



Judicial Council of California

455 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA
94102-3688

Meeting Minutes

Meeting materials
are available through
the hyperlinks in
this document.

Judicial Council

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(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.6(a))*

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Friday, November 13, 2020

9:35 AM

Videoconference

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

Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair of the Judicial Council, called the closed session to order at 8:45 a.m.

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

Attendance

Council Members

Present: 30 - Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Justice Carol A. Corrigan, Administrative Presiding Justice Brad R. Hill, Justice Carin T. Fujisaki, Justice Harry E. Hull Jr., Justice Marsha G. Slough, Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile, Presiding Judge Joyce D. Hinrichs, Presiding Judge Ann C. Moorman, Judge Marla O. Anderson, Judge C. Todd Bottke, Judge Stacy Boulware Eurie, Judge Kyle S. Brodie, Judge Jonathan B. Conklin, Judge Thomas A. Delaney, Judge Samuel K. Feng, Judge Harold W. Hopp, Judge Dalila Corral Lyons, Judge David M. Rubin, Commissioner Glenn Mondo, Assembly Member Richard Bloom, Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Ms. Nancy CS Eberhardt, Ms. Rebecca Fleming, Mr. Kevin Harrigan, Ms. Rachel W. Hill, Mr. Patrick M. Kelly, Mr. Shawn C. Landry, Ms. Gretchen Nelson, and Mr. Maxwell V. Pritt

Call to Order

Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair of the Judicial Council, called the open session to order at 9:35 a.m. in the Judicial Council Board Room.

Public Comment

Comments were submitted in writing and reviewed by the Judicial Council.

Approval of Minutes

[20-213](#)

Minutes of September 25, 2020 Judicial Council Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Pritt and seconded by Judge Rubin. The motion was adopted.

Chief Justice's Report

Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil Sakauye reported on her activities since the last council meeting.

Administrative Director's Report

[20-214](#)

Administrative Director's Report

Administrative Director Martin Hoshino reported on the council's activities since the last council meeting.

Judicial Council Internal Committee Written Reports

[20-207](#)

Judicial Council Internal Committee Written Reports

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Judge Brodie, to approve all of the following items on the Consent Agenda. The motion was adopted. Senator Jackson abstained from items 20-063 and 20-037.

[20-205](#)

Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Continued Distribution of Children's Waiting Room Funds During Temporary Closure (Action Required)

Summary: The Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council approve a request from the Superior Court of Los Angeles County to continue receiving children's waiting room funds during the unforeseen temporary closure of its children's waiting rooms in response to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. By continuing to receive funding, the court will have sufficient resources to provide safe and healthy children's waiting room settings for children when it can safely reopen.

Recommendation: Based on the action taken at its meeting on September 17, 2020, the Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee unanimously recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 13, 2020, approve the continued distribution of children's waiting room funds to the

Superior Court of Los Angeles County to allow the court to receive funding to support operation of its children's waiting rooms upon reopening.

[20-084](#)**Collaborative Justice | Recommended Allocations of Fiscal Year 2020-21 Substance Abuse Focus Grants (Action Required)**

Summary: As part of the Budget Act of 2020 (Stats. 2020, ch. 23), the Legislature allocated a total of \$1.16 million for California collaborative and drug court projects to maintain, expand, or enhance collaborative courts. In November 2005, the Judicial Council established a caseload-based methodology for allocation of these funds (the Substance Abuse Focus Grants) to the courts. The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council allocate the fiscal year (FY) 2020-21 funds to courts using the council's methodology. Additionally, \$75,000 in federal Court Improvement Program funds have been made available for FY 2020-21 to fund the noncompetitive Dependency Drug Court Augmentation to the focus grant program. The committee recommends funding programs in 48 courts for FY 2020-21 with these annual grants and providing augmentation grants to dependency drug courts in 18 counties.

Recommendation: The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 13, 2020, approve the distribution of grants from the Collaborative Justice Courts Substance Abuse Focus Grant Program and the Dependency Drug Court Augmentation for FY 2020-21.

