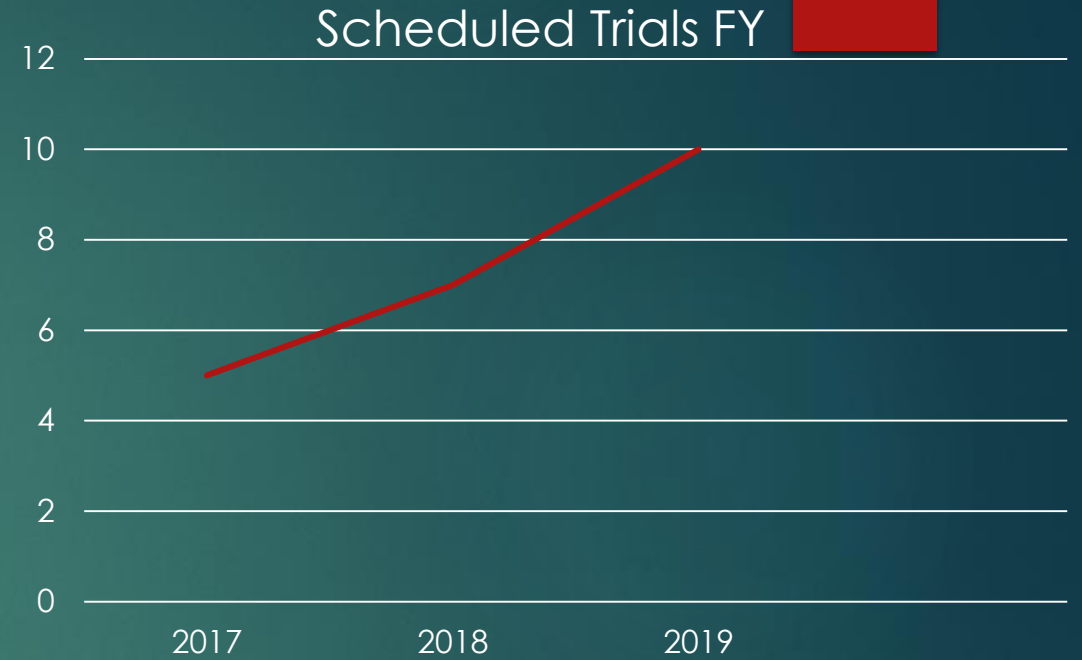
ALTERNATIVES TO ENFORCING FINES/FEEES

- ▶ Fines/Fees and Restitution Enforcement (FARE) – AZ Supreme Court
 - Enforcement of compliance with court orders & law
- ▶ Traffic Ticket Enforcement Assistance Program (TTEAP)
 - A.R.S. 28-1631 to A.R.S. 28-1636
 - Vehicle registration hold
 - Credit Bureau
 - OSC Hearings / Arrest Bench Warrants
- ▶ Driver license reinstatement upon good faith initial payment
- ▶ Deferred prosecution
- ▶ Community restitution
- ▶ Payment plan or reduction in fines
- ▶ Set asides – All fines and fees must be paid in full
- ▶ Denial of passport/border card by issuing authority
- ▶ Jail as last resort per [Administrative Order No. 2016-16](#) - “justice for all” means that people should not be disparately punished because they are poor.



JURY TRIALS

- ▶ CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT
 - DUI
 - Reckless Driving
 - Sexual Motivated Offenses
 - Theft/Shoplifting
 - Resisting Arrest
- ▶ JURY SERVICE
 - Approximately 40 Summons sent throughout Yuma County (San Luis - Tacna) per trial
- ▶ JURORS
 - Between 20 – 30 answer and appear for Court
- ▶ JUROR REIMBURSEMENT
 - One day Jury Trial
 - = Mileage Reimbursement - 2 way
 - = Lunch



WHAT ARE OUR NEIGHBORS DOING?

- ▶ Yearly jury trials for other local courts:
 - Somerton Municipal – 1
 - Yuma Municipal – 1 or 2
 - Wellton Municipal - 1



VIDEO CONFERENCE

Benefits and Advantages:

- ▶ Remote access to interpreters
- ▶ Remote access for covering judges
- ▶ Remote criminal proceedings
- ▶ Enhanced Technology/Access to Justice
- ▶ Saves time & financial resources
 - Transportation
 - Safety for court personnel, attorneys, public, victims
- ▶ In-custody Accused/Defendant
- ▶ Compliance with Constitutionality Due Process requirement

CAMERA SECURITY SYSTEM

- ▶ The Arizona Supreme Court adopted Court Security Standards, effective July 1, 2017 (Administrative Order 2017-015)
- ▶ Court Security involves three interrelated spheres: (1) court operations, (2) facilities and equipment, and (3) training and communication.
- ▶ The Video surveillance installation can play an integral role in maintaining a proper level of courthouse security
- ▶ Safety measure for court building, staff, public, victims, defendants
- ▶ Deters crime and violence
- ▶ Please refer to 2019 Court Security Assessment handout by Yuma Superior Court

News/Updates

- ▶ Triennial External Court Audit
- ▶ Outstanding results
- ▶ Minimum Accounting Standards (MAS)
- ▶ In-compliance with State Regulations
- ▶ Agreement with local courts for court coverage free of charge
- ▶ Agreement with Yuma County Jail for in-custody court hearings free of charge
- ▶ Court obtained additional vehicle (2009 GMC Truck) from Yuma County Board of Supervisors for \$1000
- ▶ Significantly lowered court appointed attorney costs by implementing new procedures (2 out of 10 appointed counsel)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME
AND CONSIDERATION**

