



# Judicial Council of California

## Meeting Minutes

### Judicial Council

Please visit [courts website](#) to access the recording of the November 17, 2023 meeting.

Meeting materials are available through the hyperlinks in this document.

*Open to the Public Unless Indicated as Closed  
(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.6(a))*

*Requests for ADA accommodation should be directed to  
JCCAccessCoordinator@jud.ca.gov*

---

Friday, November 17, 2023

10:00 AM

San Francisco

---

### **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 9:00 a.m.

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

#### **Attendance**

##### **Council Members**

**Present:** 25 - Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, Justice Carol A. Corrigan, Administrative Presiding Justice Brad R. Hill, Justice Carin T. Fujisaki, Judge Marla O. Anderson, Judge Maria Lucy Armendariz, Judge C. Todd Bottke, Judge Kyle S. Brodie, Judge Jonathan B. Conklin, Judge Michelle Williams Court, Judge Charles S. Crompton, Judge Judith K. Dulcich, Judge Samuel K. Feng, Judge Maureen F. Hallahan, Judge Maria D. Hernandez, Judge Ann C. Moorman, Senator Thomas J. Umberg, Ms. Kate Bieker, Mr. David D. Fu, Ms. Rachel W. Hill, Mr. Charles Johnson, Ms. Gretchen Nelson, Mr. Darrel E. Parker, Mr. Maxwell V. Pritt, and Mr. David H. Yamasaki

**Absent:** 2 - Judge Erica R. Yew and Assembly Member Brian Maienschein

#### **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. Mr. Marcus Wiggins addressed the council on general matters of judicial administration. Ms. Michelle Caldwell addressed the council on item 23-199, Report to the Legislature | Transcript Rate Uniformity.

## Chief Justice's Report

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

## Administrative Director's Report

[23-180](#)

### Acting Administrative Director's Report

Acting Administrative Director Millicent Tidwell reported on the council's activities since the last council meeting.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Approval of the Consent Agenda

**A motion to approve all of the following items on the Consent Agenda was made by Justice Fujisaki and seconded by Judge Anderson. The motion was adopted.**

[23-045](#)

### Minutes of September 19, 2023, Judicial Council Meeting

[23-202](#)

### Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Funding for Increased Transcript Rates (Action Required)

**Summary:** Senate Bill 170 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240), which amended the Budget Act of 2021, included \$7 million ongoing General Fund for the Judicial Council to establish a methodology to allocate the funding to all trial courts to cover the costs associated with increased transcript rates. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving a proportional allocation based on the current council-approved methodology of the ongoing \$7 million to all trial courts to cover the costs associated with increased transcript rates for fiscal year 2023-24.

**Recommendation:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, approve the \$7 million allocation to each trial court.

[23-200](#)

### Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | FY 2023-24 Model Self-Help Pilot Program--Technology (Action Required)

**Summary:** The Model Self-Help Pilot Program includes the annual allocation of \$191,400 to courts for self-help technology solutions. All courts were given the opportunity to apply for the funding in fiscal year 2023-24. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that, of the thirteen program applications for self-help technology received from nine courts, nine programs be funded by Model Self-Help Technology funds, one program by a combination of Model Self-Help Technology and Signage and Technology Program funds, one program by Signage and Technology Program funds alone, and two programs not be funded.

**Recommendation:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective December 1, 2023, approve the proposed one-time funding allocations for the 2023-24 Model Self-Help Program-Technology.

[23-197](#)

**Collaborative Justice | Fiscal Year 2023-24 Substance Abuse Focus Grant and Dependency Drug Court Augmentation Grant Funding (Action Required)**

**Summary:** As part of the Budget Act of 2023, the Legislature allocated \$1.16 million for the Substance Abuse Focus Grant Program to the superior courts to maintain, expand, or enhance collaborative courts. \$75,000 in federal Court Improvement Program funds are also available in fiscal year 2023-24 to fund Dependency Drug Courts. In September 2023, the Judicial Council established a population-based methodology for allocation of the Substance Abuse Focus Grants and Dependency Drug Court funding to the courts. The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council allocate the fiscal year 2023-24 funds using the council’s population-based methodology.

**Recommendation:** The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2023, approve the distribution of grants from the Collaborative Justice Courts Substance Abuse Focus Grant Program and the Dependency Drug Court Augmentation for fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 to courts using the population-based methodology approved at the Judicial Council meeting on September 19, 2023.

