



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

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For business meeting on November 19, 2021

Title

Judicial Branch Budget Committee Chair's
Report

Agenda Item Type

Information Only

Date of Report

November 16, 2021

Submitted by

Judicial Branch Budget Committee
Hon. David M. Rubin, 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; reviews and makes recommendations on the Innovations Grant Program; and acts on other assignments as referred to it by the council. The Judicial Branch Budget Committee (Budget Committee) is also assigned oversight responsibility for the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC).

Overview of Committee Meetings

Since the October 1, Judicial Council business meeting, the committee will have met twice; on November 4 and November 18, 2021.

At its November 4 meeting, the Budget Committee considered a recommendation from TCBAC on an allocation methodology for up to \$30 million in support of court-appointed counsel in dependency cases to address shortfalls in federal reimbursement for program costs. The recommendation to the Judicial Council will be presented in January 2022.

Also, at this meeting, the Budget Committee heard two informational items from TCBAC for new allocations included in Chapter 240, Budget Act of 2021. The items presented were an update on the \$30 million one-time Court Interpreter Employee Incentive Grant Funding and an update on the establishment of a methodology to allocate \$30 million of ongoing funding for Court Reporters in family law and civil cases and \$7 million for increase transcript rates.

At the November 18, 2021 meeting, the Budget Committee will receive a status update on the closeout of the Court Innovations Grant Program and be provided an education session on the Courts of Appeal budget.

As we enter the 2021 holiday season and begin to close out the calendar year, the Budget Committee members want to thank again the hard working and dedicated staff who make the Budget Committee and TCBAC's work possible. The Budget Committee also thanks the TCBAC members for their insightful and thoughtful contributions to the branch budget discussions. We look forward to our continued efforts together on behalf of the courts and public.