



Judicial Council of California

Meeting Minutes

Judicial Council

Please visit the [California courts website](https://www.courtsofcalifornia.org/) to access the April 24, 2026 meeting.

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Friday, April 24, 2026

10:00 AM

Videoconference

CLOSED SESSION (RULE 10.6(b))—PLANNING, PERSONNEL, AND DISCUSSION PROTECTED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, Chair of the Judicial Council, called the closed session to order at 9:30 a.m.

OPEN SESSION (RULE 10.6(a))—MEETING AGENDA

Attendance

Council Members

Present: 23 - Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, Justice Carol A. Corrigan, Administrative Presiding Justice Brad R. Hill, Justice Stacy Boulware Eurie, Presiding Judge Patricia L. Kelly, Presiding Judge Tamara L. Wood, Assistant Presiding Judge Ricardo R. Ocampo, Judge Maria Lucy Armendariz, Judge Bunmi O. Awoniyi, Judge Charles S. Crompton, Judge Judith K. Dulcich, Judge Maureen F. Hallahan, Judge Maria D. Hernandez, Judge Jeffrey C. Kauffman, Judge Ann C. Moorman, Judge Michael Rhoads, Commissioner Ryan Davis, Senator Thomas J. Umberg, Ms. Kate Bieker, Mr. Charles Johnson, Ms. Gretchen M. Nelson, Mr. David W. Slayton, and Ms. Dena Stone

Absent: 3 - Assembly Member Ash Kalra, Ms. Rachel W. Hill, and Mr. Craig M. Peters

Call to Order

Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, Chair of the Judicial Council, called the open session to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Judicial Council Board Room.

Public Comment

Written comments were provided to the council members and filed in the record. Allsion Madden addressed the council on general matters of judicial administration.

Chief Justice's Report

Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero reported on her activities since the last council meeting.

Administrative Director's Report

[26-002](#)

Administrative Director's Report

Administrative Director Michelle Curran reported on some of the many activities Judicial Council staff engaged in to further the council's strategic goals and priorities for the judicial branch since the last business meeting, exclusive of items on the April meeting agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion to approve all of the following items on the Consent Agenda was made by Presiding Judge Wood and seconded by Judge Hernandez. The motion was adopted.

[26-007](#)

Minutes of February 20, 2026, Judicial Council Meeting

[26-050](#)

Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Midyear Reallocation of Pretrial Release Funding (Action Required)

Summary: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving a one-time methodology as outlined in this report for the fiscal year 2025-26 reallocation of pretrial release funding to trial courts with a demonstrated need. This methodology reallocates \$194,000 in voluntarily returned, unspent funds and provides it to courts in which their additional funding need could be most fully supported based on the limited amount of funding available.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective April 24, 2026, approve a one-time reallocation methodology for fiscal year 2025-26.

[26-065](#)

Judicial Branch Administration | Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program (Action Required)

Summary: The Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program Advisory Committee recommends approval of the workers' compensation cost allocation of \$17.96 million for the trial courts and \$1.29 million for the state judiciary for fiscal year 2026-27 to cover the cost of claims for the next fiscal year while maintaining a positive fund balance. The committee also recommends a one-year extension of the clinical consultation pilot program as a benefit for its membership and with the aim of reducing the number of claims filed. This extension would effectively continue the pilot program through June 30, 2027.

- Recommendation:** The Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective April 24, 2026:
1. Approve the fiscal year 2026-27 workers' compensation cost allocation of \$17.96 million for participating trial courts and \$1.29 million for the state judiciary; and
 2. Approve a one-year extension of the Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program's clinical consultation pilot program as a continued benefit to its members.

[26-075](#)**Judicial Council | Appointment to the California Access to Justice Commission (Action Required)**

Summary: The Judicial Council Executive and Planning Committee recommends appointing Judge Andi Mudryk, Superior Court of Sacramento County, a judicial officer to the California Access to Justice Commission. This appointment fulfills the statutory requirement that the commission include three members appointed by the Judicial Council and supports efforts to ensure equal access to civil justice for individuals unable to meet their legal needs.

Recommendation: The Judicial Council Executive and Planning Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026, appoint Judge Andi Mudryk, Superior Court of Sacramento County, to the California Access to Justice Commission as provided in Government Code section 68657(a)(4).

The recommended appointment term is:

- Judge Mudryk: July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030.

