TEXAS STATE LAW LIBRARY

Legislative Appropriations Request

for Fiscal Years 2028 and 2029

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The State Law Library and its mission

The mission and legislative mandate of the State Law Library is to provide reliable legal information to the judiciary, state agencies, and all residents of the State of Texas. The State Law Library seeks to fulfill its mission by:

- providing access to a variety of sources of legal information to meet the present and future needs of the state;
- assisting court staff, state employees, and Texans with legal research;
- promoting access to justice by providing all Texans with access to legal information no matter where they live; and
- developing user-friendly tools to assist users in finding the information they need within the Library's resources.

The State Law Library and closing the Justice Gap

As a judicial agency, the Library is firmly committed to former Chief Justice Nathan Hecht's mission of increasing access to justice and closing the "justice gap." According to the Legal Services Corporation, the justice gap is "the difference between the civil legal needs of low-income Americans and the resources available to meet those needs." Put plainly: legal representation is expensive and can be completely out of financial reach for many low-income Texans.

While many legal issues do in fact require an attorney, many can be resolved with the type of reliable legal information and guidance found in the Library's books and databases. Our widely available, free resources remove a significant financial and geographical barrier to legal knowledge. Of Texas's 254 counties, only 32 have a law library open to the public. Without the State Law Library's online resources, rural Texans may have to travel hundreds of miles to access the kind of legal information we make available from home or a local public library.

To further address the disparity in statewide access to legal information, the Library has launched a new initiative: the Texas Legal Oasis Project. This project consists of a training program to educate public librarians across the state in how to responsibly and effectively assist their patrons with their legal questions. Our goal with this program is to develop public libraries into a reliable source of support in communities that have little to no legal access, and in doing so, increase the reach of the resources we provide.

Our free materials also make it possible for legal professionals to offer services to the public at a lower cost. The Texas Access to Justice Commission's recent initiative to license paralegals and court-access assistants to provide services for low income Texans is a remarkable milestone. Licensed paralegals and court-access assistants will be able to use the Library's completely free suite of resources to provide high quality service to their clients, regardless of whether they are employed or sponsored by firms with large libraries of their own.

The resources we provide are a way to level the playing field for legal professionals and lay people throughout the state. Legal books and databases are very expensive and inability to access them can leave a party at a significant disadvantage. While it is true that many firms will have more material and more powerful technology, our free resources reduce the informational disparity between the parties.

What exactly does the library do?

Texans across the state – regardless of their profession or economic means – can contact the Library for help finding legal information. Legal information needs can take many forms. The need may be as simple as the current text of a law, or as complex as how to develop a powerful search term in a legal database to yield the best results. Our professional librarians are available to answer these questions by telephone, email, text message, and in person at the library. They will recommend helpful sources of information in a variety of formats that can help patron answer their questions or accomplish their goals. Patrons not located near the State Capitol can access a wealth of high-quality databases by signing up for a library account and logging in through the Library's website. Because not everything is online just yet, the Library offers on-site resources, including a vast print collection of current and historical books and journals.

Three foundational elements of the Library allow us to fill our patrons' information needs: our print resources, our electronic resources, and our staff. Each element is critical to the Library's success and cannot stand on its own. Electronic resources allow us to reach a widespread userbase in a cost-effective manner, print resources contain information that is not available digitally, and library staff relay complex information in a straightforward way and guide users through the complicated process of finding and evaluating information. 98% of our agency's budget directly funds these three pillars.

We are appreciative of the generosity shown by the 89th Legislature, which allowed us to add two additional librarian positions to our staff, including a librarian to support Spanish-speaking Texans, as well as translate our website into Spanish. With the grant of those exceptional items, several long-standing needs of the library have been met. This session, our exceptional item requests focus on funding to allow us to retain two key resources despite rapidly rising costs: our skilled staff, and the research databases Westlaw and LexisNexis.

Exceptional Item 1: Cost of living increase for judicial staff

Recruiting and retaining excellent judicial-branch staff is essential to the fair and efficient administration of justice in Texas. The rising cost of living combined with the draw of more lucrative employment at other government agencies and the private sector continue to create staffing challenges for the courts. A 3% annual increase in staff pay throughout the Article IV courts and agencies would help maintain the judicial branch's position in the competitive market for talented, qualified, and experienced lawyers and staff. In conjunction with the rest of the judicial branch, the State Law Library requests a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 28 and an additional 3% increase in Fiscal Year 29.

