

Legal Services Trust Fund Commission Overview

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Judicial Council Meeting
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The State Bar of California

Mission and Purpose

Mission

The Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) is dedicated to closing the justice gap in California by increasing equitable access to legal services for low-income and underserved communities.

Purpose

The commission responsibly administers grant programs that fund local and statewide civil legal aid organizations to advance its mission. As a commission of the State Bar of California, our work advances the State Bar's efforts to support greater access to, and inclusion in, the legal system.



About the State Bar, OA&I, and LSTFC



THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

Protects the public by regulating attorneys and increases the public's access to legal representation.



OFFICE OF ACCESS & INCLUSION

To serve low-income Californians:

- Promotes Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the legal profession
- Expands access to civil justice
- Administers funds for legal aid and public defender offices



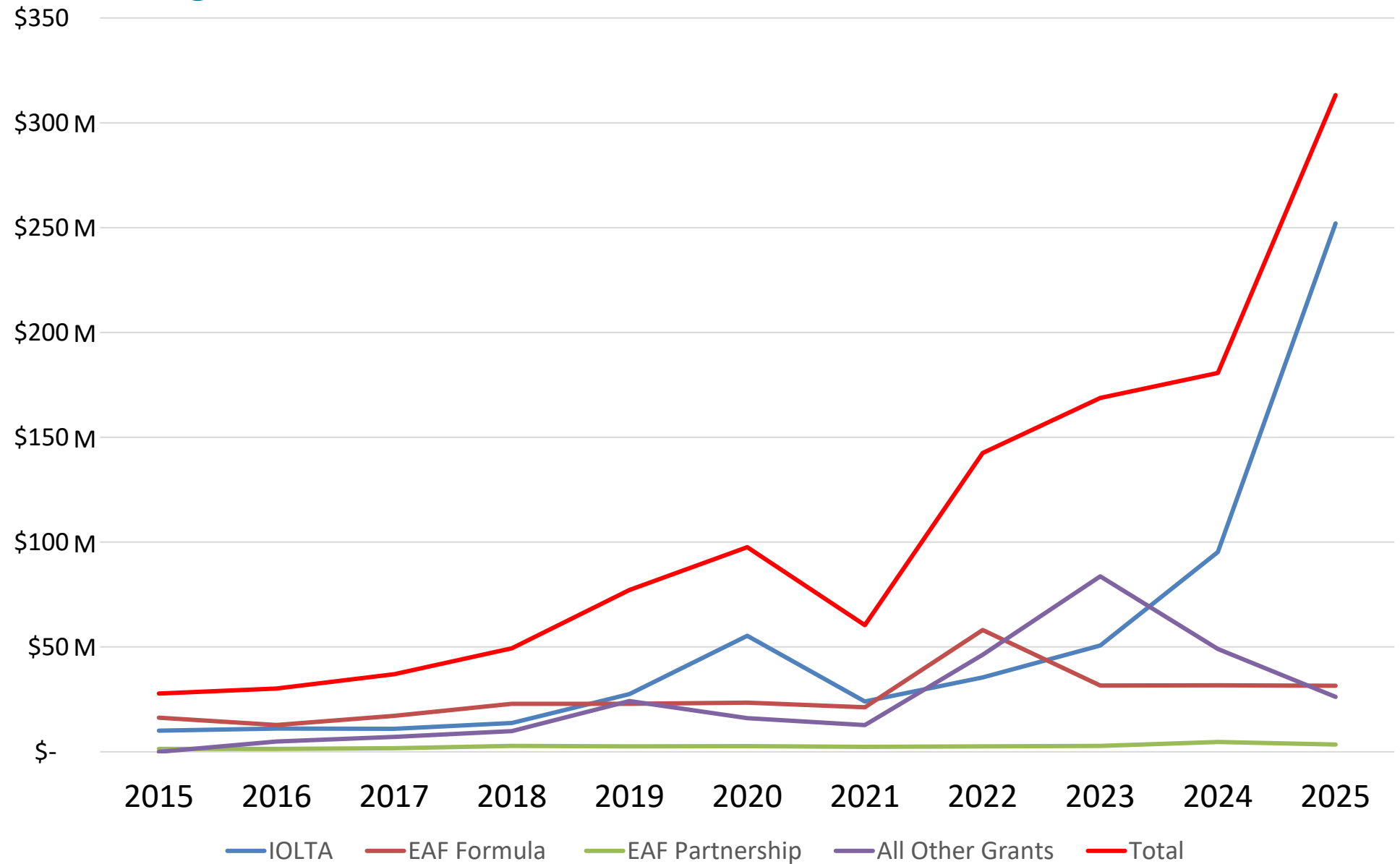
LEGAL SERVICES TRUST FUND COMMISSION

Oversees OA&I's work to fund civil legal services.



History of State Bar Legal Aid Grants

- In addition to Interest on Lawyer's Trust Accounts (IOLTA) and Equal Access Fund (EAF), the State Bar administers multiple grants. Most of those have been added since 2016.
- In the last decade, the State Bar has seen a significant increase in legal aid funding



Equal Access Fund



19% of all State Bar Grants
\$51M IOLTA Grant
\$86M Competitive Grants
\$32M EAF Grants



28,675 Low-Income Californians Assisted
82% Attorney-Client Representation for
People of Color



Representation results
\$23.8M Recovered
\$5.4M Saved




CARE Court Grants

Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE)
Act was enacted on September 14, 2022.



CARE Courts must appoint qualified legal services projects
(QLSP's) or public defenders to represent the respondent to
the petition.



In 2024–2025, the State Bar distributed \$1.16M to QLSP's
and \$16.1 M to public defenders.



Top 3 Areas of Legal Representation Provided



Housing



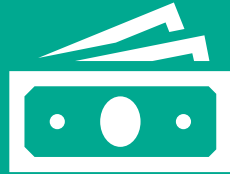
Family Law/
Domestic Violence



Immigration



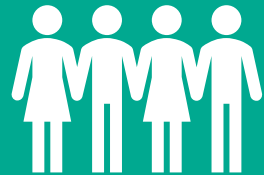
Homelessness Prevention Grants – 5 Year Impact



**\$161 Million Distributed to
QLSP' and Support Centers**



**52,008 Legal Problems
Solved**



**110,354 People in
Households Served**



**34,218 Non-Representation
Legal Assistance**
(hotline calls, workshops, outreach
events, clinics)



Court Stories

Partnership Grants



Client Stories

- 
- EAF Grant
 - Consumer Debt Grant
 - Homelessness Prevention 3
 - CARE Act



Collaborations between Judicial Council and the State Bar



**CO-SPONSORING
CONVENINGS**



**TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE &
TRAININGS**



**PATHWAYS TO
JUSTICE**



Thank You

The seal of The State Bar of California is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a book and a scale of justice. Above the shield is a bear, and the words "THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA" are inscribed around the perimeter. The date "JULY 29TH 1927" is at the bottom. The word "LEX" is on a banner below the shield.

Questions?