[26-038](#)**Report to the Legislature | Pretrial Services Program Year 4, 2026 (Action Required)**

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 (Assem. Bill 107; Stats. 2024, ch. 22) allocated \$70 million in ongoing funding to the Judicial Council to support the operation of court programs and practices that promote the safe, efficient, fair, and timely pretrial release of individuals booked into jail. The Judicial Council is required to submit annual reports on the program's progress. Judicial Council staff recommend that the council approve *Report to the Legislature: Pretrial Services Program Year 4, 2026* and direct the Administrative Director to submit it to the Legislature, as required under the Budget Act. The report describes key components of the Pretrial Services Program and documents the local and statewide activities in the fourth year of the program.

- Recommendation:** Judicial Council staff recommend that the council, effective April 24, 2026:
1. Approve *Report to the Legislature: Pretrial Services Program Year 4, 2026*; and
 2. Direct the Administrative Director to submit this report to the Legislature on or before July 1, 2026, as required by the Budget Act.

[26-078](#)**Rules and Forms | Access and Fairness: Gender Inclusivity of Juror Identification and Juror Questionnaires (Implementation of Assembly Bill 1899) (Action Required)**

Summary: The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness recommends adoption of a new standard of judicial administration to ensure gender inclusivity in juror identification and juror questionnaires, consistent with the directive in Assembly Bill 1899 (Cervantes; Stats. 2024, ch. 812). In line with AB 1899's directive and the recommended new standard, the committee also recommends conforming changes to three rules of court, two forms, and two standards of judicial administration; these materials currently use language directed to jurors that is not gender inclusive. In addition, the committee recommends minor changes to conform to style guidelines and to improve accuracy, consistency, clarity, and usability of the materials.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026:

1. Adopt California Standards of Judicial Administration, standard 10.22;
2. Amend California Rules of Court, rules 2.1002, 2.1006, and 2.1008;
3. Revise forms JURY-001 and JURY-002; and
4. Amend California Standards of Judicial Administration, standards 3.25 and 4.30.

[26-055](#)**Rules and Forms | Appellate Procedure: Increased File Size Limit for Electronic Filings (Action Required)**

Summary: Rule 8.74 of the California Rules of Court currently limits the file size for electronic filings in the Courts of Appeal to 25 megabytes. When adopted, this limit corresponded to the file size limitation of the e-filing program used by the Courts of Appeal. The Courts of Appeal and Judicial Council Information Technology have worked with a vendor to transition to a file size limit of 100 megabytes for the e-filing program. Because rule 8.74 currently contains a 25-megabyte file size limit, the Appellate Advisory Committee recommends amending the rule to accept 100-megabyte files.

Recommendation: The Appellate Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026, amend California Rules of Court, rule 8.74 to change the file size limit in the rule from 25 megabytes to 100 megabytes. This change reflects an increase in the Courts of Appeal's technological capacity for e-filings.

[26-068](#)**Rules and Forms | Civil Practice and Procedure: Name Change and Gender Change Rules and Forms (Action Required)**

Summary: The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends adopting, approving, revising, and revoking various Judicial Council forms that individuals use to request a change of name and recognition of a change of gender or sex identifier. The committee also recommends amending two related rules of court. Changes are needed to implement Assembly Bill 1084 (Stats. 2025, ch. 723) and

Senate Bill 59 (Stats. 2025, ch. 738), as well as to update the rules and forms to better serve participants in the Secretary of State's address confidentiality program, make various technical or clarifying changes, and respond to feedback from members of the public regarding clarity and ease of use.

Recommendation: The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026:

1. Amend California Rules of Court, rules 2.575 and 2.577.
2. Adopt the following forms for mandatory use:
 - *Petition for Change of Name to Conform to Gender Identity* (form NC-200);
 - *Supplemental Attachment to Petition for Change of Name to Conform to Gender Identity* (form NC-210G);
 - *Proof of Service of Order to Show Cause* (form NC-221/NC-321/NC-521);
 - *Order to Show Cause--Change of Name to Conform to Gender Identity* (form NC-225);
 - *Decree Changing Name (200 Series)* (form NC-230); and
 - *Decree Changing Name of Minor (200 Series) (By Guardian)* (form NC-230G).
3. Approve the following forms for optional use:
 - *Ex Parte Request to Make Records Confidential* (form NC-015);
 - *Order to Make Records Confidential* (form NC-030);
 - *Instructions for Filing a Petition for Change of Name to Conform to Gender Identity* (form NC-200-INFO); and
 - *Notice of Hearing on Petition* (form NC-250/NC-350/NC-550).
4. Revise the following forms:
 - *Petition for Change of Name* (form NC-100);
 - *Instructions for Filing a Petition for Change of Name* (form NC-100-INFO);
 - *Name and Information About the Person Whose Name Is to Be Changed* (form NC-110);
 - *Decree Changing Name* (form NC-130);
 - *Birth Certificate for Child of Petitioner--Attachment* (form NC-311);
 - *Marriage License and Certificate--Attachment* (form NC-312);
 - *Order to Show Cause--Issuance of New Marriage License and Certificate* (form NC-325);
 - *Confidential Cover Sheet--Name Change Proceeding Under Address Confidentiality Program (Safe at Home)* (form NC-400);
 - *Information Sheet for Name Change Proceedings Under Address Confidentiality Program (Safe at Home)* (form NC-400-INFO);
 - *Petition for Recognition of Minor's Change of Gender and Sex Identifier and for Issuance of New Birth Certificate and Change of*

- Name* (form NC-500);
- *Instructions for Filing Petition for Recognition of Minor's Change of Gender and Sex Identifier* (form NC-500-INFO);
 - *Declaration of Guardian or Juvenile Attorney* (form NC-510G);
 - *Order to Show Cause--Recognition of Minor's Change of Gender and Issuance of New Birth Certificate* (form NC-520); and
 - *Order Recognizing Minor's Change of Gender and Sex Identifier and for Issuance of New Birth Certificate* (form NC-530).
5. Revise and retitle the following forms to add the word "Adult's" to the titles:
- *Petition for Recognition of Adult's Change of Gender and Sex Identifier, Name Change, and Issuance of New Certificates* (form NC-300);
 - *Instructions for Filing Petition for Recognition of Adult's Change of Gender and Sex Identifier, Name Change, and Issuance of New Certificates* (form NC-300-INFO); and
 - *Order Recognizing Adult's Change of Gender and Sex Identifier, for Name Change, and for Issuance of New Certificates* (form NC-330); and
6. Revoke *Order to Show Cause--Change of Name to Conform to Gender Identity* (form NC-125) and *Notice of Hearing on Petition* (form NC-150).

[26-069](#)**Rules and Forms | Civil Practice and Procedure: New Case Type for Civil Case Cover Sheet (Action Required)**

Summary: The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends revising *Civil Case Cover Sheet* (form CM-010) to add a case type for Song-Beverly Act motor vehicle lemon law cases. Judicial officers and court executive officers at several courts have requested this revision to address significant increases in the number of Song-Beverly Act motor vehicle case filings. The recommended form revision will allow courts to more easily and effectively collect data about the number of these cases being filed and the court resources they require. The committee also proposes revising page 3 of the form to add introductory text, use consistent terminology, and clarify the meaning of several items.

Recommendation: The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026, revise *Civil Case Cover Sheet* (form CM-010) to add a case type for Song-Beverly Act motor vehicle lemon law cases and clarify several items.

[26-070](#)**Rules and Forms | Civil Practice and Procedure: Revisions to Enforcement of Judgment and Wage Garnishment Forms to Implement Assembly Bill 774 (Action Required)**

Summary: Assembly Bill 774 (Stats. 2025, ch. 708) makes several changes to the laws regarding enforcement of judgment, including creation of a new procedure by which the judgment creditor may seek reinstatement of a judgment lien on real or personal property. The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends adopting three forms and revising five forms to implement AB 774 and improve clarity and readability.

Recommendation: The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026:

1. Adopt the following forms to implement the procedure created in AB 774 for reinstating a judgment lien:
 - *Application for Reinstatement of Judgment Lien* (form EJ-200)
 - *Response to Application for Reinstatement of Judgment Lien* (form EJ-202)
 - *Certificate of Reinstatement of Judgment Lien* (form EJ-205)
2. Revise the following forms to implement AB 774 and improve the forms' clarity and readability:
 - *Writ of Execution* (form EJ-130)
 - *Notice of Levy* (form EJ-150)
 - *Employer's Return* (form WG-005)
 - *Declaration of Address Verification* (form WG-015/EJ-135)
 - *Application to Stay Levy or Garnishment* (form WG-017/EJ-137)