[20-158](#)**Judicial Branch Education | Temporary Extension and Reduction of Requirements; Instructor-Led Training (Action Required)**

Summary: The Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) Advisory Committee recommends adopting two rules of court relating to branchwide education. The first would grant a temporary extension of time for completing content-based education requirements and a prorated reduction of hours for hours-based education requirements contained within existing rules. The second would allow instructor-led training via live webinars to satisfy the provisions in the rules that require "traditional (live, face-to-face)" or "in person" training. Both rules are necessary due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the imposition of social distancing measures, which have forced CJER and other approved education providers to postpone or cancel in-person education since mid-March 2020.

Recommendation: The CJER Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2021:

1. Adopt rule 10.492 of the California Rules of Court to provide temporary relief to court staff and judicial officers regarding their content-based and hours-based education requirements; and
2. Adopt rule 10.493 of the California Rules of Court to expand the delivery methods available to obtain required "traditional (live, face-to-face)" or "in

person” training.

[20-200](#)**Judicial Council | 2020 Summary of Legislative Policy (Action Required)**

Summary: The Legislation Committee recommends adopting the updated *Legislative Policy Summary* reflecting actions through the 2019-20 legislative year. Adoption of this updated summary of positions taken on court-related legislation will assist the council in making decisions about future legislation, consistent with the judicial branch’s strategic plan goals.

Recommendation: The Legislation Committee recommends that the Judicial Council adopt the *2020 Legislative Policy Summary*, which has been updated to reflect actions through the 2019-20 legislative year.

[20-063](#)**Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation | Notification of Reduced or Dismissed Convictions for Probation Transfer Cases (Action Required)**

Summary: The Legislation Committee and the Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council sponsor legislation to amend Penal Code sections 1203.425, 1203.9, and 13151 to require notification of reductions of felonies to misdemeanors and dismissals of convictions in probation transfer cases between receiving courts and transferring courts.

Recommendation: The Legislation Committee and the Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council sponsor legislation to amend Penal Code sections 1203.425, 1203.9, and 13151, effective January 1, 2022, to require notification of reductions of felonies to misdemeanors and dismissals of convictions in probation transfer cases between receiving courts and transferring courts.

[20-037](#)**Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation (Family Law) | Recognition of Tribal Court Orders Relating to the Division of Marital Assets (Action Required)**

Summary: The Judicial Council Legislation Committee, California Tribal Court-State Court Forum, and Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommend sponsoring legislation to add section 1733.1 to the Code of Civil Procedure and amend sections 1731, 1733, and 1735-1737; add section 2611 to the Family Code; and amend section 70603 of the Government Code to ensure that final divorce or dissolution judgments issued by tribal courts that include division of pension or other deferred compensation assets are effective and, in particular, recognized as meeting the requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and other similar statutes that restrict the transfer or division of such assets. The changes will also address an ongoing gap in the law by creating a simplified process to file--in California state court--a final order of a tribal court dividing pension and other similar deferred compensation assets to

have that order recognized for purposes of legislation--such as ERISA--that restricts the division and transfer of such assets.

Recommendation: The Judicial Council Legislation Committee, California Tribal Court-State Court Forum, and Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2022, sponsor legislation to:

1. Add section 1733.1 to the Code of Civil Procedure and amend sections 1731, 1733, 1735, 1736, and 1737 to establish a process for the filing of a tribal court order that relates to the provision of child support, spousal support payments, or marital property rights to a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent from a pension plan or other form of deferred compensation covered by ERISA or other similar legislation that limits or restricts the division or transfer of such assets;
2. Add section 2611 to the Family Code specifying that an order filed and recognized under the above added and amended sections is a domestic relations order made under the domestic relations laws of this state for the purposes of legislation that restricts or limits the division and transfer of such assets; and
3. Amend section 70603 of the Government Code to align the fee provisions of this section with the proposed \$100.00 filing fee for a joint application filed under proposed Code of Civil Procedure section 1733.1.

[20-201](#)

Jury Instructions | Civil Jury Instructions (Release 38) (Action Required)

Summary: The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends approving for publication new and revised civil jury instructions prepared by the committee. These revisions bring the instructions up to date with developments in the law over the previous six months. On Judicial Council approval, the instructions will be published in the official 2021 edition of the *Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions (CACI)*.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 13, 2020, approve for publication the following civil jury instructions prepared by the committee:

1. Revisions to 16 instructions: CACI Nos. 418, 430, 435, 440, 1305, 1814, 2204, 2210, 2511, 3020, 3801, 3903C, 3903D, 4308, 4320, and 4560; and
2. The addition of 2 new instructions: CACI Nos. 441 and 3906.

