



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on March 15, 2019

Title	Agenda Item Type
Report to the Legislature: 2017–18 Fee Revenues and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings	Information Only
	Date of Report
	February 14, 2019
Submitted by	Contact
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Executive Summary

Government Code section 68086(f) requires that the Judicial Council annually report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee information concerning court reporter fees collected under Government Code sections 68086(a)(1-2), and 68086.1; and expenditures on court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings statewide. To comply with the statute, the Judicial Council staff submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on February 1, 2019, the *Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2017–18*.

Relevant Previous Council Action

The report on trial court reporter fees collected and expenditures for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings has been required and submitted under Government Code section 68086(f) since 2003–04. The council has approved previous fiscal year reports. These reports can be found at www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm.

Analysis/Rationale

This report lists actual court reporter fees collected in the amount of \$22,474,893 under Government Code sections 68086(a)(1-2), and 68086.1 in 2017–18. Reported expenditures for the services of court reporters in superior court civil proceedings is an estimated amount because

most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case categories. The estimate of \$72,208,167 was made by multiplying the sum of total 2017–18 budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2017 (\$204,037,764), and total 2017–18 expenditures on contract court reporters (\$5,261,272) by 34.5 percent, which is the estimated proportion of time court reporters spend on civil cases (civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family). The time-percentage estimate is based on a time study survey, which was conducted by the National Center for State Courts in September 2003 and involved superior courts in nine California counties—Amador, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, and Stanislaus—representing about 48.2 percent of statewide authorized court reporter positions.

Fiscal Impact and Policy Implications

Submission of this mandated report to the Legislature imposes no fiscal impact or policy implications on the trial courts.

Attachments and Links

1. Attachment A: *Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2017–18*



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*Administrative Director,
Judicial Council*

February 1, 2019

Hon. Holly J. Mitchell
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

Hon. Philip Y. Ting
Vice-chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2017–18, as required by Government Code section 68086(f)

Dear Senator Mitchell and Assembly Member Ting:

The Judicial Council submits the following report as required under Government Code section 68086(f), concerning court reporter fees collected under Government Code sections 68086(a)(1-2), and 68086.1, and expenditures on court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings statewide in 2017–18.

In 2017–18, \$22,474,893 in fees were collected and was remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as required by Government Code sections 68086(a)(1-2), and 68086.1. The breakdown of the remitted funds is as follows:

- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(1), \$3,912,289 came from fees paid by parties to civil proceedings for the services of an official court reporter in each proceeding lasting one hour or less.
- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(2), \$2,696,123 came from fees paid by parties to civil proceedings for the services of an official court reporter in each proceeding lasting more than one hour on the first day and each succeeding judicial day that services were provided.

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- The amount of \$15,866,481 is attributable to the fee required to be deposited in the Trial Court Trust Fund by Government Code section 68086.1 from the following: first paper filings and responses for superior court civil proceedings, other than proceedings under the Probate Code, in the superior court where the amount demanded is more than \$10,000; family law filings and responses; and marriage dissolution filings and responses. This amount reflects the distribution to the Trial Court Trust Fund from total revenues collected for first paper, family law, and marriage dissolution filings and responses from July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018.

In 2017–18, the estimated amount spent for the services of court reporters in superior court civil proceedings was \$72,208,167. The expenditure amount is an estimate because most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case categories.

The estimate of \$72,208,167 was made by multiplying the sum of total 2017–18 budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2017 (\$204,037,764), and total 2017–18 expenditures on contract court reporters (\$5,261,272) by 34.5 percent, which is the estimated proportion of time court reporters spend on civil cases (civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family). The time percentage estimate is based on the most recent time study survey, which was conducted by the National Center for State Courts in September 2003 and involved superior courts in nine California counties—Amador, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, and Stanislaus—representing about 48.2 percent of statewide authorized court reporter positions.¹

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Judicial Council Budget Services, at 916-263-1397 or Zlatko.Theodorovic@jud.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Martin Hoshino
Administrative Director
Judicial Council

¹ Per 2017–18 Schedule 7A, as submitted by the courts, 651.6 of 1,352 authorized court reporter full-time equivalent positions as of July 1, 2017, were located in the survey counties.

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MH/BS/mn

cc: Diane F. Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel
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Jason Sisney, Special Assistant, Office of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
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