[26-072](#)**Rules and Forms | Collaborative Justice: Guidelines for Adult Collaborative Treatment Courts (Action Required)**

Summary: Senate Bill 910 (Stats. 2024, ch. 641) amended Health and Safety Code section 11972 to require counties and courts with treatment court programs to design and operate these programs in accordance with specified state and national best practices and guidelines. Health and Safety Code section 11972(b), as amended, also requires the Judicial Council to revise standards of judicial administration to reflect the specified best practices and guidelines. To fulfill this statutory requirement, the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends amending standard 4.10 of the California Standards of Judicial Administration to expand the scope of its application from diversion drug court programs to adult collaborative treatment courts.

Recommendation: The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026, amend California Standards of Judicial Administration, standard 4.10 to reflect state and national best practices and guidelines for adult collaborative treatment courts.

[26-073](#)**Rules and Forms | Criminal Law: Advisements on the Felony Plea Form (Action Required)**

Summary: Before accepting a plea of guilty or no contest, courts must advise a defendant on the record that if they are not a citizen, conviction of the charged offense may result in specified immigration consequences. Recent legislation requires courts to advise defendants of these immigration consequences with the verbatim language of Penal Code section 1016.5(a). Additionally, when a defendant pleads guilty or no contest to a sexually violent offense, the California Supreme Court has directed trial courts to advise defendants about the possibility of being referred to sexually violent predator civil commitment proceedings. The Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommends amendments to the optional felony plea form to incorporate the verbatim immigration advisement and to clarify the advisement in cases involving sexually violent offenses.

Recommendation: The Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026, revise *Plea Form, With Explanations and Waiver of Rights-Felony* (form CR-101) to incorporate recent statutory amendments on immigration advisements and update the existing advisement on sexually violent predator civil commitment proceedings.

[26-074](#)**Rules and Forms | Criminal Procedure: Rule and Form Revisions Related to the Racial Justice Act (Action Required)**

Summary: The Racial Justice Act prohibits the state from seeking or obtaining a conviction or sentence based on race, ethnicity, or national origin. To implement recent legislation related to the Racial Justice Act and address urgent issues identified by courts on existing court forms that are used to make a claim under the act, the Appellate Advisory Committee and the Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommend amending two rules of court and revising three forms.

Recommendation: The Appellate Advisory Committee and the Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026:

1. Amend California Rules of Court, rules 4.551 and 8.385, to implement legislation clarifying court procedures related to the Racial Justice Act (Assem. Bill 1071);
2. Revise *Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus* (form HC-001) to implement Senate Bill 734, which requires service of specified Racial Justice Act claims on law enforcement agencies, improve the presentation of Racial Justice Act claims, and make clarifying and technical changes;
3. Revise *Motion to Vacate Conviction or Sentence* (form CR-187) to implement Assembly Bill 1071 and Senate Bill 734, add an option stating that the party will request discovery after appointment of counsel, add a case citation, and make clarifying and technical changes; and
4. Revise *Order on Motion to Vacate Conviction or Sentence* (form CR-188) to make clarifying and technical changes.

[26-067](#)**Rules and Forms | Juvenile Law: Update to Racial Justice Act Forms (Action Required)**

Summary: Assembly Bill 1071 ((Kalra); Stats. 2025, ch. 721) requires counsel for represented applicants alleging a violation of the Racial Justice Act by a law enforcement officer to serve a copy of the petition on the law enforcement agency that employed the officer. The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends revising two forms to memorialize this requirement and to make clarifying nonsubstantive changes.

Recommendation: The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026, revise *Request for Relief Under the Racial Justice Act--Juvenile Adjudication* (form JV-720) and *The Racial Justice Act in Juvenile Court* (form JV-720-INFO) to incorporate the service requirement for counsel of represented applicants mandated by AB 1071 and to improve clarity and readability.

[26-071](#)**Rules and Forms | Mental Health Law: Implementation of CARE Act Legislation (Action Required)**

Summary: To implement recently enacted legislation regarding the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee recommends amending a heading of an article of the California Rules of Court, amending four rules of court, repealing one rule of court, approving two forms, and revising five forms. Senate Bill 27 (Stats. 2025, ch. 528) amended both substantive and procedural aspects of the CARE Act, including changes to eligibility criteria and processes for initiating proceedings. The committee recommends making these changes to rules and forms to conform with SB 27. The committee also recommends minor changes to improve form usability and clarity and maintain rule consistency.