[20-194](#)

Language Access Plan | Signage and Technology Grant Program, FY 2020-21: Requests and Proposed Allocations (Action Required)

Summary: The 2018 Budget Act included \$2.55 million ongoing funding for language access signage and technology infrastructure support and equipment needs for the trial

courts and the Judicial Council. In September 2019, the Judicial Council approved a grant program to disburse this funding to the trial courts on an annual basis (up to \$1 million per year for language access signage grants, and up to \$1.35 million per year for language access technology grants). For the grant program's second year (fiscal year 2020-21 cycle), 23 courts applied for signage and technology needs. The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness (PAF) and the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) recommend approving the proposed grant award recommendations for the 23 courts that applied, setting aside remaining funding as contingency funding to be used in case of need by the awarded courts, and directing Language Access Services (LAS) staff of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts to draft and execute intra-branch agreements (IBAs) with awarded courts for fiscal year (FY) 2020-21.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness and the Information Technology Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective November 12, 2020:

1. Approve the proposed Signage and Technology Grant Program, FY 2020-21: Requests and Proposed Allocations memorandum; and
2. Direct LAS staff to work with Branch Accounting and Procurement to draft and execute intra-branch agreements with each awarded court.

[20-217](#)

Rules and Forms | Civil Practice and Procedure: Emergency Rules for Remote Depositions and Electronic Service in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic (Action Required)

Summary: The chairs of the Judicial Council's six internal committees recommend repealing California Rules of Court, emergency rule 11 (Depositions through remote electronic means) and emergency rule 12 (Electronic service). Recently enacted Senate Bill 1146 codified and made permanent the provisions in these rules. Because the Legislature enacted statutes codifying the provisions in the rules, which were intended to be temporary, emergency rules 11 and 12 are no longer needed, and the council should repeal them.

Recommendation: The chairs of the Judicial Council's six internal committees recommend that, because the Legislature has enacted statutes codifying the provisions of emergency rules 11 and 12, the Judicial Council should, effective immediately, repeal:

- Emergency rule 11, Depositions through remote electronic means; and
- Emergency rule 12, Electronic service.

[20-204](#)

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 Judicial Council forms resulting from typographical errors and changes resulting from

legislation, and previous rule amendments and form revisions. Judicial Council staff recommend making the necessary corrections to avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

Recommendation: Judicial Council staff recommend that the council, effective January 1, 2021:

1. Amend California Rules of Court, rule 5.707 to correct the statutory reference. Rule 5.707 requires that the report prepared by the social worker for the last hearing before a child turns 18 years of age include a description of the efforts to provide the child with the information, documents, and services as required under Welfare and Institutions Code section 391(e), and that the court make a finding and order regarding their provision. Due to recent legislation, the cross-references in the rule should now be to section 391(b) and (c).
2. Amend California Rules of Court, rule 5.770 to correct the statutory reference. Rule 5.770(b)(2) requires the court to evaluate the criteria in section 707(a)(2). The correct cross-reference is section 707(a)(3).
3. Revise *Order on Request to Keep Minor's Information Confidential* (form CH-165), at item 9a(2), to strike "Minor's" because it is redundant and at item 13c(2) to correct the referenced form title.
4. Revise *Notice of Request for Release of Minor's Confidential Information* (form CH-177) to change the reference on page 2 in "Next Steps for Person in 3," from CH-177 to form CH-178, and to provide the correct weblink to form CH-178.
5. Revise *Privacy Protection for a Minor (Person Under 18 Years Old) Domestic Violence Prevention* (form DV-160-INFO) to change the referenced item on page 3, paragraph 3, to item 10, not item 9: "Now take a close look at item 10, on form DV-165."
6. Revise *Order on Request to Keep Minor's Information Confidential* (form DV-165) to strike, at item 9a(2), the word "minor's" because it is redundant, and add a colon at the end of the clause in item 9a.
7. Revise *Notice of Request for Release of Minor's Confidential Information* (form DV-177) to change the reference on page 2 in "Next Steps for Person in 3" from DV-177 to form DV-178, and to provide the correct weblink to form DV-178.
8. Revise *Ex Parte Application for Order on Deposit Account Exemption* (form EJ-157) and *Order on Application for Designation of Deposit Account Exemption* (form EJ-159), to correct instruction in file-stamp box on top of the forms.
9. Revise *Declaration Regarding Notice and Service for Ex Parte Application for Order on Deposit Account Exemption* (form EJ-158), which was approved by the council as an optional form, to replace the phrase "must use" in the instructions with the phrase "may use"; the mandatory instruction was from a prior draft and was inadvertently left on the form after it was revised to be optional.

