

Judicial Council of California

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688
courts.ca.gov

REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 26-022

For business meeting on February 20, 2026

Title

Report to the Legislature: Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2024–25

Report Type

Information

Date of Report

January 14, 2026

Submitted by

Michelle Curran, Administrative Director
Judicial Council

Contact

Jessica Devencenzi, 916-263-1374
Jessica.Devencenzi@jud.ca.gov

Executive Summary

Under Government Code section 68086(f), the Judicial Council is required to submit a report on the statewide court reporter fees collected and expenditures for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee by February 1 of each year. Judicial Council staff submitted *Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2024–25* (Attachment A), in January 2026.

Relevant Previous Reporting or Action

The aforementioned report is submitted to the Legislature annually. Reports from previous fiscal years are available on the California Courts website’s “Reports to the Legislature” webpage at courts.ca.gov/7466.htm.

Analysis/Rationale

In fiscal year 2024–25, a total of \$23.57 million in court reporter fees was collected and remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as required by Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and (2) and 68086.1.

That same fiscal year, an estimated \$84.7 million was spent for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings. This amount is an estimate because most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case type.

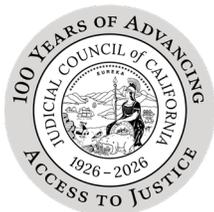
The estimate was calculated by multiplying the sum of the total amount of the budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2025 (\$216.17 million) and expenditures for contract court reporters (\$6.76 million) by 38 percent. According to the Judicial Council’s 2025–26 resource assessment study, 38 percent of court reporter need is in civil cases, which include general civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family law proceedings.

Fiscal Impact and Policy Implications

The requirements of this report do not result in any additional costs to or operational impacts on the trial courts.

Attachments and Links

1. *Attachment A: Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2024–25*



JUDICIAL COUNCIL of CALIFORNIA

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688
Tel. 415-865-4200
Fax 415-865-4205
courts.ca.gov

HON. PATRICIA GUERRERO

*Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council*

HON. BRAD R. HILL

Chair, Executive and Planning Committee

HON. STACY BOULWARE

EURIE
Chair, Legislation Committee

HON. JOAN K. IRION

Chair, Rules Committee

HON. MARIA D. HERNANDEZ

Chair, Technology Committee

HON. ANN C. MOORMAN

*Chair, Judicial Branch Budget Committee
Chair, Litigation Management Committee*

Hon. Maria Lucy Armendariz

Hon. Bunmi O. Awoniyi

Hon. Carol A. Corrigan

Hon. Charles S. Crompton

Hon. Judith K. Dulcich

Hon. Maureen F. Hallahan

Ms. Rachel W. Hill

Hon. Ash Kalra

Ms. Gretchen Nelson

Hon. Ricardo R. Ocampo

Mr. Craig M. Peters

Hon. Michael Rhoads

Ms. Dena Stone

Hon. Thomas J. Umberg

Hon. Tamara L. Wood

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Ms. Kate Bieker

Hon. Ryan Davis

Mr. Charles Johnson

Hon. Jeffrey C. Kauffman

Hon. Patricia L. Kelly

Mr. Darrel E. Parker

Mr. David W. Slayton

MS. MICHELLE CURRAN

Administrative Director

Judicial Council

January 8, 2026

Hon. John Laird

Chair, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review

Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee

1020 N Street, Room 502

Sacramento, CA 95814

Hon. Jesse Gabriel

Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget

Vice-Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee

1021 O Street, Suite 8230

Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2024–25, as required under Government Code section 68086(f)

Dear Senator Laird and Assembly Member Gabriel:

Under Government Code section 68086(f), the Judicial Council is submitting this report on court reporter fees collected and expenditures for court reporter services in 2024–25.

In 2024–25, a total of \$23.57 million in court reporter fees was collected and remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as required by Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and (2) and 68086.1. The estimated total expenditures for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings was \$84.7 million.

Fees Collected

The \$23.57 million in court reporter fee revenue includes the following:

Hon. John Laird
Hon. Jesse Gabriel
January 8, 2026
Page 2

- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(1), fees in the amount of \$999,731 were paid by parties for the services of an official court reporter in each civil proceeding lasting under one hour.
- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(2), fees in the amount of \$723,931 were paid by parties for the services of an official court reporter in each civil proceeding lasting one hour or more on the first and each succeeding judicial day that services were provided.
- Under Government Code section 68086.1, fees in the amount of \$21.84 million were deposited in the Trial Court Trust Fund from:
 - First paper filings and responses for superior court civil proceedings, other than proceedings under the Probate Code, in the superior court where the amount demanded is more than \$10,000;
 - Family law filings and responses; and
 - Marriage dissolution filings and responses.

Expenditures

The \$84.7 million in court reporter services expenditures is an estimate, as most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case type. According to the Judicial Council's 2025–26 resource assessment study, 38 percent of court reporter need is in civil cases, which include general civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family law proceedings.

Therefore, like reports for previous years, the estimate was calculated by multiplying the sum of the total amount of the budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2024 (\$216.17 million) and expenditures for contract court reporters (\$6.76 million) by 38 percent.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Jessica Devencenzi, Principal Advisor, at 916-263-1374 or Jessica.Devencenzi@jud.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Michelle Curran
Administrative Director
Judicial Council

Hon. John Laird
Hon. Jesse Gabriel
January 8, 2026
Page 3

MC/JD/mc

Enclosures

cc: Cara L. Jenkins, Legislative Counsel

Erika Contreras, Secretary of the Senate

Eric Dang, Counsel, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón

Emelyn Rodriguez, General Counsel, Office of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas

Shaun Naidu, Policy Consultant, Office of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas

Anita Lee, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Mark Jimenez, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance

Henry Ng, Budget Analyst, Department of Finance

Margie Estrada, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee

Stephanie Jordan, Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee

Liah Burnley, Principal Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee

Hans Hemann, Principal Consultant, Joint Legislative Budget Committee

Eric Csizmar, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office

Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office

Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office

Nicholas Liedtke, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee

Andrew Ironside, Chief Counsel, Assembly Public Safety Committee

Nora Brackbill, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

Jennifer Kim, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee

Kala Tailor, Committee Secretary, Assembly Appropriations Committee

Lyndsay Mitchell, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget

Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget

Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget

Cory T. Jasperson, Director, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council

Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Budget Services, Judicial Council

Fran Mueller, Deputy Director, Budget Services, Judicial Council

Alona Daniliuk, Administrative Coordinator, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council