Exceptional Item 2: Support for LexisNexis and Westlaw subscriptions

Our professional librarians rely heavily on two main legal research databases for much of our research: LexisNexis and Westlaw. Each company offers a range of subscription tiers, each with a successively higher cost and greater number of advanced features. In the past few years, the higher tiers have incorporated Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools at a significantly higher cost. Periodically, the publishers will sunset the lowest tier in the interest of moving their subscribers to the more advanced versions of their platform.

We have been informed that the next round of sunsetting will mean that all tiers will now include AI-enhanced features. With this change, even the least expensive tier will be a considerable increase in price from our current subscription. Historically, the Library has always maintained our subscriptions at the lowest tier and has negotiated with vendors in the interest of cost savings. Based on initial estimates we have received for our contract renewals, the least expensive option will cost approximately 40% more than our current subscription. Even if we can forestall a move to the much more expensive AI-enhanced tiers, a increase of approximately 15% may be unavoidable

Our librarians' ability to quickly and efficiently retrieve information and documents for our patrons depends upon access to these databases. It is not possible for our librarians to only use one of the two services: each has a different, but equally crucial, set of resources. Should we be forced to cancel these services due to the unavailability of funds, library patrons will experience slower turnaround times as the librarians will often need to retrieve information in print. The responsiveness of our librarians and their ability to provide information in a timely manner is critical in legal situations that often have strict deadlines. Thus, we are requesting an exceptional item to cover the significant increase in subscription costs of these services.

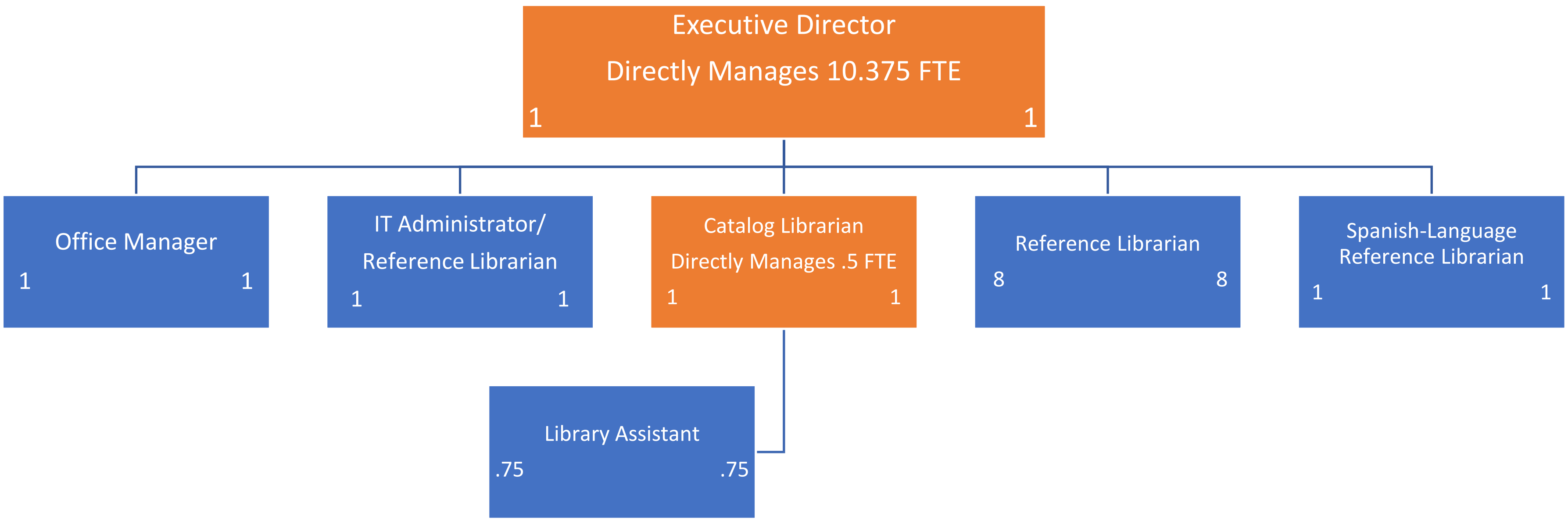
Summary

The Texas State Law Library is a model nation-wide of effective and efficient service to a diverse, geographically dispersed population. We remain committed to the Judicial Branch's efforts in increasing access to justice by providing Texans of all economic backgrounds with access to current and reputable legal information resources. To continue our pursuit of this goal, we respectfully request these exceptional items to ensure that our ability to provide high quality customer service meets the high demand for legal information.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Small
Executive Director
Texas State Law Library

Organizational Chart
State Law Library – Agency 243



State Law Library Governing Board	The Honorable Evan A. Young, Supreme Court - Chair
	The Honorable Kevin Yeary, Court of Criminal Appeals
	Mr. Michael Cotton, Office of the Attorney General

CERTIFICATE

Agency Name State Law Library

This is to certify that the information contained in the agency Legislative Appropriations Request filed with the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) and the Office of the Governor, Budget and Policy Division, is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the electronic submission to the LBB via the Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST) and the PDF file submitted via the LBB Document Submission application are identical.