Recommendation: The Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2026:

1. Amend the heading of article 2 of chapter 2 of division 2 of title 7 of the California Rules of Court to reflect recent form name changes and to maintain consistency with related CARE Act rules;
2. Amend California Rules of Court, rules 7.2221, 7.2223, 7.2230, and 7.2235 to conform with SB 27's intracourt referral process granting the CARE Act court authority to deem certain referrals to be petitions;
3. Repeal California Rules of Court, rule 7.2225 to avoid inconsistency with revised rule 7.2221 and reflect changes from SB 27 to the way CARE Act proceedings can commence;
4. Approve *Court Referral to the CARE Act Court* (form CARE-125) and *Ruling or Order on Court Referral to CARE Act Court* (form CARE-126) as optional forms to implement SB 27's intracourt referral process; and
5. Revise *Information for Petitioners--About the CARE Act* (form CARE-050-INFO), *Information for Respondents--About the CARE Act* (form CARE-060-INFO), *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings* (form

CARE-100), *Mental Health Declaration--CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-101), and *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings by Licensed Behavioral Health Professional Only* (form CARE-102) to incorporate the expanded eligibility criteria introduced by SB 27 and to increase the ease of use of the forms.

[26-077](#)

Rules and Forms | Miscellaneous Technical Changes (Action Required)

Summary: Various members of the judicial branch, members of the public, and Judicial Council staff have identified errors in the California Rules of Court and Judicial Council forms, as well as minor changes needed to conform to changes in law or previous council actions. Judicial Council staff recommend making the necessary corrections to ensure that the rules and forms conform to law and to avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

Recommendation: Judicial Council staff recommend that the council, effective July 1, 2026:

1. Amend rules 2.571, 2.1010, 5.605, 5.710, 5.715, 5.720, and 5.812 to update cross-references to Judicial Council forms, other rules, and code sections;
2. Revise *Adoption of Indian Child* (form ADOPT-220) to correct the title on page 1;
3. Revise Request for Child Custody and Visitation Orders (form DV-105) at item 13 to replace “visits” with “exchanges”;
4. Revise *Request to Change or End Restraining Order* (form DV-300) at item 4 to correct the attachment number;
5. Revise *Emancipation of Minor--Income and Expense Declaration* (form EM-115) to reinsert a dash in the title that had been inadvertently deleted;
6. Revise *Child Custody and Visitation (Parenting Time) Order Attachment* (form FL-341) at item 7 to refer to the optional attachment form and at items 9 and 10 to correct the title of a form used as an attachment;
7. Revise *Stipulation and Order for Custody and/or Visitation (Parenting Time)* (form FL-355) at item 5 of the court’s findings and orders to correct a typographical error and in the footer on the second page to correct the form number;
8. Revise *Notice of Revocation of Joint Petition* (form FL-720) to correct the title of forms referenced in the instructions box on page 1 and item 1;
9. Revise *Findings and Orders After Dispositional Hearing* (form JV-415) at item 2 to correct the heading by replacing “Jurisdictional hearing” with “Dispositional hearing” at items 3 and 7 to restructure the items so that checkboxes precede the text and at item 9 to replace gender-specific language;
10. Revise *Complaint--Unlawful Detainer* (form UD-100) in item 11 to correct a form title and in items 15, 18, 20g, and 20h to correct the cross-references and attachment numbers;

11. Revise *Notice of Hearing on Claim of Exemption (Wage Garnishment-Enforcement of Judgment)* (form WG-010/EJ-175) to correct the form name in the form header; and
12. Revise *How Can I Respond to a Petition for Workplace Violence Restraining Orders?* (form WV-120-INFO) to correct a typographical error by deleting the word “private” as a modifier to “workplace violence restraining orders.”

In addition, minor technical revisions have been made to the forms to reflect current drafting practices. These include, for example, changing the layout of the information in the form footer; correcting punctuation and capitalization; and standardizing the format of webpage addresses, citations to forms and code sections, and text below signature lines.

[26-087](#)

Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2025-26 Reallocation of Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act Funding (Action Required)

Summary: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends reallocating fiscal year 2025-26 Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act funds among trial courts. The CARE Act funding methodology requires a midyear reallocation process to redistribute unspent funds to courts requesting additional program funding. This recommendation, approved by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee, ensures that available resources are directed to support trial court needs and improve program implementation.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective April 24, 2026, approve the reallocation of Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act fiscal year 2025-26 funding as detailed in Attachment A.