10. Revise *Spousal, Domestic Partner, or Family Support Order Attachment* (form FL-343) to, under item 11, delete subitems (1) and (2); they were from a prior draft and are not related to item 11 or intended to remain on the form.
11. Revise *Order on Petition for Access to Juvenile Case File* (form JV-573) and *Order After Judicial Review on Petition for Access to Juvenile Case File* (form JV-574) to add new boxes in the caption box section of the forms for the author to include identifying information of the child, specifically their name and date of birth. These boxes were inadvertently left off the recently revised forms.
12. Revise *Order on Prosecutor Request for Access to Sealed File* (form JV-599) to add two check boxes in items 3 and 4 to allow the judge to indicate whether the court actually received and considered any objections before granting or denying the request. The check boxes were inadvertently left off the version of this form approved by the council on September 25, 2020.
13. Revise *Order to Transfer Juvenile to Criminal Court Jurisdiction* (form JV-710) to correct a statutory reference: the form contains the court's findings and orders at item 4 and indicates the court has considered the criteria in section 707(a)(2). The correct cross-reference is section 707(a)(3).

[20-061](#)**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 approving six new requests and two amended requests totaling \$3,777,553 from eight trial courts for Trial Court Trust Fund funds to be held on behalf of the trial courts. Under the Judicial Council-adopted process, a court may request reduced funding as a result of the court's exceeding the 3 percent fund balance cap, to be retained in the Trial Court Trust Fund for the benefit of that court.

Recommendation: Based on actions taken at its meeting on September 17, 2020, the Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 13, 2020:

1. Approve the following new requests totaling \$2,358,201 (Attachment A):
 - a. Superior Court of Alameda County request of \$483,830 for tenant improvement projects;
 - b. Superior Court of Calaveras County request of \$243,833 for several court improvement projects and the replacement of a 13-year-old court vehicle;
 - c. Superior Court of Solano County request of \$358,767 to replace audio and visual systems;
 - d. Superior Court of Sutter County request of \$500,101 for technological enhancements and facility modifications;

- e. Superior Court of Shasta County request of \$471,670 for several court improvement projects; and
 - f. Superior Court of Del Norte County request of \$300,000 for court improvement projects.
2. Approve the following amended requests totaling \$1,419,352 (Attachment H):
- a. Superior Court of Colusa County request to amend the fiscal year of project completion from 2020-21 to 2021-22 in the amount of \$642,352; and
 - b. Superior Court of Mendocino County request to amend the fiscal year to expend the remaining \$252,435 balance of its original \$777,000 request from 2019-20 to 2020-21 for a case management system.

[20-216](#)**Judicial Branch Technology | Court Modernization Funding
(Action Required)**

Summary: At its meeting on September 25, 2020, the Judicial Council approved 13 program categories to be funded with the \$25 million for the modernization of court operations through the use of technology that was included in the Budget Act of 2020 for fiscal year 2020-21. The council also delegated to the Technology Committee the task of making the individual allocations and reporting back to the council. The Technology Committee recommends adding clarifying language to the scope of one of the programs to give courts increased flexibility in improving access to justice through modernization and the use of technology.