Additionally, should it become likely at any time that unexpended balances will accrue for any account, the LBB and the Office of the Governor will be notified in writing in accordance with Senate Bill 1, Article IX, Section 7.01, Eighty-ninth Legislature, Regular Session, 2025.

Chief Executive Office or Presiding Judge

Signature

Amy Small

Printed Name

Executive Director

Title

8/13/26

Date

Board or Commission Chair

Signature

Evan A. Young

Printed Name

Texas Supreme Court Justice

Title

13 August 2026

Date

Chief Financial Officer

Signature

Amy Small

Printed Name

Executive Director

Title

8/13/26

Date

243 State Law Library
Appropriation Years: 2028-29

	GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS		GR DEDICATED		FEDERAL FUNDS		OTHER FUNDS		ALL FUNDS		EXCEPTIONAL ITEM FUNDS
	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2026-27	2028-29	2028-29
Goal: 1. Administration and Operations											
1.1.1. Administration And Operations	3,126,175	2,983,890					14,000	14,000	3,140,175	2,997,890	128,393
Total, Goal	**3,126,175**	**2,983,890**					**14,000**	**14,000**	**3,140,175**	**2,997,890**	**128,393**
Total, Agency	**3,126,175**	**2,983,890**					**14,000**	**14,000**	**3,140,175**	**2,997,890**	**128,393**
Total FTEs									**14.0**	**14.0**	**0.0**

243 State Law Library

Goal / *Objective* / STRATEGY	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
1 Administration and Operations					
1 *Administration and Operations*					
1 ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS	1,393,317	1,595,087	1,545,088	1,498,945	1,498,945
TOTAL, GOAL 1	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
TOTAL, AGENCY STRATEGY REQUEST	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
TOTAL, AGENCY RIDER APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST*				**$0**	**$0**
GRAND TOTAL, AGENCY REQUEST	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
METHOD OF FINANCING:					
General Revenue Funds:					
1 General Revenue Fund	1,384,495	1,588,087	1,538,088	1,491,945	1,491,945
SUBTOTAL	**$1,384,495**	**$1,588,087**	**$1,538,088**	**$1,491,945**	**$1,491,945**
Other Funds:					
666 Appropriated Receipts	8,822	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
SUBTOTAL	**$8,822**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**

243 State Law Library

Goal / *Objective* / STRATEGY	**Exp 2025**	**Est 2026**	**Bud 2027**	**Req 2028**	**Req 2029**

*Rider appropriations for the historical years are included in the strategy amounts.

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

METHOD OF FINANCING	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
GENERAL REVENUE					
1 General Revenue Fund					
REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS					
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	$1,331,555	$1,588,087	$1,538,088	$0	$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2028-29 GAA)	$0	$0	$0	$1,491,945	$1,491,945
LAPSED APPROPRIATIONS					
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	$(15,860)	$0	$0	$0	$0
UNEXPENDED BALANCES AUTHORITY					
Art IX, Sec 14.05, UB Authority within the Same Biennium (2024-25 GAA)	$68,800	$0	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL, General Revenue Fund	**$1,384,495**	**$1,588,087**	**$1,538,088**	**$1,491,945**	**$1,491,945**
TOTAL, ALL GENERAL REVENUE	**$1,384,495**	**$1,588,087**	**$1,538,088**	**$1,491,945**	**$1,491,945**

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

METHOD OF FINANCING	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
OTHER FUNDS					
666 Appropriated Receipts					
REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS					
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	$7,500	$0	$0	$0	$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	$0	$7,000	$7,000	$0	$0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2028-29 GAA)	$0	$0	$0	$7,000	$7,000
RIDER APPROPRIATION					
Art IX, Sec 8.01, Acceptance of Gifts of Money (2024-25 GAA)	$52,569	$0	$0	$0	$0
Receipts collected in excess of appropriation	$1,329	$0	$0	$0	$0
Art IX, Sec 8.01, Acceptance of Gifts of Money (2024-25 GAA)	$(52,576)	$0	$0	$0	$0

