



Judicial Council of California

Meeting Agenda

Judicial Council

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of the July 12, 2024,
meeting.

Meeting materials
are available through
the hyperlinks in
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Friday, July 12, 2024

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

10 minutes

Public Comment

10 minutes

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, July 11, by email to:

judicialcouncil@jud.ca.gov

Chief Justice's Report

15 minutes

Administrative Director's Report

[24-010](#) 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.

[24-004](#) Minutes of May 17, 2024, Judicial Council Meeting

[24-109](#) Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Funding for Court Reporters (Action Required)

Summary: Senate Bill 170 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240), which amended the Budget Act of 2021, included \$30 million ongoing General Fund to the Judicial Council for establishing a methodology to allocate funding to all trial courts to increase the number of court reporters in family law and civil cases. The budget language in the 2022 Budget Act and ongoing expanded the use of this funding but did not affect how these funds are allocated to the courts. The May Revision for the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 budget reduced the level of funding to \$20 million ongoing but has no impact on how these funds could be used. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving a proportional allocation of the ongoing \$20 million to all trial courts for FY 2024-25.

[24-085](#) Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Pretrial Release Funding and Allocation Methodology (Action Required)

Summary: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving the fiscal year 2024-25 pretrial release funding of \$68.95 million General Fund for the trial courts. This allocation is in accordance with methodologies outlined in the Budget Act of 2024, including minimum funding floors. Funding through the pretrial release program provides for the implementation and operation of ongoing court programs and practices that promote the safe, efficient, fair, and timely pretrial release of individuals booked into jail.

[24-123](#)**Collaborative Justice | Fiscal Year 2024-25 Substance Abuse Focus Grant and Dependency Drug Court Augmentation Grant Funding (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council allocate the Substance Abuse Focus Grant Program's fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 funds to the trial courts using the population-based methodology approved in September 2023. The Budget Act of 2024 allocated \$1.16 million for the Substance Abuse Focus Grant Program to the superior courts to maintain, expand, or enhance collaborative courts. A total of \$75,000 in federal Court Improvement Program funds is also available in FY 2024-25 to fund dependency drug courts.

[24-120](#)**Rules and Forms | Adjustments to Exemptions from Enforcement of Judgments (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Code of Civil Procedure requires the Judicial Council to publish a list of the current dollar amounts of exemptions from judgment. The Code of Civil Procedure also provides that the dollar amount of the exemption for a judgment debtor's deposit account be adjusted every July 1. In addition, the Legislature recently amended the relevant sections of the Code of Civil Procedure to adjust the amount of two other existing exemptions and added two new exemptions. Accordingly, Judicial Council staff recommend revising the form that contains the list of dollar amounts of exemptions from judgment to reflect the updated figure for deposit accounts and to implement the recent statutory amendments.

[24-127](#)**Rules and Forms | Child Support: Implementing Amendments to the Family Code (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council approve 2 new forms, revise 20 forms, and revoke 3 forms related to child support. This action is necessary to implement recent changes to the Family Code that (1) require, in compliance with recent federal regulations, that child support orders be based on evidence of actual income or the specific circumstances of the obligor parent; (2) mandate that local child support agencies provide notice regarding payment of support to parents and the court when they begin and cease to provide child support enforcement services; and (3) increase the time period before child support resumes after an obligor parent has been released from incarceration or confinement.

[24-126](#)**Rules and Forms | Mental Health Law: CARE Act and Related Proceedings (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee recommends approving an optional form for the court's use to order the county agency to provide information to the respondent's attorney in specified related proceedings that a petition to commence proceedings under the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act has been filed on the respondent's behalf. This form, recommended in response to comments from courts and counties, would facilitate the

process required by rule 7.2210(e) of the California Rules of Court.

[24-111](#)**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 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.

[24-122](#)**Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2024-25 Allocation of Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act Funding
(Action Required)****Summary:**

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) recommends allocation to courts of the \$26.5 million for fiscal year 2024-25 included in the Budget Act of 2024 for implementation of the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act. The allocation may change based on final appropriations included in the signed Budget Act. The TCBAC presented this recommendation to the Judicial Branch Budget Committee on June 4, 2024, and the JBBC approved it for consideration by the Judicial Council.

