

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING**

Use of Award Funds Policy

- (a) The Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding (ARPA Committee) finds that:
- (1) The Executive Branch has allocated up to \$96 million in ARPA funds to the Judicial Branch for the limited purpose of addressing backlogs of court cases, prioritizing cases involving serious violent felonies;
 - (2) The overall performance period for the ARPA funds allocated to the Judicial Branch by the Executive Branch is January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2026;
 - (3) Any ARPA funds allocated to the Judicial Branch that are not expended for eligible uses by December 31, 2026, will be forfeited to the Executive Branch;
 - (4) It is the duty of each recipient of ARPA grant funds awarded by the ARPA Committee to spend their award funds within each award period for the purpose of addressing backlogs of court cases, prioritizing cases involving serious violent felonies; and
 - (5) Some recipients of ARPA funds awarded by the ARPA Committee are not spending such funds at a pace sufficient to fulfil the purpose of addressing backlogs of court cases, prioritizing cases involving serious violent felonies, within the performance period above.
- (b) It is the intent of the ARPA Committee in enacting this Policy to ensure that the up to \$96 million in ARPA funds allocated by the Executive Branch to the Judicial Branch is spent within the performance period to accomplish the purpose of addressing backlogs of court cases, prioritizing cases involving serious violent felonies.
- (c) Consistent with sections (a) and (b) of this Policy, each recipient awarded an ARPA grant by the ARPA Committee:
- (1) Shall spend at least 25 percent of the awarded funds by September 30, 2024, the last day of the third quarter of calendar year (CY) 2024;
 - (2) Shall spend at least 37.5 percent of the awarded funds by December 31, 2024, the last day of the fourth quarter of CY 2024;
 - (3) Shall spend at least 50 percent of the awarded funds by March 31, 2025, the last day of the first quarter of CY 2025;
 - (4) Shall spend at least 62.5 percent of the awarded funds by June 30, 2025, the last day of the second quarter of CY 2025; and
 - (5) Shall spend at least 75 percent by September 30, 2025, the last day of the third quarter of CY 2025.
- (d) Subject to section (e), any recipient found in violation of this Policy by the ARPA Committee shall be subject to the following:
- (1) All unused ARPA funds from such award shall revert back to the ARPA Committee and may be reallocated to other applicants or awardees; and
 - (2) The ARPA Committee may deny future requests for ARPA funds from any recipient found in violation of this Policy.
- (e) The ARPA Committee may, in its discretion:
- (1) Accept appeals from recipients regarding recoupment decisions made under this Policy; and
 - (2) Waive the requirements of this Policy.

(f) The Committee may deny future requests for ARPA funds from any recipient subject to recoupment under this Policy.

(g) This Policy:

(1) Shall not apply to ARPA funds awarded for the purpose of audio-visual equipment modernization in an existing courtroom; and

(2) Shall apply to all other current and future ARPA grant funds awarded by the ARPA Committee.