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

METHOD OF FINANCING	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
OTHER FUNDS					
Art IX, Sec 8.01, Acceptance of Gifts of Money (2026-27 GAA)	$0	$52,576	$0	$0	$0
Art IX, Sec 8.01, Acceptance of Gifts of Money (2026-27 GAA)	$0	$(52,576)	$52,576	$0	$0
Art IX, Sec 8.01, Acceptance of Gifts of Money (2026-27 GAA)	$0	$0	$(52,576)	$52,576	$0
Art IX, Sec 8.01, Acceptance of Gifts of Money (2028-29 GAA)	$0	$0	$0	$(52,576)	$52,576
Art IX, Sec 8.01, Acceptance of Gifts of Money (2028-29 GAA)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$(52,576)
TOTAL, Appropriated Receipts	**$8,822**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**
TOTAL, ALL OTHER FUNDS	**$8,822**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

METHOD OF FINANCING	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	Req 2028	Req 2029
GRAND TOTAL	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
FULL-TIME-EQUIVALENT POSITIONS					
REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS					
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	0.0	14.0	14.0	0.0	0.0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2028-29 GAA)	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	14.0
UNAUTHORIZED NUMBER OVER (BELOW) CAP					
Unauthorized number below cap	(0.7)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL, ADJUSTED FTES	**11.3**	**14.0**	**14.0**	**14.0**	**14.0**
NUMBER OF 100% FEDERALLY FUNDED FTEs	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**

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OBJECT OF EXPENSE	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
1001 SALARIES AND WAGES	$766,792	$829,995	$880,499	$880,499	$880,499
1002 OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	$21,764	$14,209	$10,620	$11,480	$12,300
2001 PROFESSIONAL FEES AND SERVICES	$6,362	$6,362	$24,000	$24,000	$24,000
2003 CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	$1,935	$3,000	$3,000	$1,500	$1,500
2005 TRAVEL	$7,511	$4,102	$4,760	$600	$0
2006 RENT - BUILDING	$240	$240	$240	$240	$240
2007 RENT - MACHINE AND OTHER	$3,427	$3,480	$3,500	$2,400	$2,400
2009 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	$330,004	$464,799	$349,695	$310,226	$324,753
5000 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	$255,282	$268,900	$268,774	$268,000	$253,253
OOE Total (Excluding Riders)	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
OOE Total (Riders)					
Grand Total	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**

2.D. Summary of Base Request Objective Outcomes

90th Regular Session, Agency Submission, Version 1
Automated Budget and Evaluation system of Texas (ABEST)

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Goal/ *Objective* / **Outcome**	**Exp 2025**	**Est 2026**	**Bud 2027**	**BL 2028**	**BL 2029**
1 Administration and Operations					
1 Administration and Operations					
KEY 1 Percent of Positive Evaluations of Library Service by Library Users					
	95.13%	95.73%	95.00%	90.00%	90.00%

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

Priority	Item	2028 GR and GR/GR Dedicated	2028 All Funds	2028 FTEs	2029 GR and GR Dedicated	2029 All Funds	2029 FTEs	Biennium GR and GR Dedicated	Biennium All Funds
1	Cost of living increase	$26,764	$26,764	0.0	$54,331	$54,331	0.0	$81,095	$81,095
2	Lexis and Westlaw	$19,377	$19,377	0.0	$27,921	$27,921	0.0	$47,298	$47,298
Total, Exceptional Items Request		**$46,141**	**$46,141**	**0.0**	**$82,252**	**$82,252**	**0.0**	**$128,393**	**$128,393**
Method of Financing									
General Revenue		$46,141	$46,141		$82,252	$82,252		$128,393	$128,393
General Revenue - Dedicated									
Federal Funds									
Other Funds									
		$46,141	**$46,141**		**$82,252**	**$82,252**		**$128,393**	**$128,393**
Full Time Equivalent Positions				**0.0**			**0.0**		
Number of 100% Federally Funded FTEs				**0.0**			**0.0**		