[23-188](#)

**Jury Instructions | Civil Jury Instructions (Release 44) (Action Required)**

**Summary:** The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends approval of new and revised civil jury instructions, verdict forms, and user guide content prepared by the committee. Among other things, these changes bring the instructions up to date with developments in the law over the previous six months and add new instructions on implicit or unconscious bias and reasonable accommodation for pregnancy, childbirth, and related conditions. Upon Judicial Council approval, the instructions will be published in the official 2024 edition of the *Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions*.

**Recommendation:** The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2023, approve for publication under rules 2.1050 and 10.58 of the California Rules of Court:

1. The addition of 3 new instructions: CACI Nos. 2580, *Pregnancy Discrimination--Failure to Accommodate--Essential Factual Elements*; 2581, *Pregnancy Discrimination--“Reasonable Accommodation” Explained*; and 5030, *Implicit or Unconscious Bias*;
2. Revisions to 14 instructions and verdict forms: CACI Nos. 113, 2547, 2549, VF-2700, VF-2701, VF-2702, VF-2706, VF-2707, VF-2708, VF-2709, 3070, 3905A, 4603, and 4702; and

3. Revisions to the Guide for Using Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions (user guide) concerning revision dates.

[23-199](#)**Report to the Legislature | Transcript Rate Uniformity  
(Action Required)**

**Summary:** Assembly Bill 177 (Stats. 2021, ch. 257) added section 69950.5 to the Government Code requiring the Judicial Council to provide to the Legislature by January 1, 2024, recommendations to increase uniformity in transcription rate expenditures in California. The law specifies that the intent of the report is not to reduce the rate of pay or overall compensation to reporters or to jeopardize collective bargaining agreements. In response, the Judicial Council’s Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and Court Executives Advisory Committee convened the Joint Transcript Fee Working Group and produced the attached report, which recommends that transcript fees be calculated using a page rate rather than the current method of paying per 100 words. The attached report fulfills the legislative mandate.

**Recommendation:** The Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2023:

1. Approve the recommendations in *Transcript Rate Uniformity: Report to the Legislature Required Under Government Code Section 69950.5*; and
2. Direct the Administrative Director to submit this report to the Legislature.

[23-186](#)**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 California Rules of Court for the expedited resolution of actions and proceedings brought under the California Environmental Quality Act, to implement new legislation requiring inclusion of “infrastructure projects” for streamlined review as well as the requirement that applicants of certain infrastructure projects pay the costs of the trial and appellate courts in adjudicating challenges to those projects.

**Recommendation:** The Appellate Advisory Committee and the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective December 31, 2023, amend rules 3.2200, 3.2220, 3.2221, 3.2223, 3.2240, 8.700, 8.702, 8.703 and 8.705 to add “infrastructure projects” as a “streamlined CEQA project” and to require the payment of trial court and appellate court costs for review of challenges to those projects as applicable.

[23-181](#)**Rules and Forms | Service Forms to Implement Assembly Bill 2791 (Action Required)**

**Summary:** The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee and the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommend adoption of two new forms, *Request for Sheriff to Serve Court Papers* (form SER-001) and an attachment to that form, *Special Instructions for Writs and Levies--Attachment* (form SER-001A). The proposed forms comply with the statutory mandate in Assembly Bill 2791 that by January 1, 2024 the Judicial Council adopt a form or forms for civil litigants to request that a sheriff's office serve their court papers.

**Recommendation:** The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee and the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2024, adopt *Request for Sheriff to Serve Court Papers* (form SER-001) and *Special Instructions for Writs and Levies--Attachment* (form SER-001A) for civil litigants to use when requesting service of court papers by the sheriff or marshal.

[23-196](#)**Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act | 2023-24 Trial Court Trust Fund Allocation Adjustment (Action Required)**

**Summary:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving an increase to the approved fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 Trial Court Trust Fund allocation of \$12.265 million for local assistance of \$3.567 million from existing Shriver program reserves. This increase will fully fund the approved Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Pilot Program grants to qualified legal services providers and court partners to operate pilot projects that provide legal representation and improved court services to low-income, unrepresented parties at a total of \$15.832 million in FY 2023-24.

**Recommendation:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2023, approve an increase to the approved FY 2023-24 Trial Court Trust Fund allocation of \$12.265 for local assistance for the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Pilot Program of \$3.567 million from existing Shriver program reserves for a total of \$15.832 million in FY 2023-24.

[23-175](#)**Trial Court Budget | 2023-24 State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Allocation Increase for Judicial Education (Action Required)**

**Summary:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends a \$150,000 increase to the fiscal year 2023-24 approved Judicial Education program allocation from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund due to the significantly high number of judicial appointments in recent months. The increased budget, from \$984,000 to \$1.1 million, will provide the resources necessary for the Judicial Council's Center for Judicial Education and Research to offer six additional New Judge Orientation training programs

this fiscal year and to increase the capacity of each of the Primary Assignment Orientations. This will ensure that newly appointed judicial officers receive the education they need and are able to meet the new judge education requirements of California Rules of Court, rule 10.462.