[24-087](#)**Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2024-25 Allocation of Court-Appointed Juvenile Dependency Counsel Funding
(Action Required)****Summary:**

The fiscal year 2024-25 budget for court-appointed dependency counsel is \$186.7 million. The Judicial Council is required to approve the allocation of court-appointed dependency counsel funding on an annual basis.

[24-121](#)**Trial Court Budget | Model Self-Help Pilot Program Technology Model Project Allocation Methodology (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council approve revisions to the methodology for the allocation of funds for the Model Self-Help Pilot Program Technology Model Project to address the urgent need to expand self-help services in all courts.

[24-117](#)**Trial Court Budget | Self-Help Funding Allocation Methodology for Fiscal Year 2024-25 through 2026-27 (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends maintaining the current funding allocation methodology for self-help funding allocated to the trial courts for fiscal year 2024-25 and ongoing. The next allocation changes based on population using this methodology would be made in fiscal year 2027-28. This recommendation will ensure that resources are allocated effectively and will provide adequate notice to courts so they can plan for funding changes.

[24-030](#)**Trial Court Budget | State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Allocations for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving allocations for fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund in the amount of \$46.6 million. Assuming approval of the allocations, and with current revenue projections, the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund is projected to end FY 2024-25 with a fund balance of \$28.9 million, of which approximately \$26.8 million will be unrestricted.

DISCUSSION AGENDA[24-128](#)**Court Interpreters | Announcement of Invitation to Participate in the California Court Interpreter Workforce Pilot Program (No Report. No Action Required.)****Summary:**

This presentation to the Judicial Council is about the California Court Interpreter Workforce Pilot Program, a five-year pilot that was approved by the council at its meeting on May 17, 2024. The pilot program is intended to increase the number of court interpreter employees in the courts by reimbursing potential interpreters for costs associated with their training, coursework, and up to three examination fees to become a court interpreter.

Speakers:

Mr. David H. Yamasaki, Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of Orange County
Mr. Douglas G. Denton, Center for Families, Children & the Courts

10 minutes

[24-032](#)**Trial Court Budget | Allocations from the Trial Court Trust Fund and Trial Court Allocations for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Action Required)****Summary:**

For fiscal year (FY) 2024-25, the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) recommends the Judicial Council allocate \$3 billion to the trial courts, which includes \$2.8 billion from the Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF) and \$137.8 million from the state General Fund for employee benefits and pretrial funding. Due to the state's multiyear budget deficit, the May Revision included an ongoing \$97 million General Fund reduction to the trial courts' operational funding, which is reflected in the total allocations for FY 2024-25. The TCBAC also recommends the Judicial Council approve the Workload Formula allocation of \$2.5 billion, which is a subset of the \$3 billion total allocation, based on recommended methodologies as well as methodologies approved by the Judicial Council. Assuming approval of the allocations, current revenue projections, and estimated savings from FY 2023-24 appropriations, the TCTF will end FY 2024-25 with a fund balance of \$128.6 million, of which approximately \$60.8 million will be unrestricted.

Speakers:

Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Chair, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee

10 minutes

[24-119](#) **Court Facilities | Judicial Branch Five-Year Infrastructure Plan and Capital-Outlay Budget Change Proposals for Fiscal Year 2025-26 (Action Required)**

Summary: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends approval of the *Judicial Branch Five-Year Infrastructure Plan* and eight capital-outlay budget change proposals for fiscal year (FY) 2025-26 for submission to the state Department of Finance. The five-year plan forms the basis for capital project funding requests for the upcoming and outlying fiscal years, and the budget change proposals reflect funding requested for the phases of the projects in year 1 (FY 2025-26) of the plan.

Speakers: Hon. Brad R. Hill, Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
Ms. Pella McCormick, Facilities Services

10 minutes

[24-031](#) **Judicial Branch Budget | 2025-26 Budget Change Proposals for Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, Superior Courts, Habeas Corpus Resource Center, Judicial Branch Facilities Program, and Judicial Council (Action Required)**

Summary: To balance responsible investment in core programs and services provided by the judicial branch in the context of the state's multiyear projected deficit, the Judicial Branch Budget Committee recommends submitting eight budget change proposals to the Department of Finance for consideration in the fiscal year 2025-26 Governor's Budget.

