



Judicial Council of California

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 25-087

For business meeting on April 25, 2025

Title

Judicial Branch Education: Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee Name Change and Other Technical Amendments

Report Type

Action Required

Effective Date

July 1, 2025

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected

Amend Cal. Rules of Court, rules 10.40, 10.50, 10.52, 10.55, 10.56, 10.60, 10.461, 10.462, 10.468, 10.469, 10.473, and 10.481

Date of Report

March 19, 2025

Contact

Amber Barnett, 916-263-1398
amber.barnett@jud.ca.gov

Recommended by

Executive and Planning Committee
Hon. Brad R. Hill, Chair

Executive Summary

The Executive and Planning Committee recommends amending 12 rules of court to change the name of the Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee to the Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee and make other technical amendments. The revised name adopts the recent name change of the Judicial Council's education office and more accurately reflects the work of the committee.

Recommendation

The Executive and Planning Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2025:

1. Amend rule 10.50 of the California Rules of Court to change the name of the Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee to the Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee; remove the reference to the position of Administrative Director as an advisory member of the committee in subdivision (d); add vacancies for the B. E. Witkin Judicial College Steering Committee to the advisory bodies that are appointed

under the procedures provided in rule 10.32 in subdivision (e); and delete subdivision (f) related to the Chief Justice's authority to appoint the chair and vice-chair of the committee; and

2. Amend rules 10.40, 10.52, 10.55, 10.56, 10.60, 10.461, 10.462, 10.468, 10.469, 10.473, and 10.481 of the California Rules of Court to reflect the advisory committee's name change.

The proposed amended rules are attached at pages 4–10.

Relevant Previous Council Action

The Judicial Council last amended rule 10.50, effective January 1, 2019, to change the name of the Governing Committee of the Center for Judicial Education and Research to its current name, the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) Advisory Committee. When that change was made, several references to the previous name were inadvertently left in other rules.

Analysis/Rationale

The name change from “Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee” (the committee's current name) to “Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee” more accurately reflects the work of the committee and aligns with a recent change to the name of the council's education office (from “Center for Judicial Education and Research” to “Center for Judicial Education and Resources”). The proposal would also correct the committee's name in five rules that still reference the “Governing Committee of the Center for Judicial Education and Research,” the former name of the committee.

In addition, the proposal makes three technical amendments. First, the proposal eliminates the reference in rule 10.50(d)(3) to the Administrative Director as an advisory member of the committee. This provision is duplicative. Under rule 10.30(f), “[t]he Administrative Director sits as an ex officio member of each advisory body.” The Administrative Director is listed as an advisory member only in the rule governing the CJER Advisory Committee. Removing this provision is consistent with the Administrative Director's role in relation to all other advisory bodies and does not impact the Administrative Director's status as an ex officio member of the committee.

Second, the proposal adds in rule 10.50(e) the B. E. Witkin Judicial College Steering Committee to conform to the current practice of filling vacancies according to the procedures in rule 10.32. This change solidifies the procedure for filling vacancies on the B. E. Witkin Judicial College Steering Committee consistent with the way vacancies on other advisory bodies are filled.

Lastly, the proposal eliminates rule 10.50(f) related to the Chief Justice's authority to appoint the chair and vice-chair of the committee. This subdivision is duplicative of the Chief Justice's appointment authority governed by rule 10.31(c).

Policy implications

None.

Comments

Public comments were not solicited for this proposal because the recommendations are within the Judicial Council's purview to approve without circulation.

Alternatives considered

None.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

This proposal will result in no fiscal or operational costs to the courts or the Judicial Council.

Attachments and Links

1. Cal. Rules of Court, rules 10.40, 10.50, 10.52, 10.55, 10.56, 10.60, 10.461, 10.462, 10.468, 10.469, 10.473 and 10.481, at pages 4–10

Rules 10.40, 10.50, 10.52, 10.55, 10.56, 10.60, 10.461, 10.462, 10.468, 10.469, 10.473, and 10.481 of the California Rules of Court are amended, effective July 1, 2025, to read:

Rule 10.40. Appellate Advisory Committee

(a) ***

(b) Additional duty

In addition to the duties described in rule 10.34 the committee makes proposals on training for justices and appellate support staff to the ~~Governing Committee of the~~ Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources Advisory Committee.

