



Judicial Council of California

Meeting Agenda

Judicial Council

Please visit
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April 25, 2025.

Meeting materials
are available through
the hyperlinks in
this document.

Friday, April 25, 2025

9:45 AM

San Francisco

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

Session: 9:00–9:30 a.m.

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

A link to the live videostream will be available in the Meeting Information Center at the start of the open session. If the closed session adjourns late, the start time of the open session may be delayed.

Open Session Begins: 9:45 a.m.

Call to Order

Public Comment

The Judicial Council welcomes public comment on general matters of judicial administration. Written comments are encouraged in advance of the meeting for specific agenda items so council members can consider them prior to the council meeting.

For more information about meeting attendance and public comment procedures, visit:

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/28045.htm>

Submit advance requests to speak and written comments for this meeting by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 24, by email to:

judicialcouncil@jud.ca.gov

Chief Justice's Report

15 minutes

Administrative Director's Report

[25-002](#)

Administrative Director's Report

15 minutes

CONSENT AGENDA

5 minutes

A council member may request an item be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda. Please notify Josely Yangco-Fronza at 415-865-7626 at least 48 hours before the meeting.

[25-007](#)

Minutes of February 21, 2025, Judicial Council Meeting

[25-080](#)

Criminal Law | Judicial Council Appointment to the California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision (Action Required)

Summary:

The Executive and Planning Committee recommends reappointing Judge R. Glenn Yabuno, Superior Court of San Bernardino County, to the California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision. The seven-member California Council is required by the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision, which governs state administration of the transfer across state lines of the supervision of adult parolees and probationers, to include a superior court judge appointed by the Judicial Council. The individual selected for appointment will also serve simultaneously on the California State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision.

[25-021](#)

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 \$18.45 million for the trial courts and \$1.28 million for the state judiciary for fiscal year 2025-26 to cover the cost of claims for next fiscal year while maintaining a positive fund balance. The committee also recommends revising the current nurse triage process to include clinical consultation as a benefit for its membership.

[25-013](#)

Juvenile Law | 2024-25 Allocations for Dependency Counsel Collections Program and Expected Unspent Program Funding (Action Required)

Summary:

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends two redistributions of funding for court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel for fiscal year (FY) 2024-25. Under the Juvenile Dependency Counsel Collections Program, courts collect reimbursements from parents and other responsible persons liable for the cost of dependency-related legal services to the extent that those persons are able to pay. The committee recommends that the Judicial Council allocate the FY 2023-24 statutorily restricted funds to the trial courts, calculated according to the methodology

adopted by the council in 2013. The committee also recommends that the council reallocate unspent dependency counsel funding from courts that have identified funds they do not intend on spending to courts that are not fully funded to their need.

[25-079](#)**Pretrial Release | 2025 Report on Pretrial Release Program to the Legislature, Year 3 (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Budget Act of 2023 (Sen. Bill 101; Stats. 2023, ch. 12) allocated \$70 million of ongoing funding to the Judicial Council for the operation of ongoing court programs and practices that promote 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. Criminal Justice Services staff recommend that the Judicial Council approve *Pretrial Release Program: Year 3 Report to the Legislature, 2025* and direct the Administrative Director to submit it to the Legislature, as required under the budget bill. The report describes key components of the Pretrial Release Program and documents the local and statewide activities in the third year of the program.

[25-082](#)**Rules and Forms | Additional CARE Act Legislation (Action Required)****Summary:**

To implement recently enacted legislation amending the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act in Senate Bills 42 (Stats. 2024, ch. 640), 1323 (Stats. 2024, ch. 646), and 1400 (Stats. 2024, ch. 647), the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee recommends amending three rules of court, adopting one form, approving two forms, revising three forms, adopting one standard of judicial administration, and renaming a title in the standards of judicial administration. The committee also recommends revisions to certain forms in response to feedback from members of the public regarding the forms' readability and ease of use.

