FY 2018 – Accounts Receivable Tables

The Ad Hoc Committee on Increasing Cost Collection in the Courts was charged with determining a reliable estimate of outstanding debt in Missouri's circuit courts. The committee defined circuit court debt as "*accounts receivable which have been entered into the Judicial Information System (JIS) for cases disposed between Jan. 1, 2005 and the end of the (current) fiscal year and which were outstanding as of the beginning of the following fiscal year*". This definition includes court-ordered penalties, fines, sanctions, court costs (i.e., statutorily-mandated fees, surcharges, judgments, etc.), and judgments due the state or one of its political subdivisions. Restitution, public defender liens, garnishments and judgments due others (besides the state or one of its political subdivisions) are NOT included. Additionally, the committee compiled multiple reports, the purpose of which are to promote the collection of outstanding debt. The information in the following tables is in accordance with the findings and recommendations outlined in the *Final Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Increasing Cost Collection in the Courts*.

Table 82 – Accounts Receivable by Age

Amount of debt by the length of time it has been outstanding.

Table 83 – Accounts Receivable by Tier

Tier 1 debt includes fines and costs in which:

a.) Statute sets the amount of the cost and specifies that the cost shall be assessed on all cases in a case type (e.g., clerk fee, county fee and court automation).

b.) Statute does not set the amount of the cost but specifies that the cost shall be assessed on all cases in a case type (e.g., law library).

c.) Statute specifies that the cost may be assessed on all cases in a case type, and the majority of the counties charge the cost (e.g., law enforcement training fund surcharge).

Tier 2 debt includes costs in which:

a.) Statute authorizes the county, court en banc or judge to decide whether to assess the cost, and many courts do not assess the fee (e.g., board bills, law enforcement arrest costs).

b.) Statute authorizes the county, court en banc or judge to set the amount of the cost locally, and the amounts assessed vary widely from county to county (e.g., county law enforcement restitution fund).

c.) Statute authorizes a cost for specific jurisdictions or not all courts handle the case types to which these costs apply (e.g., courthouse restoration fees).

All other costs were combined into tier "other" debt.

Table 84 – Accounts Receivable – Balance and Amount

Fees and costs can be satisfied by non-monetary payments, as well as monetary payments. As such, the difference between 'Amount Assessed' and 'Balance Due' in this table does not necessarily reflect the dollar amount collected. Non-monetary payments include, but are not limited to, credit for time served, community service, and judicial orders waiving or reducing the amount due.

Table 85 – Average Amount Assessed per Case

Average amount assessed per case (Assessed/Case) was calculated for those criminal cases disposed by guilty outcome between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2018.