**Recommendation:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2023, approve an increase of \$150,000 to the fiscal year 2023-24 Judicial Education program allocation from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund.

### [23-193](#)

#### **Trial Court Budget | 2023-24 State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Allocation Increase for Judicial Council Information Technology Office (Action Required)**

**Summary:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends a \$721,490 increase to the Judicial Council Information Technology office's 2023-24 Judicial Council-approved allocation from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund. This increase will provide the Superior Court of Madera County with funding to complete their goal of digitizing over 13.4 million pages of court records and transform a court that relies on paper files into a digital court.

**Recommendation:** The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2023, approve an increase of \$721,490 to the Judicial Council Information Technology office's 2023-24 allocation from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund.

### [23-044](#)

#### **Trial Courts | Trial Court Trust Fund Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts (Action Required)**

**Summary:** The Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approval of 16 new and 14 amended requests of Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF) funds to be held on behalf of the trial courts, totaling \$22.5 million from 18 trial courts. Under the Judicial Council-adopted process, courts can request a reduction in their TCTF allocations be retained in the TCTF as restricted fund balance for the benefit of those courts. The funds are then allocated back to the courts by the Judicial Council for the purposes stated in their approved requests.

**Recommendation:** Based on actions taken at its meeting on August 31, 2023, the Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2023, approve:

1. New funding requests, totaling \$13.2 million, as follows:
  - \$284,000 request from El Dorado Superior Court for implementation and deployment of its case management system (CMS);
  - \$70,000 request from Glenn Superior Court for courthouse renovations;
  - \$178,000 request from Lake Superior Court for courthouse construction;
  - \$110,000 request from Nevada Superior Court for various projects which include courthouse updates and implementation of a work management

system;

- \$295,000 request from Orange Superior Court for implementation of its CMS;
- \$316,000 request from Orange Superior Court to partially fund the Oracle Infrastructure project implementation;
- \$632,000 request from Orange Superior Court to partially fund the Grand Central project and integration with its CMS;
- \$4 million request from San Bernardino Superior Court for courthouse construction due to six new judgeships;
- \$2.3 million request from San Bernardino Superior Court for migration to a new CMS;
- \$600,000 request from San Bernardino Superior Court for expansion of the existing speech-to-text technologies;
- \$2.5 million request from San Bernardino Superior Court for courthouse renovations;
- \$386,000 request from San Luis Obispo Superior Court for various projects including courtroom upgrades and modification projects;
- \$350,000 request from Santa Clara Superior Court for implementation of an automation project;
- \$714,000 request from Sutter Superior Court for various projects including technological enhancements and facility modifications;
- \$389,000 request from San Joaquin Superior Court for facility upgrades; and
- \$17,000 request from Sierra Superior Court for courthouse renovations; and

2. Amended requests, totaling \$9.3 million, as follows:

- Request of Colusa Superior Court to extend the period for facility modifications from 2022-23 to 2025-26, totaling \$284,000;
- Request of Imperial Superior Court to extend the period for courthouse construction from 2022-23 to 2023-24, totaling \$100,000;
- Request of Lake Superior Court to reduce the original request of \$17,000 by \$8,000 and extend the period from 2022-23 to 2023-24 for a CMS project, for a revised total of \$9,000;
- Request of Lake Superior Court to withdraw the original request for a CMS project from 2022-23, totaling -\$30,000;
- Request of Mariposa Superior Court to extend the period for facility renovations from 2021-22 to 2022-23, and to increase the requested amount by \$356,000 from \$50,000 to \$406,000;
- Request of Mono Superior Court to extend the period for audio and visual upgrades from 2022-23 to 2024-25, totaling \$168,000;
- Request of Monterey Superior Court to extend the period for courthouse construction from 2022-23 to 2024-25, totaling \$25,000;
- Request of San Benito Superior Court to extend the period for various

projects from 2020-21 to 2023-24, totaling \$644,000;