[25-078](#)**Rules and Forms | Appellate Procedure: Certified Record in Capital Cases (Action Required)****Summary:**

Penal Code section 1218 previously required courts to transmit a complete transcript to the Governor in cases resulting in a judgment of death. The Legislature recently amended section 1218 to remove this requirement; a court need only transmit a statement of the conviction and judgment. Accordingly, Judicial Council staff recommend amending the rule of court addressing the record in capital cases to reflect the statutory amendment.

[25-096](#)**Rules and Forms | CEQA Actions: New Projects and Fees for Expedited Review (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Appellate Advisory Committee and the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommend amending eight rules of the California Rules of Court governing the expedited resolution of actions and proceedings brought under the California Environmental Quality Act. These amendments would implement recent

legislation requiring inclusion of “environmental leadership media campus project” for streamlined review, and specify the fees that applicants of this project type must pay to cover the costs of the trial and appellate courts in adjudicating challenges to those projects.

[25-085](#)**Rules and Forms | Civil Practice and Procedure: Termination of Complex Coordination Proceedings and Actions (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee proposes amending California Rules of Court, rule 3.545 and adopting rule 3.546 to adjust court procedures for coordinated actions and coordination proceedings. The recommended rule amendment and new rule aim to address concerns that the existing rules on these matters are overly burdensome for courts and do not contain a process to terminate coordination proceedings.

[25-077](#)**Rules and Forms | Criminal Law: Felony Plea Form (Action Required)****Summary:**

The California Supreme Court recently directed trial courts to advise defendants pleading guilty or no contest to a sexually violent offense about the possibility of being referred to sexually violent predator proceedings and to inquire whether the parties discussed the possibility of a disposition involving a plea to an offense that is not a sexually violent offense. In addition, Proposition 36 requires trial courts to advise defendants convicted of specified felony drug offenses that they can be charged with murder if death results from illicitly manufacturing, distributing, selling, furnishing, or giving away drugs. The Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommends incorporating these advisements and inquiry into the felony plea form and clarifying existing language on the form about the factual basis for the plea.

[25-076](#)**Rules and Forms | Criminal Law: New Postconviction Retail Crime Restraining Order (Action Required)****Summary:**

Penal Code section 490.8, effective January 1, 2025, allows a court to prohibit a defendant convicted of specified offenses from entering the premises of a protected retail establishment for up to two years. To implement this new statute, the Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommends a new retail crime restraining order for court use.

[25-075](#)**Rules and Forms | Decedents' Estates: Succession to Property of Small Value (Action Required)****Summary:**

In response to a mandate in Probate Code section 890 and amendments to other sections of the code enacted by Assembly Bill 2016 (Stats. 2024, ch. 331), the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee recommends revising four forms used in summary proceedings for determining succession to property of small value. The recommended revisions update forms DE-310 and DE-315 to reflect the narrowed scope of the statutory petition procedure for succession to real property

and indicate the increased threshold value below which property must fall to be eligible for this procedure. The revisions also update forms DE-300 and DE-305 to reflect adjustments required by Probate Code section 890 to the threshold values applicable to other statutory succession procedures.

[25-099](#) **Rules and Forms | Family Law: Summary Dissolution Forms (Action Required)**

Summary: The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends revising two family law summary dissolution forms, which are mandated by Family Code section 2400 to reflect any increase in the California Consumer Price Index.

[25-098](#) **Rules and Forms | Family Law: Technical Changes to Forms (Action Required)**

Summary: The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends technical changes to improve several forms by correcting clerical errors, updating references to state and federal codes, and making other minor changes to align the forms with statewide procedures. The technical changes will improve the accuracy of the forms and avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

[25-087](#) **Rules and Forms | Judicial Branch Education: Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee Name Change and Other Technical Amendments (Action Required)**

Summary: The Executive and Planning Committee recommends amending 12 rules of court to change the name of the Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee to the Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee and make other technical amendments. The revised name adopts the recent name change of the Judicial Council's education office and more accurately reflects the work of the committee.

