

Sarpy County, Nebraska
Services Provided to the State of Nebraska/Unfunded Mandates
November 29, 2018

Following is a partial list of services provided to the State of Nebraska without reimbursement and unfunded mandates.

Register of Deeds	The Sarpy County Register of Deeds office does nearly all of the work required to file land records in the County, yet was required to send over \$2.4MM of the documentary stamp tax collected to the State in the 2018 Fiscal Year.	\$2,443,672
County Court	The Sarpy County Court is required to remit certain court costs to the State. If those fees cannot be collected from defendants in the case the County is required to provide funds for those fees, including Filing Fees, Judges Retirement and Law Enforcement Improvement Fund. (See Note 1).	\$76,168
County Court Clerk	Sarpy County is required to provide 3,436 square feet of space for this department including all custodial services and utilities. At a square foot cost of \$20, the value of this space is estimated at \$68,720.	\$68,720
County Court	All County Court staff are employees of the State of Nebraska. Sarpy County is required to provide the operating budget for the Sarpy County Court including supplies, court costs (as described above), attorney fees, and equipment including computers. (See Note 1).	\$63,354
Juvenile Probation	Sarpy County is required to provide 2,802 square feet of space for this department including all custodial services and utilities. At a square foot cost of \$20, the annual cost of this space is estimated at \$56,040. In addition, recent legislation added 6-8 new staff members to the Juvenile Probation Office and Sarpy County was compelled to rent an additional 3,800 square feet of office space at a cost of \$37,570 not including utilities and custodial.	\$93,610
Juvenile Probation	Juvenile Probation staff are State employees. Sarpy County is required to provide some operating expenses for this department such as office and medical supplies, computers and furniture. (See Note 1).	\$22,551
District Judge	The Sarpy County District Court Judges are State employees. Sarpy County is required to pay for the bailiff (personal secretary) for each judge and for a law clerk that is shared by all three judges. Personnel costs are \$306,906 (not including health & dental insurance). Sarpy County also pays for expenses such as Court Appointed Counsel, law library costs, supplies, computers and furniture. (See Note 1).	\$615,756

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Juvenile Judge	The Sarpy County Juvenile Court Judges are State employees. Sarpy County is required to pay for the bailiff (personal secretary) for each judge and for a file clerk and a part-time receptionist. Personnel costs are \$212,871. Sarpy County also pays for Court Appointed Attorneys, evaluations and supplies. (See Note 1). Legislation regarding Court Appointed Attorney and Guardian Ad Litem fees caused the Attorney Fees line item in this budget to increase by \$92,640 or 31.7% in the 2018 FY over the 2015 FY.	\$609,011
Courtrooms	Sarpy County is required to provide courtrooms for each County, Juvenile and District Courts including custodial services and utilities. At a square foot cost of \$20, the annual cost of these spaces are estimated as follows: County Court: 11,553 square feet - \$231,060 Juvenile Court: 4,190 square feet - \$ 83,800 District Court: 14,545 square feet - \$290,900	\$605,760
Courtroom Security	Sarpy County is required to provide security in all courtrooms. This includes sworn deputies, civilian security officers and various security equipment. Actual cost for Court Services Department for 2017 FY was \$2,424,843. At least 60% of this cost was for court security. (See Note 1).	\$1,454,906
Adult Probation	Adult Probation staff are State employees. Sarpy County is required to provide some operating expenses for this department such as wireless cards, supplies, computers and furniture. (A portion of the cost is covered by Cass & Otoe Counties.) (See Note 1). This includes \$50,661 paid for 4,500 square feet rented for a day reporting center.	\$74,492
Adult Probation	Sarpy County is required to provide 7,140 square feet of space for this department for offices and drug testing including all custodial services and utilities. At a square foot cost of \$20, the annual cost of this space is estimated at \$142,800.	\$142,800
Health & Human Services	Department of Health and Human Services staff are State employees. Sarpy County is required to provide 4,000 square feet at no charge, including custodial service and utilities. The cost for the 2017 FY for the space at Brentwood Square was \$65,527 for 12 months of rent & utilities.	\$65,527

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Jail	Sarpy County houses prisoners on behalf of the State of Nebraska. Effective with the passage of LB 383, Sarpy County no longer receives any reimbursement for the housing of State prisoners. For the first quarter ending 9/30/2010 Sarpy County received a payment of \$97,755, which was based on a rate of \$35/day, which equates to 2,793 prisoner days per quarter or 11,172 prisoner days per year. The true cost of holding a state prisoner as calculated in the County's Indirect Cost Allocation Plan for the 2017 FY is \$152.71 per day. The 11,172 prisoner days multiplied by a daily rate of \$152.71 equals an annual cost of \$1,706,076. Please note that total prisoner days for the 2017 FY was 47,890.	\$1,706,076
Sales Tax Commission	A number of years ago the State reduced the commission the County Treasurer is eligible to retain for collecting sales taxes on motor vehicles. The County's sales tax commission loss is estimated at \$120,000. Legislation has been introduced to restore this fee.	\$120,000
Insufficient Fees	Almost all of the fees charged by County offices are set by State Statute. Many of these fees fall short of generating sufficient revenues to cover the cost of providing the required services. A few (not all inclusive) examples are: Service Fees - Writs, Warrants, etc - Sheriff Motor Vehicle Inspection Fees - Sheriff	\$\$\$
Law Enforcement Training Center	Because of insufficient State funding for the LETC, there is a significant backlog for recruit training positions. Because of the delay in enrolling recruits at the LETC, Sarpy County and several other jurisdictions have been compelled to start their own Law Enforcement Training Academy at County and City expense. The County's contribution is \$20,000 per year plus the cost of County staff provided as instructors. These costs are offset somewhat by not having to pay for mileage to Grand Island and for meals at the LETC.	\$20,000
Jail	LB 605 was passed by the Legislature in 2015. This bill changes sentencing guidelines used by the judges and will result in some prisoners being sentenced to County Jail that formerly would have been sentenced to the State Penitentiary. In addition, the bill provides that State probation officers can recommend time in County Jail as a sanction for violation of probation. It is felt that this bill has resulted in an increase in the cost of housing prisoners, although the exact monetary impact is difficult to determine. As a result of LB605, Sarpy County did receive a grant of \$22,000, however, none of these funds can be used to offset the increasing cost of housing prisoners.	\$\$\$
Total		\$ 8,182,403

NOTE 1: Cost shown is actual expense for 2018 FY.