



Judicial Council of California

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

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For business meeting on September 19, 2023

Title

Judicial Council: Judicial Branch Budget
Committee Report

Agenda Item Type

Information Only

Date of Report

August 31, 2023

Submitted by

Judicial Branch Budget Committee
Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Chair

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Executive Summary

The Judicial Branch Budget Committee assists the Judicial Council on the branch budget. The committee reviews and makes recommendations annually to the council on submitted budget change proposals. Additionally, the committee reviews and makes recommendations on the use of statewide emergency funding for the judicial branch and acts on other assignments as referred to it by the council. The Judicial Branch Budget Committee is also assigned oversight responsibility for the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee. This report summarizes the committee's activities since the last Judicial Council internal committee written report, which was submitted for the council's July 21, 2023, business meeting.

Relevant Previous Council Action

The Judicial Branch Budget Committee (Budget Committee) will have met twice and conducted one action by email in the period between the July 21, 2023, and the September 19, 2023, Judicial Council meetings.

On August 7, 2023, the Budget Committee voted to adopt the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) recommendations on allocation methodologies for funding included in Senate Bills 154 and 101 for consideration by the Judicial Council at its September 19, 2023, meeting. This funding provides backfill of revenue losses due to fee waiver changes included in the Budget Act of 2022 and elimination of criminal fees included in the Budget Act of 2023.

Also, at its August 7, 2023, meeting, the Budget Committee heard an overview of the annual Funding Methodology Subcommittee Work Plan and the funding provided for the judicial branch in the Budget Act of 2023.

On August 10, 2023, in an email action, the Budget Committee voted to approve an allocation of \$9.4 million included in the Budget Act of 2023 to support the addition of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County to the first cohort of courts implementing the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act in fiscal year (FY) 2023–24. The addition of the Los Angeles court occurred late in the 2023 budget process. The FY 2023–24 CARE Act allocations for the other participating courts were considered and approved by the Judicial Council at its July 21, 2023, meeting.

On September 18, 2023, the Budget Committee will meet to consider TCBAC recommendations for allocation increases in FY 2023–24 for three Judicial Council offices: the Center for Judicial Education and Research, to complete additional new judicial officer trainings; the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, to distribute additional grants for the Shriver Civil Counsel Program; and Information Technology, to renew an interbranch agreement with the Superior Court of Madera County to support a records digitization project. The committee will also consider FY 2023–24 allocations for the ongoing \$191,400 in Model Self-Help Pilot Program funding.