[25-073](#) **Rules and Forms | Judicial Branch Technology: Rules for Adoption of Technology and Data Security Guidelines (Action Required)**

Summary: The Court Executives Advisory Committee (CEAC) and the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) recommend adopting one rule and amending one rule to create a process for adopting and revising technology and data security guidelines for the courts and the Judicial Council. This proposal originated with the Joint Information Security Governance Subcommittee, which reviews and recommends security-related guidelines, policies, and other proposals for action by ITAC and CEAC.

[25-071](#) **Rules and Forms | Juvenile Law: Restitution Orders (Action Required)**

Summary: Assembly Bill 1186 (Bonta; Stats. 2024, ch. 805) amended provisions of the Penal Code and the Welfare and Institutions Code regarding restitution liability in criminal and juvenile court, including eliminating joint and several liability for co-offending children in juvenile delinquency cases. The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory

Committee recommends revising the restitution order and instructions forms to delete joint and several liability for juvenile co-offenders, address restitution apportionment in juvenile court orders, and clarify the liability of who may be ordered to pay restitution in criminal and juvenile proceedings. In addition, the committee recommends revisions to allow for use of the order when a child under informal supervision has agreed to restitution.

[25-086](#)**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 in Judicial Council forms resulting from input errors, 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 forms conform to the law and to avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

[25-030](#)**Rules and Forms | Miscellaneous Technical Changes to Traffic
Form (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Traffic Advisory Committee recommends revising *Officer's Declaration* (form TR-235) to incorporate a change resulting from legislation and to correct and update grammar and stylistic conventions on the form. These changes are technical, minor, and nonsubstantive. The committee recommends making the necessary corrections to conform to statute and to ensure clarity for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

[25-074](#)**Rules and Forms | Probate Conservatorship and Guardianship:
Notice of Change of Residence and Notice of Death
(Action Required)****Summary:**

Amendments to Probate Code sections 2352, 2361, and 2700 by Senate Bill 1106 (Stats. 2024, ch. 455) expanded the duty of a conservator or guardian of the person to give notice before the change of residence of a conservatee or ward and required a conservator to give notice, electronically if possible, of any arrangements they have made for a deceased conservatee's funeral, burial, or memorial. The Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee recommends amending two rules and revising six forms to apply the new statutory requirements and update the rules and forms to conform to other amendments to the law, including the statutory authorization of electronic delivery of notices and other papers, subject to consent.

[25-084](#)**Rules and Forms | Protective Orders: New Civil Retail Crime
Restraining Order (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends amending three rules of the California Rules of Court, adopting six Judicial Council forms for mandatory use, and approving two information sheets in a new forms series to implement recent legislation creating a new restraining order based on two or more alleged acts of retail crime.

[25-102](#)**Rules and Forms | Protective Orders: Technical Change to Domestic Violence Form (Action Required)****Summary:**

Judicial Council staff recommend revisions to one domestic violence restraining order form to correct a technical error and to make other minor corrections. The form's revisions will avoid confusion over the expiration date of the order.

[25-067](#)**Trial Court Budget | Court Interpreters Program Fiscal Year 2024-25 Midyear Reallocation and Augmentation (Action Required)****Summary:**

High rates charged by independent contractors are one of several factors that has led to the recent marked increase in court interpreter expenses. Based on identified court need for Court Interpreters Program funding in the Trial Court Trust Fund, the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends a midyear reallocation of approximately \$637,000 and an augmentation of \$11.6 million for fiscal year 2024-25 to address anticipated funding shortfalls due to increasing interpreter costs and expenses. The allocations will help maintain the current levels of interpreter services for court users.