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

Goal/*Objective*/**STRATEGY**	**Base 2028**	**Base 2029**	**Exceptional 2028**	**Exceptional 2029**	**Total Request 2028**	**Total Request 2029**
1 Administration and Operations						
1 *Administration and Operations*						
1 ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS	$1,498,945	$1,498,945	$46,141	$82,252	$1,545,086	$1,581,197
TOTAL, GOAL 1	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**	**$46,141**	**$82,252**	**$1,545,086**	**$1,581,197**
TOTAL, AGENCY STRATEGY REQUEST	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**	**$46,141**	**$82,252**	**$1,545,086**	**$1,581,197**
TOTAL, AGENCY RIDER APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST						
GRAND TOTAL, AGENCY REQUEST	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**	**$46,141**	**$82,252**	**$1,545,086**	**$1,581,197**

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

Goal/*Objective*/**STRATEGY**	**Base 2028**	**Base 2029**	**Exceptional 2028**	**Exceptional 2029**	**Total Request 2028**	**Total Request 2029**
General Revenue Funds:						
1 General Revenue Fund	$1,491,945	$1,491,945	$46,141	$82,252	$1,538,086	$1,574,197
	$1,491,945	**$1,491,945**	**$46,141**	**$82,252**	**$1,538,086**	**$1,574,197**
Other Funds:						
666 Appropriated Receipts	7,000	7,000	0	0	7,000	7,000
	$7,000	**$7,000**	**$0**	**$0**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**	**$46,141**	**$82,252**	**$1,545,086**	**$1,581,197**
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS	**14.0**	**14.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**14.0**	**14.0**

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

Goal/ *Objective* / **Outcome**	**BL 2028**	**BL 2029**	**Excp 2028**	**Excp 2029**	**Total Request 2028**	**Total Request 2029**
1 Administration and Operations						
1 *Administration and Operations*						
KEY 1 Percent of Positive Evaluations of Library Service by Library Users						
	90.00%	90.00%			90.00%	90.00%

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GOAL: 1 Administration and Operations

OBJECTIVE: 1 Administration and Operations

STRATEGY: 1 Administration and Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
Output Measures:						
1	Total Patrons	9,633.00	7,882.00	8,000.00	8,250.00	8,250.00
2	Total Items Added	911.00	1,228.00	1,100.00	900.00	900.00
3	Patron Interactions	7,902.00	6,785.00	7,000.00	7,200.00	7,200.00
4	Resource Utilization	8,211,275.00	6,421,222.00	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00
5	Number of Electronic Resources Available to Registered Users	373,329.00	398,881.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
Objects of Expense:						
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	$766,792	$829,995	$880,499	$880,499	$880,499
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	$21,764	$14,209	$10,620	$11,480	$12,300
2001	PROFESSIONAL FEES AND SERVICES	$6,362	$6,362	$24,000	$24,000	$24,000
2003	CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	$1,935	$3,000	$3,000	$1,500	$1,500
2005	TRAVEL	$7,511	$4,102	$4,760	$600	$0
2006	RENT - BUILDING	$240	$240	$240	$240	$240
2007	RENT - MACHINE AND OTHER	$3,427	$3,480	$3,500	$2,400	$2,400
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	$330,004	$464,799	$349,695	$310,226	$324,753
5000	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	$255,282	$268,900	$268,774	$268,000	$253,253
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**

243 State Law Library

GOAL: 1 Administration and Operations
OBJECTIVE: 1 Administration and Operations
STRATEGY: 1 Administration and Operations

Service Categories:
Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029
Method of Financing:						
1	General Revenue Fund	$1,384,495	$1,588,087	$1,538,088	$1,491,945	$1,491,945
SUBTOTAL, MOF (GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS)		**$1,384,495**	**$1,588,087**	**$1,538,088**	**$1,491,945**	**$1,491,945**
Method of Financing:						
666	Appropriated Receipts	$8,822	$7,000	$7,000	$7,000	$7,000
SUBTOTAL, MOF (OTHER FUNDS)		**$8,822**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**	**$7,000**
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE (INCLUDING RIDERS)					**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE (EXCLUDING RIDERS)		**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:		**11.3**	**14.0**	**14.0**	**14.0**	**14.0**

STRATEGY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

243 State Law Library

GOAL: 1 Administration and Operations

OBJECTIVE: 1 Administration and Operations

STRATEGY: 1 Administration and Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029

