

South Carolina Administrative Law Court

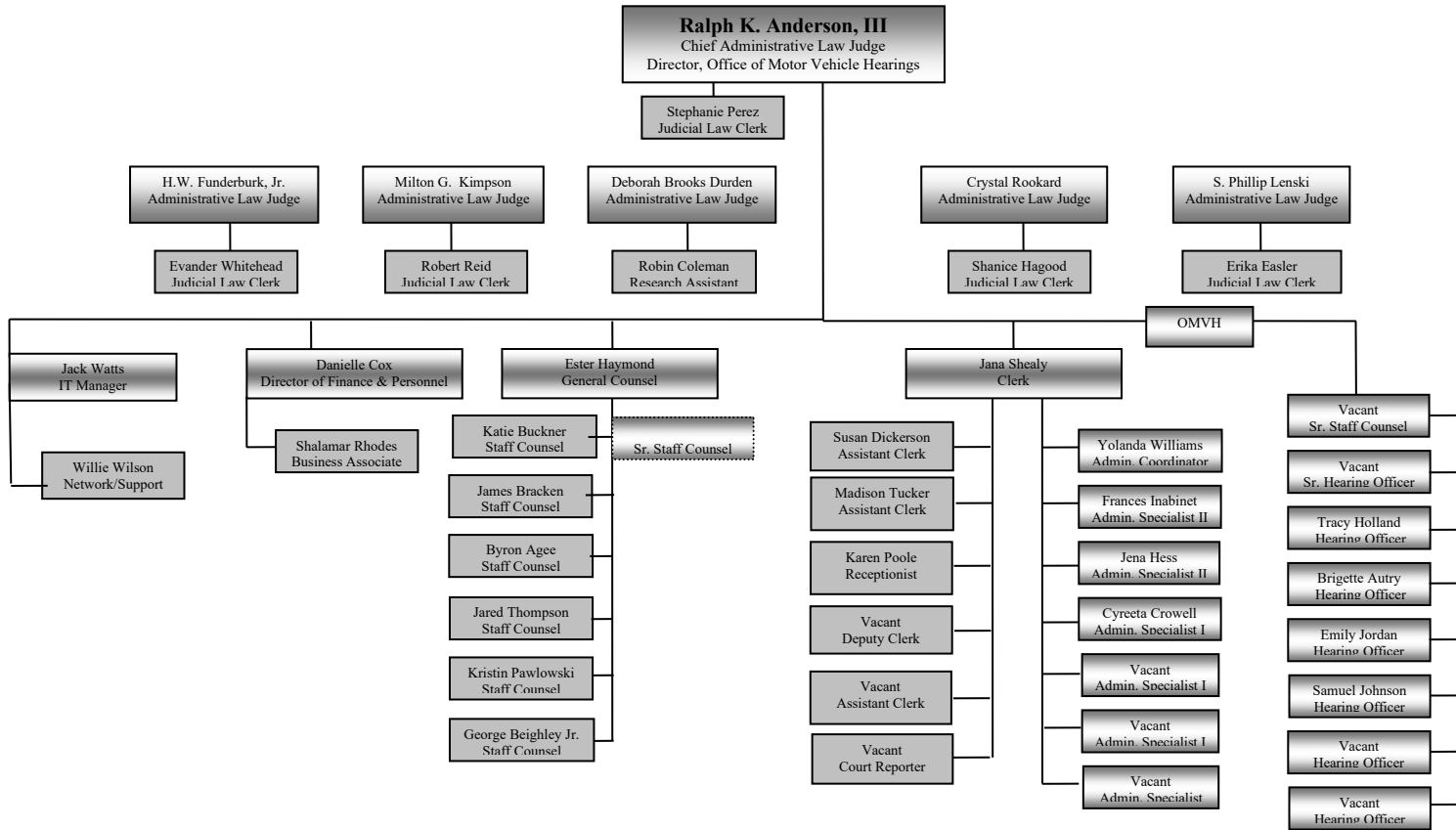
**House Ways and Means
Constitutional Subcommittee
FY 2024-2025 Budget Hearing
Wednesday, January 24, 2024**

Key Officials Attending Meeting

- Ralph K. Anderson, III, Chief Judge
803.734.6409
- Jana Shealy, Clerk of Court
jshealy@scal.net
803.734.6411
- Danielle Cox, Finance Director
dcox@scal.net
803.734.6414

The Court's mission is to provide a neutral forum for fair, prompt and objective hearings for any person(s) affected by an action or proposed action of certain State agencies or departments.