[25-083](#)**Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2024-25 Reallocation of Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act Funding (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) recommends the reallocation of Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act fiscal year 2024-25 funds to the trial courts. The CARE Act funding methodology calls for a midyear reallocation process to redistribute funds that courts project will be left unspent to courts that request additional program funding. Judicial Council staff conducted a survey of all the trial courts and identified \$7,580,954.96 projected to be available for reallocation from 34 courts and requests from 2 courts that a total of \$400,000.00 be redistributed to them. The TCBAC presented this recommendation to the Judicial Branch Budget Committee (JBBC) on March 14, 2025, and the JBBC approved it for consideration by the Judicial Council.

[25-031](#)**Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules | Miscellaneous Technical Changes to the 2025 Edition for Traffic, Boating, Forestry, Fish and Game, Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Business Licensing (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Traffic Advisory Committee recommends adopting the *Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules, 2025 Edition (Revised): Traffic, Boating, Forestry, Fish and Game, Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Business Licensing* to correct errors in the conviction assessment column for 32 offenses and to update the page numbers in the table of contents. These changes are technical, minor, and noncontroversial.

DISCUSSION AGENDA[25-051](#)**Collaborative Justice | Addressing Racial Disparities and Improving Equity in California's Adult Collaborative Programs (Action Required)****Summary:**

The attached report, *Addressing Racial Disparities and Improving Equity in California's Adult Collaborative Programs*, provides actions that the council can take to support collaborative court and diversion programs with advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion to improve participant outcomes and program success. The report provides four priority areas inclusive of data-driven strategies that are designed to promote progress at the state and local levels while navigating current political, economic, and public health landscapes. The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the council receive the report and direct the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee to implement the identified priority areas.

Speakers:

Hon. Charles A. Smiley III, Cochair, Racial Justice Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee

Ms. Veronica D. Lewis, Cochair, Racial Justice Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee

Ms. Deanna Adams, Criminal Justice Services

20 minutes

[25-094](#)**Trial Courts | Update of Resource Assessment Study Model (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Data Analytics Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council approve updated workload measures of the Resource Assessment Study (RAS). The RAS model is a weighted caseload methodology used to assess trial court staff needs, incorporating court filings, caseweights, and a staff work-year value to estimate the time required for case processing activities. Each caseweight is a measure of the complexity of court workload by case type. The proposed model parameters are based on findings from a 2024 time study conducted in 19 courts across the state. Previous iterations of the model were approved by the Judicial Council in 2005, 2013, and 2017.

Speakers:

Hon. Joyce D. Hinrichs (Ret.), Chair, Data Analytics Advisory Committee

Hon. Thomas E. Kuhnle, Vice-Chair, Data Analytics Advisory Committee

Ms. Leah Rose-Goodwin, Research, Analytics, and Data

Ms. Kristin Greenaway, Research, Analytics, and Data

25 minutes

[25-058](#)**Judicial Branch Administration | Tactical Plan for Technology 2025-2026 (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Technology Committee and the Information Technology Advisory Committee recommend adopting the *Tactical Plan for Technology 2025-2026*. Prepared by the Tactical Plan Update Workstream, the plan aligns with the *Strategic Plan for Technology 2023-2026* and provides a road map for achieving branchwide goals. The 2025-2026 plan reflects the status of existing initiatives, outlines a new initiative, and focuses on technology solutions that advance the administration of justice. The updated plan serves the public by leveraging emerging technologies to enhance court operations, enable efficiencies, and increase accessibility.

Speakers:

Hon. Sheila F. Hanson, Chair, Information Technology Advisory Committee
Mr. Brian Cotta, Member, Tactical Plan Workstream

20 minutes

[25-095](#)**Judicial Council Update | Jury Instructions and the Juror Experience (No Report. No Action Required.)****Summary:**

This informational presentation from the Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions, Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions, and Court Executives Advisory Committee outlines the Judicial Council's efforts to improve judicial administration and enhance access to justice through its pattern jury instructions and jury service programs.

