Humboldt County Community Corrections Partnership
Funding Request

Requesting Agency: SUPERIOR COURT OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY
Contact: KELLY NEEL, PRESIDING JUDGE
Phone: 707-269-1216
Email: KLNEEL@HUMBOLDTCOURT.CA.GOV

Type: (check one) One-Time ☐ Ongoing ☑

Total Requested Amount:	$90,000
Current FY:	$90,000
Next FY:	$360,000
Annual:	$360,000

Staffing:
FTEs
Positions:

Request Title: Supplemental contributions to ongoing Courthouse Security

How does this request relate to criminal realignment?

Realignment caused significant changes in how Courthouses are secured/screened.

Description of Request:

Realignment shifted the burden to the Counties to provide to their respective Sheriff offices monies via a Trial Court Security Fund; at one time, it appears that the Court had received a funding stream that the Court dedicated to reimburse the Sheriff for 83% of weapons screening costs to enter into the Courthouse.

1. The Entrance Screening Funds that the Court may have received some years ago, does not now exist.
2. Weapon screening costs have essentially doubled as those contracts with outside providers have not been updated in years.

In order for the Court to continue to assist and provide the same 83% contribution that we have done historically, we must seek assistance as a stopgap measure while we continue to work with the County to find a way to continue the same level of security to the building.

For January-June of 2026, the Court is asking for $15,000/mo for a total of $90,000. This would be used to pay the now unfunded 83% that was agreed upon by the parties per the most current MOU from 2012. The Court would pay any additional costs over this allocation of out the general fund.

For fiscal year 2026-2027 the Court asks for allocation of up to $30,000/mo to maintain security contributions of the same 83%. Anything above would come from our gen fund.

In the meantime, the Court and Sheriff will seek ongoing increase in funding from the State.

For Probation Use Only:

Request Received: _____
CCP Agenda Date: _____ Request tabled until: _____

Votes:

	Courts	District Attorney	DHHS	Probation	Police	Public Defender	Sheriff
Yea	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nay	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Courthouse screening is a foundational life safety measure that protects the public, victims and witnesses, jurors, attorneys, court staff, and law enforcement personnel by preventing weapons and other prohibited items from entering secure court spaces. Without reliable screening, the court remains vulnerable to avoidable threats, disruptions, and critical incidents that can compromise public trust and continuity of court operations.

This need has become more acute since the State's enactment of AB 109, which shifted a larger population of justice involved individuals from state custody to local supervision and local systems. As a result, local courts have experienced increased case volume and a greater number of higher risk matters and higher risk participants moving through court facilities, including individuals on probation, post release community supervision, and related compliance proceedings. These realities increase the likelihood of volatile encounters, intimidation, and attempts to bring weapons or contraband into the courthouse. Meaningful screening is therefore essential to maintaining a safe, accessible, and orderly judicial environment, and the requested $450,000 will provide the resources needed to meet this obligation in a consistent and defensible manner.

To ensure the security and safety of the courthouse and its perimeter, deputies and/ or private county contracted security guards shall conduct security searches of all persons entering the courthouse or any outlying court facility (except for peace officers on official business and judicial officers) entering using the walk-through metal detector and x-ray machine.

Section 171(b) of the California Penal Code prohibits the possession of certain specified weapons within Court Facilities. If a weapon or contraband is observed on a person attempting to enter the Court Facility, appropriate steps should be taken to prevent the item from entering the secure portion of the building. An entry shall be made in the daily activity log to record the event. All illegal weapons shall be seized, with or without an arrest, and a report shall be written by the investigating security officer.