South Carolina Administrative Law Court FY 2024



The South Carolina Administrative Law Court (ALC) Overview

- The ALC is a court of record and agency in the Executive Branch
- The mission of the ALC is to provide a neutral forum for fair, prompt and objective hearings for any person(s) affected by an action or proposed action of certain agencies or departments of the State of South Carolina
- The ALC is comprised of the ALC and the Office of Motor Vehicle Hearings (OMVH)
 - ALC has 6 judges and 20 support staff
 - OMVH has 4 hearing officers and 4 support staff (Chief Judge serves as Director)
 - The support staff for the ALC also includes support staff for the OMVH
 - Total of 50 FTES, 16 are currently vacant

FY 24-25 Budget Plan

The ALC's Budget request of \$767,659.00 was approved for FY 23-24. The following is an update/status on the use of the funding priorities:

Funding Request of \$330,875.00, for salary increases and fringe for attorneys. Although still below many comparable attorney positions in the State, the ALC has seen an improvement in the turnover rate with the salary increases provided in recent years. It continues to be imperative for the Court to be able to attract and retain qualified employees to support its mission and assist the judges in issuing sound and prompt decisions.

Funding Request of \$63,450.00, for an Accounting Technician Position in the Finance Office. This position has been filled and is assisting the Court in its ability to efficiently meet the demands of the agency's financial responsibilities and adherence to accounting requirements.

Funding of \$205,429.00 to transfer 3 FTEs from Other Funds to State. Currently 32.50 FTEs are paid out of State and 17.50 FTEs are paid out of Other Funds.

Funding of \$75,000.00 to update Courtroom hardware.

Funding of \$92,905.00 for potential cost increases for capital improvements. The current renovation project is \$704,000.00, which the Department of Administration has indicated includes overages.

Current Budget (FY 23-24)

State (with allocations): \$ 5,038,521

*Other: \$ 1,655,986

Total: \$ 6,694,507

Expenditures:

Salaries and Benefits: \$ 5,673,834.00

Remaining for Operating: \$ 1,020,673.00

(Operating includes, but is not limited to: Rent, WestLaw, Court Reporting, Computer licensing, Postage, Equipment, Supplies, etc.)

*Other funds: revenue pursuant to SC Code Section 1-23-670, 56-5-2952 and Proviso 58.1

Current Budget (FY 23-24)

State (with allocations):	\$ 5,038,521.00
*Other:	<u>\$ 1,655,986.00</u>
Total:	\$ 6,694,507.00

Expenditures:

Salaries and Benefits:	\$ 5,673,834.00
Remaining for Operating:	\$ 1,020,673.00

FY 2023-2024 Budget Breakdown		%
Total State Appropriations for Salaries	\$ 4,193,632.00	
Fringe	\$ 1,480,202.00	93%
	<u>\$ 5,673,834.00</u>	
Operating	\$ 435,150.00	7%
	<u>\$ 6,108,984.00</u>	
GFCF	\$ 421,463.00	
FY 2023-2024 State Appropriations	\$ 6,530,447.00	

Non-Recurring Funds Update

FY2023 Renovation - Furniture Request	\$ 582,383.00
<i>Encumbered</i>	<u>\$ (580,069.72)</u>
<i>Available</i>	\$ 2,313.28
FY 24 Renovation - Overage	\$ 92,905.00
<i>Waiting to be billed for overage</i>	
FY 2023 Tech upgrade	\$ 168,850.82
<i>Used/Encumbered</i>	<u>\$ (70,214.77)</u>
<i>Available</i>	\$ 98,636.05
FY 24 Tech Upgrade	\$ 75,000.00
<i>Not used</i>	

Item 6 - Carry forward information

- General Fund carry forward from FY 2023: \$421,463.10

Item 7 - FTE breakdown

- State Funds Positions:
 - Filled: 30.00
 - Authorized: 32.50
- Other Funds Positions:
 - Filled: 04
 - Authorized 17.50
- Total State and Other Funds Positions:
 - Filled: 34.00
 - Vacant: 16.00
 - Authorized: 50.00

Constitutional Subcommittee Proviso Request Summary FY 2024-25

Proviso # in FY 23-24 Act	Renumbered FY 24-25 Proviso #	Proviso Title	Short Summary	Agency Recommended Action (keep, change, delete, add)
58.1		Copying Costs Revenue Deposit	Retain and Expend revenue for copying documents and rules	Keep
58.2		County Office Space for Judges	Counties to provide office space for residing ALJ if available	Keep
58.3		ALJ Travel	Subsistence for ALJs traveling	Keep