

**City of Alexandria, Virginia  
FY 2027 Proposed Operating Budget & CIP  
Budget Questions & Answers**

**April 7, 2026**

**Question:**

What is the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court (JDR) receiving from the Commonwealth for the virtual court pilot program and what would be needed to improve technology including providing access at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center and Sheltercare program?

**Response:**

As part of the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Virginia Supreme Court's virtual court pilot program, the state has already provided the Alexandria JDR with audio/visual (A/V) equipment including cameras, display monitors, touch pads for the judges' benches in the two JDR courtrooms and network lines.

The Alexandria JDR (in consultation with the city's Information Technology Services Department) estimates a total additional cost of \$116,200 to improve technology in both courtrooms. The cost to make upgrades in only one courtroom would be \$58,100.

The additional technology improvements would include installation of screens and input capabilities at counsel tables and at the benches, and will provide the infrastructure necessary to integrate evidence presentation seamlessly into proceedings involving remote participants. As currently configured, the pilot program does not include the equipment needed to effectively display exhibits or play video evidence for individuals appearing remotely. Additional technology investments would allow the Court to fully utilize the benefits of remote hearing capability for clients in the Juvenile Detention Center and Sheltercare.

[The attached memo provides specific input from JDR Chief Judge Sean Sherlock.](#)