January 17, 2018

MEMORANDUM

The current continuing resolution (CR) expires at midnight this Friday, January 19, 2018. By the end of the week, Congress hopes to pass a CR extension to provide additional time to complete work on fiscal year 2018 appropriations bills, including the Judiciary’s bill. A four week CR extension through February 16, 2018, is under consideration although there are several contentious issues that are still being negotiated. In the event a CR extension is not enacted by midnight Friday, most federal entities will have to implement shutdown plans immediately. The Judiciary, however, will not shut down and Judiciary employees should report to work as normal on Monday, January 22, 2018.

Under a lapse in appropriations scenario, the Judiciary would be able to sustain paid operations through the use of our fee authority and no-year appropriations for approximately three weeks, or through February 9, 2018. The Judiciary has sufficient fees and no-year funding to cover salaries and critical operating costs during such a
period, including costs incurred by the Supreme Court, other national courts, the Administrative Office, the Federal Judicial Center, the U.S. Sentencing Commission, and federal defender organizations (including community defender organizations). Jury trials would continue, and jurors would be paid. Payments to Criminal Justice Act panel attorneys can also continue, subject to available funding.

I will continue to keep you updated on the status of fiscal year 2018 Judiciary appropriations.

cc: Jeffrey P. Minear, Counselor to the Chief Justice
    John S. Cooke, Deputy Director, Federal Judicial Center
    Kenneth P. Cohen, Staff Director, U.S. Sentencing Commission