[26-037](#)

Trial Court Budget | Minimum Operating and Emergency Fund Balance Policy (Action Required)

Summary: The Judicial Council’s suspension of the minimum operating and emergency fund balance policy will expire on June 30, 2026. This policy requires trial courts to maintain a designated percentage of funds for use in emergency situations or due to budget shortfalls. Since fiscal year 2012-13, the council has repeatedly suspended the policy due to statutory changes and the availability of other emergency funding options. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends extending the suspension for one additional year until June 30, 2027. This will provide sufficient time to revise the policy so that it better aligns with the current financial realities and reserve needs of the trial courts.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that, effective July 1, 2026, the Judicial Council:

1. Approve a one-year suspension of the minimum operating and emergency fund balance policy for the trial courts until June 30, 2027; and

2. Add this item to the Funding Methodology Subcommittee's annual work plan. This will allow time to revise the policy so that it better aligns with the current financial realities and reserve needs of the trial courts.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

[26-059](#)

California Access to Justice Commission Presentation (No Action Required)

Summary: This presentation will provide an overview of the California Access to Justice Commission and its work. Its members include appellate justices, superior court judges, and appointees of the Governor, the Legislature, and key stakeholder organizations. The Commission advances access to justice for all Californians by expanding resources, removing barriers, and developing innovations so everyone can effectively and efficiently resolve their civil legal issues.

[26-058](#)

Juvenile Law | 2025-26 Allocations for Dependency Counsel Collections Program and Expected Unspent Program Funding (Action Required) (Moved from Consent Agenda to Discussion Agenda)

Summary: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends two redistributions for court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel funds for fiscal year 2025-26. These allocations ensure that statutorily restricted funds collected under the Juvenile Dependency Counsel Collections Program are allocated according to the Judicial Council methodology and that unspent court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel funds are reallocated to eligible courts able to utilize the funding. This action promotes equitable distribution of resources and supports effective representation for children and families in dependency proceedings.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective April 24, 2026:

1. Allocate Juvenile Dependency Counsel Collections Program funds of \$125,145 remitted in fiscal year (FY) 2024-25; and
2. Allocate FY 2025-26 estimated unspent dependency counsel funding of \$1,130,773 from courts that have identified funds in excess of expected expenditures to courts funded below the average statewide funding level in accordance with Judicial Council action in April 2015.

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Judge Crompton and seconded by Justice Boulware Eurie. The motion was adopted.

[26-086](#)**Rules and Forms | Judicial Branch Administration: Reporting Civil Arrests in Court Facilities (Action Required)**

Summary: The Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee recommend adopting a rule of court requiring reporting of civil arrests in superior court facilities, as defined. The recommended rule will help ensure consistent and coordinated statewide collection and reporting of data. The collected data is intended to help the judicial branch better understand the statewide impact that civil arrests in court facilities have on courts and access to justice, while also promoting public trust and confidence through transparency.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council adopt California Rules of Court, rule 10.440, effective May 1, 2026, to govern the reporting of civil arrests in superior court facilities.

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Presiding Judge Kelly and seconded by Presiding Judge Wood. The motion was adopted.

[26-079](#)**Criminal and Appellate Procedure | Report of the 2025 Proposition 66 Counsel Working Group (No Action Required)**

Summary: This information report provides a summary of the activities of the 2025 Proposition 66 Counsel Working Group, which was established by the Chief Justice last year to examine the current status of the appointment of counsel for petitioners in capital habeas corpus proceedings in both the superior courts and the Courts of Appeal. To provide context, the report begins with background on Proposition 66 (the Death Penalty Reform and Savings Act of 2016) and the rules of court related to qualifications and appointment of capital habeas corpus counsel that have been adopted by the Judicial Council. The report then summarizes information the working group received from speakers with experience in capital habeas corpus proceedings and provides suggestions that judicial branch entities may consider in their efforts to recruit and appoint counsel for petitioners in such proceedings.