Speakers: Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Chair, Judicial Branch Budget Committee
Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Budget Services

15 minutes

[24-088](#) **Juvenile Law | Court Appointed Special Advocate Funding Methodology and Fiscal Year 2024-25 Allocations (Action Required)**

Summary: The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council allocate funding for the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, which includes an amendment to the funding methodology for allocation of a \$500,000 funding augmentation. The allocations will fund 45 CASA programs serving 52 counties and approximately 10,600 children statewide.

Speakers: Hon. B. Scott Thomsen, Member, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee
Ms. Sharon M. Lawrence, Member, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee
Ms. Kelly Meehleib, Center for Families, Children & the Courts

10 minutes

[24-114](#)**Child Support | AB 1058 Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program Funding for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approval of Assembly Bill 1058 Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program funding for fiscal year 2024-25. The funds are provided through a cooperative agreement between the California Department of Child Support Services and the Judicial Council, which requires the council to annually approve these funding allocations.

Speakers:

Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Chair, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
Ms. Melissa J. Poulos, Family Law Facilitator/Self-Help Program Manager,
Superior Court of Sutter County
Ms. Anna Maves, Principal Managing Attorney, Center for Families,
Children & the Courts

10 minutes

INFORMATION AGENDA (NO ACTION REQUIRED)[24-116](#)**Child Support | Midyear Funding Reallocation for Fiscal Year 2023-24****Summary:**

Effective January 17, 2020, the Judicial Council approved the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee's recommendation to combine the previous two Assembly Bill 1058 Child Support Program midyear funding reallocation processes into one administrative process to maximize program efficiencies. This administrative process for midyear reallocation delegates ongoing authority to the Administrative Director on an annual basis. This report details the midyear reallocation of funding for the AB 1058 Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program for fiscal year 2023-24.

[24-112](#)**Report to the Legislature | Court Realignment Data (Calendar Year 2023)****Summary:**

Penal Code section 13155 requires Judicial Council staff, commencing January 1, 2013, to collect information from trial courts regarding the implementation of the 2011 Criminal Justice Realignment legislation and make the data available annually to the California Department of Finance (DOF), Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), and Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) by September 1. This is the 12th annual court realignment data report. It will be distributed to the DOF, BSCC, and JLBC.

[24-118](#)**Report to the Legislature | Electronic Recording Equipment****Summary:**

Government Code section 69958 requires the Judicial Council to report semiannually to the Legislature on the purchase and lease of any electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. For this reporting period (July 1-December 31, 2023), eight courts reported a combined total of \$5,324,945 for the

purchase of electronic recording equipment or related items. Additionally, two courts reported purchases made in prior reporting periods. The Judicial Council's Policy and Research Office staff submitted this information to the Legislature, in *Report of Electronic Recording Equipment Purchased or Leased by Superior Courts (July 1 through December 31, 2023)*, on or before June 30, 2024.

[24-089](#)**Report to the Legislature | Fiscal Year 2023-24 Funding for California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association****Summary:**

On or before July 1, 2024, staff of the Judicial Council's Center for Families, Children & the Courts submitted to the Legislature the *Report on California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association Funding Allocations and Program Development: Year Two*, in accordance with the requirements stated in the Budget Act of 2023.

[24-097](#)**Report to the Legislature | Trial Court Interpreters Program Expenditure Report for Fiscal Year 2022-23****Summary:**

On June 30, 2024, the Judicial Council's Language Access Services submitted the annual report on trial court interpreter expenditures to the Legislature and the Department of Finance. This report is required by the Budget Act of 2022 (Sen. Bill 154; Stats. 2022, ch. 43).

[24-115](#)**Trial Courts | Public Notice of Court 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 Glenn County--has issued a new notice.

[24-110](#)**Trial Courts | Quarterly Investment Report for Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2023-24****Summary:**

This quarterly investment report covers the period from January 1 through March 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[24-016](#)**Written Reports**

Appointment Orders

[24-125](#)

Appointment Orders since the last business meeting.

Adjournment