- Request of Ventura Superior Court to extend the period for CMS upgrades through 2025-26, and to increase the requested amount in fund balance year 2022-23 by \$920,000 from \$1 million to \$1.9 million;
- Request of Monterey Superior Court to reduce the original request of \$50,000 by \$12,000 and extend the period from 2022-23 to 2023-24 for a fleet purchase, for a revised total of \$38,000;
- Request of Monterey Superior Court to extend the period for facility upgrades from 2021-22 to 2022-23, and to increase the requested amount by \$108,000 from \$221,000 to \$329,000;
- Request of Monterey Superior Court to extend the period for facility upgrades from 2020-21 to 2022-23, and to increase the requested amount by \$128,000 from \$169,000 to \$297,000;
- Request of Monterey Superior Court to extend the period for facility upgrades from 2021-22 to 2022-23, and to increase the requested amount by \$266,000 from \$250,000 to \$516,000; and
- Request of San Joaquin Superior Court to amend the period for facility construction through 2025-26, and to increase the requested amount for fund balance year 2022-23 by \$80,000, totaling \$4.5 million.

## DISCUSSION AGENDA

### [23-195](#)

#### **Language Access Plan | New Requirements for American Sign Language Court Interpreters (Action Required)**

**Summary:** The Court Interpreters Advisory Panel (CIAP) recommends that the Judicial Council address the current shortage of American Sign Language (ASL) court interpreters by approving the Texas Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Board for Evaluation of Interpreters as an approved testing entity for ASL court interpreter certification for a period of four years to expand the number of available ASL court interpreters. The panel also recommends that the council direct CIAP to develop a proposal for the council to certify persons with ASL generalist credentials to perform work in the courts.

**Recommendation:** The Court Interpreters Advisory Panel (CIAP) recommends that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2024:

1. Approve temporary revisions to the *Guidelines for Approval of Certification Programs for Interpreters for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Persons (Guidelines)*, allowing for an exemption in critical circumstances for a period of four years;
2. Under the exemption, temporarily approve the Texas Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Board for Evaluation of Interpreters as an approved testing entity for ASL court interpreter certification for a period of four years;
3. Direct CIAP to develop a proposal for the council to certify persons with ASL generalist credentials to perform work in the courts; and



4. Direct CIAP to revise the *Guidelines* and develop a recommendation for an ASL court interpreter certification program approval process that is more responsive to the current interpreter marketplace and testing and certification landscape.

**A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mr. Yamasaki and seconded by Justice Corrigan. The motion was adopted.**

#### [23-194](#)

### **Judicial Branch Administration | Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post-Pandemic Initiatives Final Report (No Action Required)**

**Summary:** In March 2021, former Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye established the Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post-Pandemic Initiatives to examine court practices adopted during the pandemic to increase access to justice, modernize services, and promote uniformity in court practices going forward. Beginning in March 2021, the workgroup received input from 76 stakeholders from 46 entities. The workgroup released two interim reports on remote access to courts and improving the juror experience, drafted a remote proceedings guide for judicial officers, developed a Judicial Council policy on remote access to electronic court records, and submitted a report to the Legislature and Governor under Code of Civil Procedure section 367.9. Additionally, the workgroup referred eight concepts to Judicial Council advisory bodies, the Judicial Council staff organization, and other stakeholders for further development. This report serves as the final report of the Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post-Pandemic Initiatives, outlining the many accomplishments of the workgroup to increase access to justice, modernize services, and promote uniformity in court practices across the state.

#### [23-189](#)

### **Judicial Branch Technology | Hybrid Courtroom Findings and Recommendations (No Action Required)**

**Summary:** In 2021, the Information Technology Advisory Committee convened the Advancing the Hybrid Courtroom Workstream to study how courts have ensured successful remote proceedings since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, make recommendations regarding best practices for technology and equipment for remote proceedings, and assist with development of a request for proposal consistent with those findings and recommendations. The workstream has now issued its final findings and recommendations in the *Report of the Advancing the Hybrid Courtroom Workstream: Findings and Recommendations*, which summarizes the workstream's work and sets forth a framework for courtrooms that are optimized for proceedings involving any number of physical or remote participants.

#### [23-092](#)

### **Juvenile Law | Court Adoption and Permanency Month (No Action Required)**

**Summary:** On October 27, 2023, and at the request of the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero proclaimed November 2023 to be Court Adoption and Permanency Month. Her proclamation by resolution recognizes the ongoing efforts of California's juvenile courts and their justice partners to provide children and families with access to fair, understandable judicial proceedings leading to timely, well-informed, and just permanency outcomes.

**INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)**[23-043](#)**Court Facilities | Lease-Revenue Bond Issuance, Fall 2022 and Spring 2023**

**Summary:** The Acting Administrative Director presents this report on actions taken in connection with lease-revenue bonds issued by the State Public Works Board in fall 2022 and spring 2023, for the financing of court facilities projects as authorized and directed by the Judicial Council. No new lease-revenue bonds were issued on behalf of the Judicial Council during this time period. However, a refunding of existing bonds occurred for three capital-outlay projects, and interim loans were issued for nine capital-outlay projects in construction.