(c) ***

Rule 10.50. Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources Advisory Committee

(a) Establishment and purpose

In 1973, the Judicial Council of California and the California Judges Association created the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER). The oversight body then known as the Governing Committee of CJER was made an advisory committee to the council in 1993 through the adoption of former rule 1029. In 2001, the rule that specifies the duties of that advisory committee was made consistent with the rules pertaining to other Judicial Council advisory committees. In 2025, the advisory committee's name was changed to the Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee to more accurately reflect the work of the committee.

(b) ***

(c) Additional duties

In addition to the duties described in rule 10.34, the committee must:

(1)–(5) ***

(6) Identify the need for and recommend the appointment of ~~education~~ curriculum committees to implement the priorities, long-range plan, and programs and products of judicial branch education; create and adopt procedures for their operation; and review and approve their projects and products;

(7)–(9) ***

1
2 **(d) Membership**

3
4 The committee consists of at least the following members:

5
6 (1) Eleven sitting judicial officers, including at least one appellate court justice
7 and one immediate past presiding judge;

8
9 (2) Three judicial administrators, including a supervisor or manager from a trial
10 or appellate court;

11
12 ~~(3) The Administrative Director as an advisory member;~~

13
14 ~~(4)~~(3) The president of the California Judges Association or ~~his or her~~ the president's
15 designee as an advisory member; and

16
17 ~~(5)~~(4) Other advisory members as the Chief Justice may appoint.

18
19 **(e) Nominations**

20
21 Nominations for vacant positions on the CJER Advisory Committee, ~~its education~~
22 curriculum committees, and the B. E. Witkin Judicial College Steering Committee
23 will be solicited under the procedures described in rule 10.32. The president of the
24 California Judges Association may submit nominations to the Executive and
25 Planning Committee.

26
27 ~~**(f) Chair and vice chair**~~

28
29 ~~The Chief Justice appoints the chair and vice chair. The committee may make~~
30 ~~recommendations to the Chief Justice for these two positions.~~

31
32
33 **Rule 10.52. Administrative Presiding Justices Advisory Committee**

34
35 **(a) *****

36
37 **(b) Additional duties**

38
39 In addition to the duties described in rule 10.34, the committee must:

40
41 (1)–(2) ***
42

1 (3) Make proposals on training for justices and appellate support staff to the
2 ~~Governing Committee of the~~ Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~
3 Resources Advisory Committee; and
4

5 (4) ***
6

7 (c)–(f) ***
8
9

10 **Rule 10.55. Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness**
11

12 (a) ***
13

14 (b) **Additional duties**
15

16 In addition to the duties described in rule 10.34, the committee must recommend to
17 the ~~Governing Committee of the~~ Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~
18 Resources Advisory Committee, proposals for the education and training of judicial
19 officers and court staff.
20

21 (c)–(d) ***
22
23

24 **Rule 10.56. Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee**
25

26 (a) ***
27

28 (b) **Additional duties**
29

30 In addition to the duties described in rule 10.34, the committee must:
31

32 (1)–(3) ***
33

34 (4) Recommend to the Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources
35 Advisory Committee minimum judicial education standards on collaborative
36 programs, and educational activities to support those standards;
37

38 (5)–(7) ***
39

40 (c) ***
41
42

1 **Rule 10.60. Tribal Court–State Court Forum**

2
3 (a) ***

4
5 (b) **Additional duties**

6
7 In addition to the duties described in rule 10.34, the forum must:

8
9 (1)–(4) ***

10
11 (5) Make proposals to the ~~Governing Committee of the~~ Center for Judicial
12 Education and ~~Research~~ Resources Advisory Committee on educational
13 publications and programming for judges and judicial support staff.
14

15 (c) **Membership**

16
17 The forum must include the following members:

18
19 (1)–(3) ***

20
21 (4) At least one member from each of the following committees: the Access and
22 Fairness Advisory Committee, Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee,
23 Criminal Law Advisory Committee, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory
24 Committee, ~~Governing Committee of the~~ Center for Judicial Education and
25 ~~Research~~ Resources Advisory Committee, Probate and Mental Health
26 Advisory Committee, and Traffic Advisory Committee; and
27

28 (5) ***

29
30 (d)–(e) ***
31
32

33 **Rule 10.461. Minimum education requirements for Supreme Court and Court of**
34 **Appeal justices**

35
36 (a) ***

37
38 (b) **Content-based requirement**

39
40 Each new Court of Appeal justice, within two years of confirmation of
41 appointment, must attend a new appellate justice orientation program sponsored by
42 a national provider of appellate orientation programs or by the Judicial Council's
43 Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources.

