



# Judicial Council of California

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688  
[www.courts.ca.gov](http://www.courts.ca.gov)

---

## REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

*Item No.: 23-022*

For business meeting on: March 24, 2023

---

**Title**

Report to the Legislature: Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2021–22

**Agenda Item Type**

Information Only

**Date of Report**

March 3, 2023

**Submitted by**

Judicial Council staff  
Zlatko Theodorovic, Director  
Budget Services

**Contact**

Oksana Tuk, 916-643-8027  
[oksana.tuk@jud.ca.gov](mailto:oksana.tuk@jud.ca.gov)

---

### Executive Summary

Pursuant to 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. On or before February 1, 2023, Judicial Council staff submitted the *Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2021–22*.

### Relevant Previous Council Action

This report is submitted to the Legislature annually. Reports from previous fiscal years are available on the California Courts website “Legislative Reports” webpage at [www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm).

### Analysis/Rationale

In 2021–22, a total of \$21.3 million in court reporter fees was collected and remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as required by Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and (2) and 68086.1.

In 2021–22, an estimated \$84.6 million was spent for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings. This amount is an estimate as most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case type.

The estimate was calculated by multiplying the sum of the total amount of the budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2021 (\$221.8 million) and expenditures for contract court reporters (\$3.8 million) by 37.5 percent. The Judicial Council’s 2020–21 Resource Assessment Study (RAS) estimates that approximately 37.5 percent of court reporters need is on civil cases, which includes general civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family law proceedings.

The RAS model measures the need for court reporters by applying a ratio of 1.25 court reporters for every judicial position needed in the corresponding case types. The estimated need for court reporters in civil cases in the RAS model accounts for changes authorized by the Budget Act of 2018 to provide court reporters in family law cases and expanded civil case types, including unlimited civil and probate cases pursuant to *Jameson v. Desta* (5 Cal. 5th 594).

### **Fiscal Impact and Policy Implications**

The requirements of this report do not result in any additional costs or operational impact to 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 2021–22*



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL of CALIFORNIA

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688  
Tel. 415-865-4200  
Fax 415-865-4205  
www.courts.ca.gov

HON. PATRICIA GUERRERO  
*Chief Justice of California*  
*Chair of the Judicial Council*

HON. MARSHA G. SLOUGH  
*Chair, Executive and Planning Committee*

HON. DAVID M. RUBIN  
*Chair, Judicial Branch Budget Committee*  
*Chair, Litigation Management Committee*

HON. MARLA O. ANDERSON  
*Chair, Legislation Committee*

HON. CARIN T. FUJISAKI  
*Chair, Rules Committee*

HON. KYLE S. BRODIE  
*Chair, Technology Committee*

*Hon. Maria Lucy Armendariz*  
*Hon. C. Todd Botke*  
*Hon. Kevin C. Brazile*  
*Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin*  
*Hon. Carol A. Corrigan*  
*Hon. Samuel K. Feng*  
*Mr. David D. Fu*  
*Hon. Brad R. Hill*  
*Ms. Rachel W. Hill*  
*Hon. Harold W. Hopp*  
*Hon. Ann C. Moorman*  
*Ms. Gretchen Nelson*  
*Mr. Maxwell V. Pritt*  
*Hon. Thomas J. Umberg*

ADVISORY MEMBERS  
*Hon. Judith K. Dulcich*  
*Ms. Rebecca J. Fleming*  
*Mr. Shawn C. Landry*  
*Hon. Kimberly Merrifield*  
*Hon. Glenn Mondo*  
*Hon. David Rosenberg*  
*Mr. David H. Yamasaki*

MS. MILLICENT TIDWELL  
*Acting Administrative Director*  
*Judicial Council*

February 1, 2023

Hon. Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review  
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
1020 N Street, Room 502  
Sacramento, California 95814

Hon. Philip Y. Ting  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget  
Vice-Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, California 95814

*Re: Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for 2021–22, as required under Government Code section 68086(f)*

Dear Senator Skinner and Assembly Member Ting:

Pursuant to Government Code section 68086(f), the Judicial Council is submitting this report on court reporter fees collected and expenditures for court reporter services in civil proceedings in 2021–22.

In 2021–22, a total of \$21.3 million in court reporter fees was collected and remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as required by Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and (2) and 68086.1. The estimated total expenditures for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings was \$84.6 million.

The \$21.3 million in court reporter fee revenue is comprised of the following:

Hon. Nancy Skinner  
Hon. Philip Y. Ting  
February 1, 2023  
Page 2

- \$3.3 million in fees that were paid by parties for the services of an official court reporter in each civil proceeding lasting under one hour in accordance with Government Code section 68086(a)(1).
- \$2.0 million in fees that were paid by parties for the services of an official court reporter in each civil proceeding lasting one hour or more on the first and each succeeding judicial day that services were provided in accordance with Government Code section 68086(a)(2).
- \$16.0 million in fees that were deposited in the Trial Court Trust Fund in accordance with 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.

The \$84.6 million in court reporter services expenditures is an estimate as most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case type. The estimate was calculated by multiplying the sum of the total amount of the budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2021 (\$221.8 million) and expenditures for contract court reporters (\$3.8 million) by 37.5 percent. The Judicial Council's 2020–21 Resource Assessment Study estimates that approximately 37.5 percent of court reporters need is on civil cases, which includes general civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family law proceedings.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Judicial Council Budget Services, at 916-263-1397 or at [zlatko.theodorovic@jud.ca.gov](mailto:zlatko.theodorovic@jud.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Millicent Tidwell  
Acting Administrative Director  
Judicial Council

Hon. Nancy Skinner  
Hon. Philip Y. Ting  
February 1, 2023  
Page 3

MT/OT

Enclosure

cc: Cara L. Jenkins, Legislative Counsel  
Erika Contreras, Secretary of the Senate  
Sue Parker, Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
Eric Dang, Policy Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins  
Alf Brandt, Senior Counsel, Office of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Shaun Naidu, Policy Consultant, Office of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Anita Lee, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office  
Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office  
Mark Jimenez, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance  
Margie Estrada, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Mary Kennedy, Chief Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee  
Nora Brackbill, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Matthew Fleming, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Hans Hemann, Principal Consultant, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Eric Csizmar, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office  
Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office  
Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office  
Alison Merrilees, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee  
Sandy Uribe, Chief Counsel, Assembly Public Safety Committee  
Jennifer Kim, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Jay Dickenson, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Kimberly Horiuchi, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Lyndsay Mitchell, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget  
Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget  
Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget  
Amy Leach, Minute Clerk, Office of Assembly Chief Clerk  
Cory T. Jasperson, Director, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council  
Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Budget Services, Judicial Council  
Fran Mueller, Deputy Director, Budget Services, Judicial Council  
Brandy Olivera, Manager, Budget Services, Judicial Council  
Jessie Romine, Supervisor, Budget Services, Judicial Council  
Chris Belloli, Manager, Business Management Services, Judicial Council  
Jenniffer Herman, Administrative Coordinator, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council