INFORMATION AGENDA (NO ACTION REQUIRED)[26-088](#)**Judicial Branch Technology | AB 716 Remote Public Access Implementation Outcomes**

Summary: This report summarizes the significant progress the trial courts have made in implementing Assembly Bill 716, which requires courts to provide public audio access to courtroom proceedings when courthouses are physically closed. It presents information the Judicial Council collected from trial courts on the use of one-time funding of \$66.4 million provided through the Budget Act of 2022 to upgrade courtroom audio and video systems. Through a two-year effort, 1,171 courtrooms have been modernized, and projects are underway in another 210 courtrooms. This report highlights key outcomes and direct feedback from participating courts,

including improved accessibility, reduced disruption, and cost savings and operational efficiencies.

[26-080](#)**Judicial Council Update | Release of Demographic Data on California Justices and Judges**

Summary: This informational report to the Judicial Council is notice of the annual release of aggregate demographic information concerning the gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, and disability status of California's justices and judges by specific jurisdiction, which council staff is required by statute to collect and release annually.

[26-085](#)**Judicial Council Update | Trial Court Facility Modifications Report for Quarter 2 of Fiscal Year 2025-26**

Summary: This informational report to the Judicial Council outlines the allocations of facility modification funding made to improve trial court facilities in the second quarter (October through December) of fiscal year 2025-26. To determine allocations, the Trial Court Facility Modification Advisory Committee reviews and approves facility modification requests from across the state in accordance with the council's *Trial Court Facility Modifications Policy*.

[26-083](#)**Report to the Legislature | 2025 Juvenile Dependency Training Completion**

Summary: In accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7(c), the Judicial Council submits the required compliance report to the Legislature, the *2025 Juvenile Dependency Training Completion Report*. The attached report demonstrates compliance by judges, commissioners, and referees with the juvenile judicial officer training and education requirements of the statute. The information provided in this report was gathered from the courts by staff of the Judicial Council's Center for Judicial Education and Resources.

[26-082](#)**Report to the Legislature | 2025 Training for Judicial Officers**

Summary: In accordance with Government Code section 68555.5, the Judicial Council submitted to the Legislature *2025 Training for Judicial Officers*. The attached report conveys the titles of the training courses offered by the Judicial Council under Government Code section 68555.5 and the number of judicial officers who participated in each course.

[26-089](#)**Report to the Legislature | Annual Proposition 36 Court Implementation Report (January 2025 through December 2025)**

Summary: The Budget Act of 2025 (Stats. 2025, ch. 5) provides funding for the courts to support the implementation of Proposition 36, the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act. The act appropriated \$20 million to the Judicial Council and the trial courts to support the increased workload and expand or establish

collaborative courts for the implementation of the act. The act also requires the Judicial Council to submit a report to the Legislature annually by March 1 for three years. The report provides background information on the proposition, presents statewide data on cases filed, and describes the implementation and spending activities for the courts and Judicial Council. It also includes details on allocations and activities-related funding provided to county behavioral health departments from the California Department of Health Care Services. Judicial Council staff submitted *Annual Proposition 36 Court Implementation Report (January 2025 through December 2025)* to the Legislature to fulfill this mandate.

[26-084](#)**Report to the Legislature | California's Access to Visitation Grant Program (Federal Fiscal Years 2024-25 and 2025-26)**

Summary: Family Code section 3204(d) requires that the Judicial Council submit a report to the Legislature, on the first day of March of each even-numbered year, on the Access to Visitation Grant programs administered by the Judicial Council. *California's Access to Visitation Grant Program (Federal Fiscal Years 2024-25 and 2025-26): 2026 Report to the Legislature* provides information on the programs funded for federal fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26 under California's Access to Visitation Grant Program for Enhancing Responsibility and Opportunity for Nonresidential Parents.

[26-076](#)**Trial Courts | Quarterly Investment Report for Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2025-26**

Summary: This quarterly investment report covers the period from October 1 through December 31, 2025, and provides the financial results for the funds invested by the Judicial Council on behalf of the trial courts as part of the judicial branch treasury program. The report is submitted under the Resolutions Regarding Investment Activities for the Trial Courts, approved by the Judicial Council on February 27, 2004.

Judicial Council Internal Committee Reports[26-012](#)**Written Reports****Circulating Orders**[26-066](#)**Circulating Orders since the last business meeting.****Appointment Orders**[26-091](#)**Appointment Orders since the last business meeting.**

Adjournment

With the meeting's business completed, the Chief Justice adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:26 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Administrative Director Michelle Curran, Secretary to the Judicial Council,
on July 17, 2026.*