

Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules (UBPS) 2026 Edition

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Ms. Katy Grant, Member, Traffic Advisory Committee

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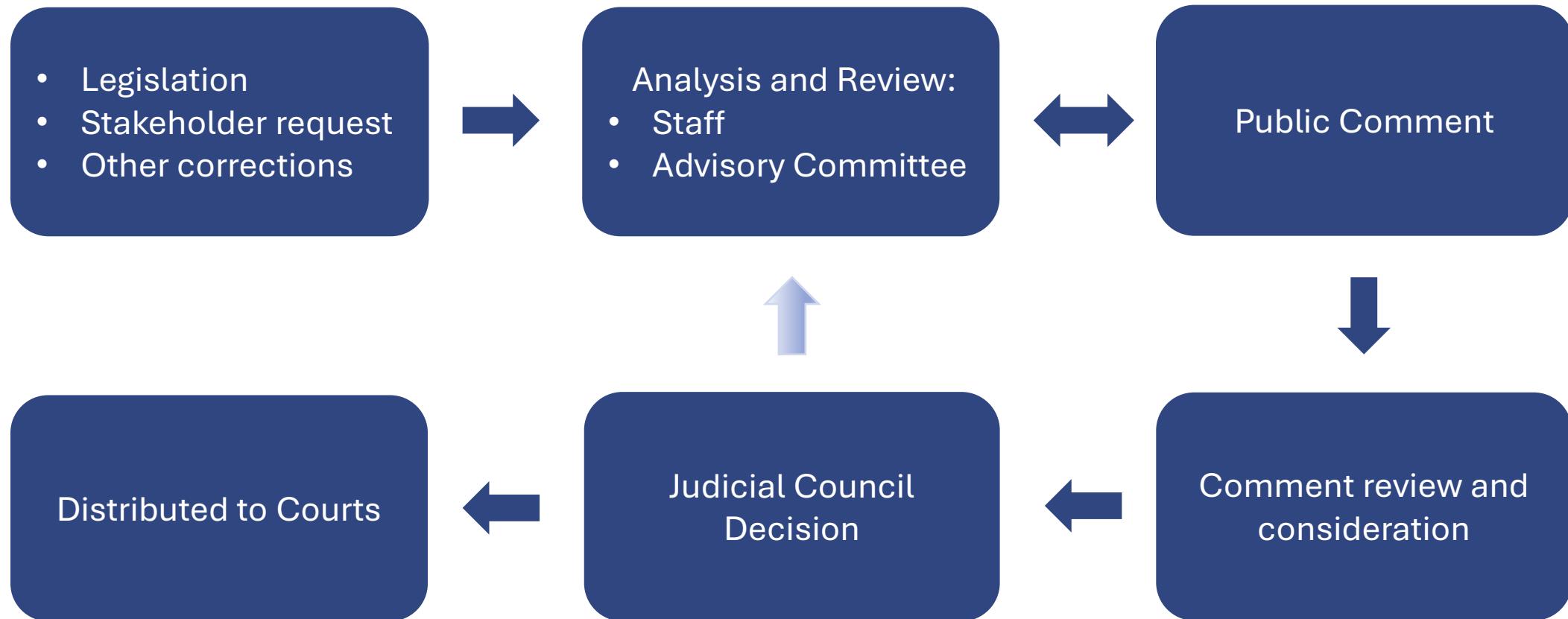
What is the UBPS?

- Not cash bail
- Establishes a uniform traffic penalty schedule for all Vehicle Code infractions (Pen. Code, § 40310)
- Also includes suggested base fine amounts for some misdemeanors and infractions in other schedules
- Most courts must implement the infraction traffic schedule, although some may exceed it due to legislative mandates (Pen. Code, § 1463.28)

Why is the UBPS important?

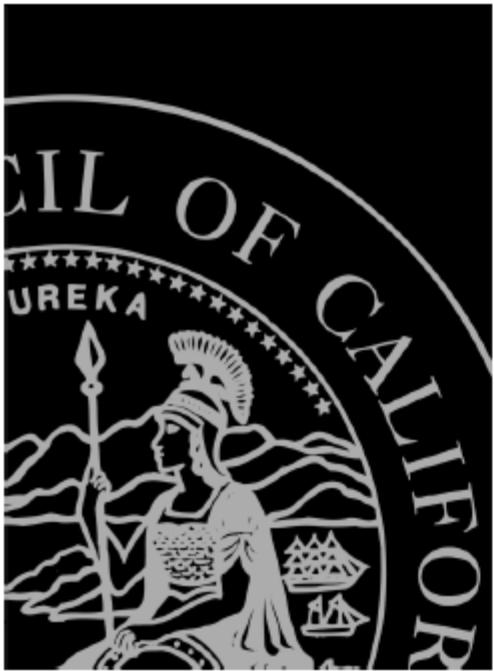
- Judicial Council is required to annually adopt a traffic penalty schedule for all Vehicle Code infractions (Veh. Code, § 40310)
- Payment of the bail amount for Vehicle Code infractions is treated as a conviction for the infraction (Veh. Code, § 13103)

How is the UBPS updated?



Why are the timelines tight?

- Courts must assess the correct amounts in fines, penalties, and fees for violations that occur on or after January 1
- Courts need the new UBPS by mid-December to update case management systems
- Governor's signing deadline for new legislation: late September/mid-October



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(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 4.102)

TRAFFIC
BOATING
FORESTRY
FISH AND GAME
PUBLIC UTILITIES
PARKS AND RECREATION
BUSINESS LICENSING



JUDICIAL COUNCIL
OF CALIFORNIA

Key Takeaways

- Sets the base fine for Vehicle Code infractions
- Recommends base fine for some other infraction and misdemeanor offenses
- Judicial Council must adopt annually
- Time sensitive and requires the council's approval

Questions