[23-185](#)**Court Security | Trial Court Screening Equipment Replacement for Fiscal Year 2022-23**

**Summary:** Each year, the Administrative Director approves the list of entrance screening equipment to be funded that year through the Screening Equipment Replacement Program, which provides funding from the Trial Court Trust Fund to replace outdated or malfunctioning screening equipment in the trial courts. This report updates the council on the equipment that was replaced in fiscal year 2022-23 using that funding.

[23-042](#)**Report to the Legislature | Allocation of the State-Level Reserve in the Trial Court Trust Fund in 2022-23**

**Summary:** Pursuant to Government Code section 68502.5(c)(2)(C), the Judicial Council is required to submit a report to the Legislature and the Department of Finance by October 1 of each year that accounts for all trial court requests and allocations from the authorized reserve in the Trial Court Trust Fund for unforeseen emergencies. On or before October 1, 2023, Judicial Council staff submitted the *Report of Allocation of the State-Level Reserve in the Trial Court Trust Fund in 2022-23*.

[23-041](#)**Report to the Legislature | 2022-23 Allocations and Reimbursements to the Trial Courts**

**Summary:** Pursuant to Government Code section 77202.5(a), the Judicial Council is required to submit a report on allocations and reimbursements to the trial courts to the Senate Committees on Budget and Fiscal Review and Judiciary, and the Assembly Committees on Budget and Judiciary, annually by September 30 of each year. On September 29, 2023, Judicial Council staff submitted the report on *2022-23 Allocations and Reimbursements to the Trial Courts*.

[23-191](#)**Report to the Legislature | Contracts for the Trial Courts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

**Summary:** Section 19209 of the Public Contract Code and the *Judicial Branch Contracting Manual* require that the Judicial Council submit a report annually to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the State Auditor to provide information related to contracts and payments from the trial courts to all vendors and contractors. The report includes a list of vendors and contractors as required by section 19209(b) and identifies the amounts of payments to the contractors and vendors, the types of services and goods provided, and the trial courts with which the contractors and vendors contracted to provide those goods and services. The report summary also includes a list of all amended contracts as required by section 19209(c), including any changes to the contract value, types of services or goods, or contract. For the latest reporting period, the Judicial Council reports 25,321 payments representing \$611.02 million for trial courts. As mandated, Judicial Council staff submitted this report by September 30, 2023.

[23-201](#)**Report to the Legislature | Report on Allocation of Funding in Fiscal Year 2022-23 for Court-Based Firearm Relinquishment Program**

**Summary:** The Budget Act of 2022 (Assem. Bill 178 (Ting); Stats. 2022, ch. 45) appropriated \$40 million in one-time funding to the Judicial Council, of which \$36 million must be distributed to trial courts to support court-based firearm relinquishment programs. By October 1 of each year, beginning in 2023 and ending in 2025, the Judicial Council must provide a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee describing the allocation method of the funding, the ways each court has used or will use the funding, the structure of the program at each court, the roles and responsibilities of the court and its contractors, implementation challenges or other challenges faced, and key data outcomes by each court.

[23-192](#)**Report to the Legislature | Measures to Promote Fair and Efficient Administration of Justice**

**Summary:** The Judicial Council must adopt and annually report on judicial administration standards and measures that promote the fair and efficient administration of justice per Government Code section 77001.5. The attached report, *Standards and Measures That Promote the Fair and Efficient Administration of Justice*, reports on judicial branch progress in the following areas: (1) providing equal access to courts and respectful treatment for all court participants; (2) case processing, including the efficient use of judicial resources; and (3) general court administration.

[23-190](#)**Trial Courts | Quarterly Investment Report for First Quarter Fiscal Year 2023-24**

**Summary:** This quarterly investment report covers the period from July 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, 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.

[23-182](#)**Trial Courts | Public Notice by Courts of Closures or Reduced Clerks' Office Hours**

**Summary:** 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. This report lists the latest court notices received by the council under this statutory requirement. Since the previous report, one superior court--the Superior Court of Tuolumne County--has issued a new notice.

**Judicial Council Internal Committee Reports**[23-183](#)**Written Reports****Appointment Orders**[23-203](#)**Appointment Orders since the last business meeting.****Adjournment**

With the meeting's business completed, the Chief Justice adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:02 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Administrative Director Shelley Curran, Secretary to the Judicial Council, on January 19, 2024.*