1
2 **(c)–(e) *****

3
4 **Advisory Committee Comment**

5
6 The requirements formerly contained in subdivision (e)(2) of rule 970, which has been repealed,
7 are carried forward without change in rule 10.461(b).
8

9 Judicial Council staff have developed an individual reporting form that justices may use in
10 tracking their own participation in education as required by rule 10.461(e)(1). The form is
11 available from the council’s Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources. The Chief
12 Justice and the administrative presiding justices may determine which form should be used in
13 their court and may provide the council-developed form or another appropriate form developed by
14 their court or by another court.
15

16
17 **Rule 10.462. Minimum education requirements and expectations for trial court**
18 **judges and subordinate judicial officers**

19
20 **(a)–(b) *****

21
22 **(c) Content-based requirements**

- 23
24 (1) New trial court judges and subordinate judicial officers must complete the
25 “new judge education” curriculum provided by the Judicial Council’s Center
26 for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources (CJER) as follows:
27

28 (A)–(C) ***
29

30 (2)–(4) ***
31

32 **(d)–(g) *****

33
34 **Advisory Committee Comment**

35
36 The minimum judicial education requirements in rule 10.462 do not apply to retired judges
37 seeking to sit on regular court assignment in the Temporary Assigned Judges Program. Retired
38 judges who seek to serve in the Temporary Assigned Judges Program must comply with the
39 education requirements included in the program’s standards and guidelines established by the
40 Chief Justice.
41

42 Judicial Council staff have developed an individual reporting form that judges may use in
43 tracking their own participation in education as required by rule 10.462(f). The form is available

1 from the council's Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources. Presiding judges may
2 determine which form should be used in their court and may provide the council-developed form
3 or another appropriate form developed by their court or by another court.

4
5
6 **Rule 10.468. Content-based and hours-based education for superior court judges**
7 **and subordinate judicial officers regularly assigned to hear probate**
8 **proceedings**

9
10 **(a) *****

11
12 **(b) Content-based requirements**

13
14 (1)–(2) ***

15
16 (3) The education required in (1) must be provided by the Center for Judicial
17 Education and ~~Research~~ Resources (CJER), an approved provider under rule
18 10.481(a), or education approved by the judicial officer's presiding judge as
19 meeting the education criteria specified in rule 10.481(b).

20
21 (4) ***

22
23 **(c)–(e) *****

24
25
26 **Rule 10.469. Education recommendations for justices, judges, and subordinate**
27 **judicial officers**

28
29 **(a)–(c) *****

30
31 **(d) Capital case assignment**

32
33 Judges assigned to hear a capital case should complete, before the commencement
34 of the trial, a comprehensive education program on California law and procedure
35 relevant to capital cases provided by the Center for Judicial Education and
36 ~~Research~~ Resources (CJER). A judge with a subsequent assignment to a capital
37 case should complete a periodic update course within two years before the
38 commencement of the trial. The periodic update may be provided through actual
39 classroom instruction or through any other media as determined by CJER.

40
41
42 **Rule 10.473. Minimum education requirements for trial court executive officers**
43

1 (a) ***

2
3 (b) **Content-based requirement**

- 4
5 (1) New executive officers must complete the presiding judge and court
6 executive officer orientation program provided by the Judicial Council's
7 Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources (CJER) within one
8 year of becoming an executive officer and should participate in additional
9 education during the first year.

- 10
11 (2) ***

12
13 (c)–(e) ***

14
15
16 **Rule 10.481. Approved providers; approved course criteria**

17
18 (a) **Approved providers**

19
20 The Judicial Council's Center for Judicial Education and ~~Research~~ Resources
21 (CJER) is responsible for maintaining a current list of approved providers. The list
22 of approved providers must include the Judicial Council, the California Judges
23 Association, and all California state courts. The list should also include other
24 reputable national and state organizations that regularly offer education directed to
25 justices, judges, and court personnel. The director of CJER may add or remove
26 organizations from the list of approved providers as appropriate according to the
27 criteria contained in (b). Any education program offered by any of the approved
28 providers that is relevant to the work of the courts or enhances the participants'
29 ability to perform their jobs may be applied toward the education requirements and
30 expectations stated in rules 10.461–10.479, except for the requirements stated in
31 the rules that require a specific provider or providers.

32
33 (b) ***