Speakers:

Hon. Adrienne M. Grover, Chair, Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions
Hon. Jeffrey S. Ross, Chair, Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions
Mr. Darrel E. Parker, Chair, Court Executives Advisory Committee

30 minutes

[25-097](#)**Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (No Report. No Action Required.)****Summary:**

This presentation from the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission will focus on the work of the commission and its legal aid programs.

Speakers:

Ms. Erica Connolly, Cochair, Legal Services Trust Fund Commission
Ms. Doan Nguyen, Program Director, State Bar of California

15 minutes

25-101**Public Service Recognition Week (No Report. No Action Required.)****Summary:**

In acknowledgment of Public Service Recognition Week, Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero and the Judicial Council of California will honor all serving in the California judicial branch by highlighting personal stories from dedicated public service employees in the video series "Why I Choose to Serve."

10 minutes

INFORMATION AGENDA (NO ACTION REQUIRED)[25-088](#)**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.

[25-081](#)**Judicial Council Update | Trial Court Facility Modifications Report for Quarter 2 of Fiscal Year 2024-25****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 2024-25. 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*.

[25-065](#)**Report to the Legislature | 2024 Training for Judicial Officers Pursuant to Government Code Section 68555.5****Summary:**

In accordance with Government Code section 68555.5, the Judicial Council submitted the required report to the Legislature, *2024 Training for Judicial Officers Pursuant to Gov. Code, § 68555.5*. The attached report conveys the titles of the training courses offered by the Judicial Council pursuant to Government Code section 68555 and the number of judicial officers who participated in each training.

[25-012](#)**Report to the Legislature | Allocation of Funding in Fiscal Year 2024-25 for Federally Funded Dependency Representation Program Shortfall****Summary:**

Judicial Council staff submitted to the Legislature *Report on Allocation of Funding in 2024-25 for Federally Funded Dependency Representation Program Shortfall*, in accordance with the requirement in the Budget Act of 2024. This shortfall was first addressed in the Budget Act of 2021 to reimburse courts and court-appointed dependency counsel for any gap between the federal reimbursement maximum and what the state is able to recover in federal reimbursement funds. In fiscal year 2023-24, approximately 69 percent of participant billings met the criteria for federal reimbursement. This percentage has been relatively consistent over the last three years.

[25-066](#)**Report to the Legislature | Compliance With Education Requirements of Welfare and Institutions Code Section 304.7****Summary:**

In accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7(c), the Judicial Council submits the required compliance report to the Legislature, *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.

[25-093](#)**Report to the Legislature | Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2023-24****Summary:**

Under Government Code section 68086(f), the Judicial Council is required to submit a report on the statewide court reporter fees collected and expenditures for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee by February 1 of each year. Due to an administrative oversight, Judicial Council staff submitted *Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2023-24* on March 3, 2025.

[25-089](#)**Report to the Legislature | Trial Court Operational Metrics: 2025 Report****Summary:**

The Budget Act of 2022 (Stats. 2022, ch. 43) requires that the Judicial Council annually report to the Legislature on the operations of each trial court and include various specified operational and budgetary metrics. This is the third year that the branch has produced this report.

[25-072](#)**Trial Courts | Public Notice of Court Closure or Reduced Clerk's Office Hours****Summary:**

This report includes one clerk's office closure notice from the Superior Court of El Dorado County. Government Code section 68106 directs (1) trial courts to notify the public and the Judicial Council before closing courtrooms or clerks' offices or reducing clerks' regular office hours and (2) the council to post all such notices on its website and relay them to the Legislature.

[25-090](#)**Trial Courts | Quarterly Investment Report for Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-25****Summary:**

This quarterly investment report covers the period from October 1 through December 31, 2024, 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

[25-092](#) **Written Reports**

Circulating Orders

[25-103](#) **Circulating Orders since the last business meeting.**

Appointment Orders

[25-104](#) **Appointment Orders since the last business meeting.**

Adjournment