The mission of the State Law Library is to provide access to current and reliable legal information in a format that can be understood by the greatest number of users. The information we provide must be usable for everyone in our wide range of patrons: from the general public to educated legal professionals like judges, court staff, and attorneys. Library staff provides assistance to state agency personnel and members of the public in locating specific, relevant information in internal and external sources, thus facilitating effective legal counsel and decision making. Print books are available at the main library location and mini "branch" collections in the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals. Considerable digital resources are available statewide through the Library's website. As one of the few public law libraries in Texas, and the only one with the mandate to serve all Texans, the Library supports legal research and access to information by 1) maintaining a collection of current and historical printed materials, 2) acquiring legal materials for the Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals, 3) providing legal information online to citizens throughout the state through its website, 4) providing instructional services regarding legal research and the Texas courts system, 5) fulfilling requests for copies for prison inmates and their attorneys, and 6) assisting self-represented litigants with the aim of supporting those who cannot afford an attorney.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS IMPACTING STRATEGY:

Success in this strategy is determined by the quality of the staff and the quality of the informational materials in our collection. As the law is continuously changing, it is necessary for the Library to maintain an up-to-date collection of materials – both online and in print. It is also necessary to have a staff with the specialized knowledge to show any patron how to use these materials effectively.

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GOAL:	1	Administration and Operations		
OBJECTIVE:	1	Administration and Operations	Service Categories:	
STRATEGY:	1	Administration and Operations	Service: 01	Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Exp 2025	Est 2026	Bud 2027	BL 2028	BL 2029

EXPLANATION OF BIENNIAL CHANGE (includes Rider amounts):

STRATEGY BIENNIAL TOTAL - ALL FUNDS		BIENNIAL	EXPLANATION OF BIENNIAL CHANGE	
Base Spending (Est 2026 + Bud 2027)	Baseline Request (BL 2028 + BL 2029)	CHANGE	$ Amount	Explanation(s) of Amount (must specify MOFs and FTEs)
$3,140,175	$2,997,890	$(142,285)	$(50,000)	One-time funding of $50,000 was appropriated to the agency by the 89th Legislature related to the initial costs of translating our website into Spanish.
			$(92,285)	3% cut to baseline funding.
			$(142,285)	**Total of Explanation of Biennial Change**

SUMMARY TOTALS:

OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
METHODS OF FINANCE (INCLUDING RIDERS):				**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
METHODS OF FINANCE (EXCLUDING RIDERS):	**$1,393,317**	**$1,595,087**	**$1,545,088**	**$1,498,945**	**$1,498,945**
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:	**11.3**	**14.0**	**14.0**	**14.0**	**14.0**

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
	Item Name: Judiciary-Wide Inflation Relief and Staff Retention and Recruitment		
	Item Priority: 1		
	IT Component: No		
	Anticipated Out-year Costs: No		
	Involve Contracts > $50,000: No		
	Includes Funding for the Following Strategy or Strategies: 01-01-01 Administration and Operations		
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:			
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	26,631	54,061
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	133	270
	TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE	**$26,764**	**$54,331**
METHOD OF FINANCING:			
1	General Revenue Fund	26,764	54,331
	TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING	**$26,764**	**$54,331**

DESCRIPTION / JUSTIFICATION:

Recruiting and retaining excellent judicial-branch staff is essential to the fair and efficient administration of justice in Texas. The rising cost of living combined with the draw of more lucrative employment at other government agencies and the private sector continue to create staffing challenges for the courts. A 3% annual increase in staff pay throughout the Article IV courts and agencies would help maintain the judicial branch's position in the competitive market for talented, qualified, and experienced lawyers and staff. In conjunction with the rest of the judicial branch, the State Law Library requests a 3% increase in staff salaries in Fiscal Year 28 and an additional 3% increase in Fiscal Year 29.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS:

Even after the increased funding received in the 89th Legislative Session, staff of the Article IV Courts and Agencies remain impacted by increasing costs due to inflation and the draw of more lucrative employment opportunities in state governmental entities outside the judicial branch, the federal courts, and the private legal sector.

PCLS TRACKING KEY:

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029

Item Name: Support for LexisNexis and Westlaw subscriptions
Item Priority: 2
IT Component: No
Anticipated Out-year Costs: No
Involve Contracts > $50,000: No
Includes Funding for the Following Strategy or Strategies: 01-01-01 Administration and Operations

OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:

		Excp 2028	Excp 2029
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	19,377	27,921
	TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE	**$19,377**	**$27,921**

METHOD OF FINANCING:

		Excp 2028	Excp 2029
1	General Revenue Fund	19,377	27,921
	TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING	**$19,377**	**$27,921**

DESCRIPTION / JUSTIFICATION:

Our professional librarians rely heavily on two main legal research databases for much of our research: LexisNexis and Westlaw. Each company offers a range of subscription tiers, each with a successively higher cost and greater number of advanced features. In the past few years, the higher tiers have incorporated Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools at a significantly higher cost. Periodically, the publishers will sunset the lowest tier in the interest of moving their subscribers to the more advanced versions of their platform.

