



Judicial Council of California

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 25-061

For business meeting on February 21, 2025

Title

Judicial Council: Judicial Branch Budget
Committee Report

Report Type

Information

Date of Report

February 10, 2025

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 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 November 15, 2024, business meeting.

Overview of Committee Meetings

The Judicial Branch Budget Committee met three times between the November 15, 2024, and February 21, 2025, Judicial Council meetings.

On December 10, 2024, the committee considered the following Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommendations: (1) the fiscal year (FY) 2024–25 Trial Court Trust Fund allocation increase for Judicial Council Audit Services and Budget Services offices, (2) allocations for FY 2023–24 and FY 2024–25 Court Interpreter Program funding shortfalls, and (3) the 2025 Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee Annual Agenda. The committee also heard informational presentations on the court reporter funding midyear survey for FY 2024–25 and an update on the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act.

On January 29, 2025, the committee considered the following Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommendations: (1) the court reporter funding midyear reallocation for FY 2024–25 and (2) the allocation methodology for the partial restoration of the reduction for trial court operations funding for FY 2024–25. The committee also heard an informational presentation on the Governor’s Budget proposal for FY 2025–26.

On February 20, 2025, the committee considered a recommendation from the Trial Court Budget Committee for FY 2024–25 concerning allocations for the Dependency Counsel Collections Program and expected unspent program funding. The committee also considered budget change concepts for the judicial branch for FY 2026–27.