We have been informed that the next round of sunsetting will mean that all tiers will now include AI-enhanced features. With this change, even the least expensive tier will be a considerable increase in price from our current subscription. Historically, the Library has always maintained our subscriptions at the lowest tier and has negotiated with vendors in the interest of cost savings. Based on initial estimates we have received for our contract renewals, the least expensive option will cost approximately 40% more than our current subscription. Even if we can forestall a move to the much more expensive AI-enhanced tiers, a increase of approximately 15% may be unavoidable.

Our librarians' ability to quickly and efficiently retrieve information and documents for our patrons depends upon access to these databases. It is not possible for our librarians to only use one of the two services: each has a different, but equally crucial, set of resources. Should we be forced to cancel these services due to the unavailability of funds, library patrons will experience slower turnaround times as the librarians will often need to retrieve information in print. The responsiveness of our librarians and their ability to provide information in a timely manner is critical in legal situations that often have strict deadlines. Thus, we are requesting an exceptional item to cover the significant increase in subscription costs of these services.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL FACTORS:

The legal information industry is moving towards the incorporation of AI tools. This push has led the providers of Westlaw and LexisNexis to eliminate their least expensive subscription tier, which lacked AI tools.

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029

The necessity of these services to our librarians' research means we must continue our subscription, albeit at a greatly increased cost.

PCLS TRACKING KEY:

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

Code Description	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name: Judiciary-Wide Inflation Relief and Staff Retention and Recruitment		
Allocation to Strategy: 1-1-1 Administration and Operations		
STRATEGY IMPACT ON OUTCOME MEASURES:		
1 Percent of Positive Evaluations of Library Service by Library Users	4.00%	4.00%
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:		
1001 SALARIES AND WAGES	26,631	54,061
1002 OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	133	270
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE	**$26,764**	**$54,331**
METHOD OF FINANCING:		
1 General Revenue Fund	26,764	54,331
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING	**$26,764**	**$54,331**
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS (FTE):	0.0	0.0

Agency code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

Code Description	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
Item Name: Support for LexisNexis and Westlaw subscriptions		
Allocation to Strategy: 1-1-1 Administration and Operations		
STRATEGY IMPACT ON OUTCOME MEASURES:		
1 Percent of Positive Evaluations of Library Service by Library Users	2.00%	2.00%
OUTPUT MEASURES:		
4 Resource Utilization	3,000.00	3,000.00
5 Number of Electronic Resources Available to Registered Users	200.00	200.00
OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:		
2009 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	19,377	27,921
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE	**$19,377**	**$27,921**
METHOD OF FINANCING:		
1 General Revenue Fund	19,377	27,921
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING	**$19,377**	**$27,921**
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS (FTE):	0.0	0.0

DATE: **8/13/2026**
TIME: **10:30:38AM**

Agency Code: **243** Agency name: **State Law Library**

GOAL: 1 Administration and Operations
OBJECTIVE: 1 Administration and Operations
STRATEGY: 1 Administration and Operations

Service Categories:
Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Excp 2028	Excp 2029
	OUTPUT MEASURES:		
4	Resource Utilization	3,000.00	3,000.00
5	Number of Electronic Resources Available to Registered Users	200.00	200.00
	OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:		
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	26,631	54,061
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	133	270
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	19,377	27,921
	Total, Objects of Expense	**$46,141**	**$82,252**
	METHOD OF FINANCING:		
1	General Revenue Fund	46,141	82,252
	Total, Method of Finance	**$46,141**	**$82,252**

EXCEPTIONAL ITEM(S) INCLUDED IN STRATEGY:

Judiciary-Wide Inflation Relief and Staff Retention and Recruitment

Support for LexisNexis and Westlaw subscriptions

Agency Code: **243** Agency: **State Law Library**

COMPARISON TO STATEWIDE HUB PROCUREMENT GOALS

A. Fiscal Year - HUB Expenditure Information

Statewide HUB Goals	Procurement Category	HUB Expenditures FY 2024 % Goal	% Actual	Diff	Actual $	Total Expenditures FY 2024	HUB Expenditures FY 2025 % Goal	% Actual	Diff	Actual $	Total Expenditures FY 2025
11.2%	Heavy Construction	11.2 %	0.0%	-11.2%	$0	$0	11.2 %	0.0%	-11.2%	$0	$0
21.1%	Building Construction	21.1 %	0.0%	-21.1%	$0	$0	21.1 %	0.0%	-21.1%	$0	$0
32.9%	Special Trade	32.9 %	0.0%	-32.9%	$0	$0	32.9 %	0.0%	-32.9%	$0	$0
23.7%	Professional Services	23.7 %	0.0%	-23.7%	$0	$0	23.7 %	0.0%	-23.7%	$0	$0
26.0%	Other Services	26.0 %	0.0%	-26.0%	$0	$239,699	26.0 %	0.0%	-26.0%	$0	$299,265
21.1%	Commodities	21.1 %	0.6%	-20.5%	$92	$16,614	21.1 %	0.0%	-21.1%	$0	$17,019
	Total Expenditures		**0.0%**		**$92**	**$256,313**		**0.0%**		**$0**	**$316,284**

B. Assessment of Attainment of HUB Procurement Goals

Attainment:

The State Law Library attained 0 of 2, or 0%, of the applicable agency HUB procurement goals in fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Applicability:

The following procurement categories are not applicable to this agency:

Heavy construction - we are a tenant in a state-owned and -managed building and do not construct real property.
Building construction - as we are a tenant with no plans to move to a building owned by the agency, we do not expend any funds in this category.
Special trade construction - we do not expend any funds in this category as we are a tenant in a state-owned and -managed building.
Professional services - our agency does not hire or contract with professionals or consultants.

Factors Affecting Attainment:

There were no expenditures in several of the HUB Categories. It is difficult for the Library to attain higher results in the "Other Services" category because the majority of those expenditures are for library-specific services or publications that are available from one vendor only.

C. Good-Faith Efforts to Increase HUB Participation

Outreach Efforts and Mentor-Protégé Programs:

The Library does not participate in the Mentor-Protégé program. Our agency's relatively low number of FTEs designated to purchasing and the fact that many of our purchases are sole-source requisitions makes it difficult for us to pursue outreach.

Agency Code: **243** Agency: **State Law Library**

HUB Program Staffing:

As we only have approximately .75 FTE devoted to purchasing-related duties, and the majority of these purchases are sole-source, we do not have any FTEs dedicated to increasing the level of HUB participation.

Current and Future Good-Faith Efforts:

Most of the agency's purchases are for legal materials, library supplies, or technology for which there is not a choice of vendor. For the remaining purchases, the Library surveys the marketplace to determine if there is a HUB vendor available and if that vendor has a competitive price. The Library places very few contracts out for bid, but when bids do go out, the Library determines if HUB vendors are available and encourages them to participate in the bidding process.

6.B. Current Biennium Onetime Expenditure Schedule
Strategy Allocation from 2026-27 Biennium to 2028-29 Biennium

Agency Code:	Agency Name:	Prepared By:	Date:
243	State Law Library	Amy Small	7/31/26

2026-27		2028-29
PROJECT:	Spanish translation of Library website	**PROJECT:**
ALLOCATION TO STRATEGY:		**ALLOCATION TO STRATEGY:**

Strategy Code	OOE/MOF Code	Strategy Allocation	Estimated 2026	Budgeted 2027	Requested 2028	Requested 2029
		Object of Expense:				
A.1.1.	2009	Other operating expenses	$50,000	$0	$0	$0
		Total, Object of Expense	$50,000	$0	$0	$0
		Method of Financing:				
A.1.1.	1	General Revenue	$50,000	$0	$0	$0
		Total, Method of Financing	$50,000	$0	$0	$0

Project Description for the 2026-27 Biennium:

Agency received $50,000 for translation services to translate portions of the Library website into Spanish.

Project Description and Allocation Purpose for the 2028-29 Biennium:

No 2028-29 expenses are expected.

Capital Expenditure Detail

Agency Code:	Court/Agency:	Strategy:	Prepared by:	Date:	Strategy:
243	State Law Library	Administration & Operations	Amy Small	7/31/2026	A.1.1

Itemization by Capital Expenditure Category		Number of Units	Unit Cost	Expended	Estimated	Budgeted	Requested	Requested
Category	Description of Items			2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
5007	Books and Prerecorded Reference Materials	varies	varies	$ 255,282.05	$ 268,900.00	$ 268,774.00	$ 268,000.00	$ 253,253.00
	TOTAL			255,282	268,900	268,774	268,000	253,253
	GRAND TOTAL: CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							