Recommendation: The Technology Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 13, 2020, approve clarifying the description of the Trial Court Digital Services program to include the physical as well as virtual courtroom, to give courts increased flexibility in improving access to justice through modernization and the use of technology.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

20-202

Judicial Branch Technology | Proposed Judicial Branch Data and Information Governance Policy Concepts (Presentation Only. No Materials, No Action Required)

Summary: The Data Analytics Workstream of the Information Technology Advisory Committee will give an informational presentation of proposed Judicial Branch Data and Information Principles and Policy Concepts. These principles and concepts will be vetted internally and through a public comment process before being presented to the Judicial Council for approval in March 2021.

[20-149](#)**Judicial Branch Technology | Futures Commission Directive, Intelligent Chat for Self-Help Services (Action Required)**

Summary: Following the final recommendations in the *Report to the Chief Justice: Commission on the Future of California's Court System*, Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye directed the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) to explore and make recommendations related to the use of intelligent chat technology to facilitate informational and self-help services for the public. To that end, ITAC recommends the Judicial Council accept the Intelligent Chat Workstream findings and final report. The report presents a comprehensive business case for the use of chatbots --where a person would interact with an automated system on a website to ask questions and receive information, for informational and self-help services. The report provides background research on the current state of chat technology, outlines key findings and deliverables, and sets forth recommendations for the use of intelligent chat to benefit court customers.

Recommendation: ITAC recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 13, 2020, accept this report to satisfy the Chief Justice's directive resulting from the Future Commission's final report.

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Judge Conklin and seconded by Judge Lyons. The motion was adopted.

[20-170](#)**Pretrial Reform | Pretrial Reform and Operations Workgroup Update and Recommendations on Use of Pretrial Risk Assessment Instruments (No Action Required)**

Summary: The Chief Justice appointed the Pretrial Reform and Operations Workgroup (PROW) (the Workgroup) in January 2019 to review progress on reforms to California's system of pretrial detention and release and identify next steps. PROW was charged with (1) reviewing progress on reforms to California's system of pretrial detention and release; (2) developing recommendations for funding allocations of court pilot projects, should they be included in the final State Budget for fiscal year 2019-20; (3) developing a plan for judicial branch education on pretrial issues; and (4) conducting an examination of pretrial risk assessment instruments.

The Workgroup has met frequently since its appointment, both in-person and virtually, to fulfill these charges. It has reviewed progress on pretrial reforms, developed funding recommendations and provided ongoing oversight to the Pretrial Pilot Program, and developed judicial branch education programs on pretrial issues. The documents provided as Attachment A, *Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument Recommendations and Areas for Further Policy Development*, and Attachment B, *Fundamentals of Pretrial Risk Assessment Instruments*, are the culmination of PROW's comprehensive examination of pretrial risk assessment instruments (PRAIs) and recommended best practices for their use by California trial courts and justice partners. PROW submits this report, including the attached documents relating to its

fourth charge, for the consideration of the Judicial Council.

[20-210](#)

Court Facilities | 2020 Edition of the California Trial Court Facilities Standards (Action Required)

Summary: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends adoption of the *California Trial Court Facilities Standards 2020*. Over time, various code provisions and best management practices have changed from the Judicial Council's current trial court facilities standards. Upon adoption, Judicial Council Facilities Services will apply these facilities standards for design and construction of trial court facilities.

Recommendation: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 13, 2020, adopt the *California Trial Court Facilities Standards 2020*.

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Justice Hull, Jr. and seconded by Judge Brodie. The motion was adopted.

[20-208](#)

Indian Child Welfare Act | Best Practices Guide for California Courts and Judicial Officers (No Action Required)

Summary: In collaboration with the Office of Government Affairs, staff of the Tribal Court-State Court Forum have created a toolkit of state court best practices, policies, procedures, and tips for enhancing court compliance with the requirements of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), and improving outcomes for Indian children, families, and tribes interacting with the California state courts in cases governed by ICWA.

[20-091](#)

Family and Juvenile Law | Court Adoption and Permanency Month (Action Required)

Summary: The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends adopting a resolution proclaiming November to be Court Adoption and Permanency Month. As it has since 1999, in observance of National Adoption Month, the Judicial Council can recognize 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. The resolution will also give courts the opportunity to raise community awareness of the importance of finding safe, stable, and permanent homes for every child or youth in foster care.

Recommendation: The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council adopt the attached resolution, effective November 13, proclaiming November 2020 to be Court Adoption and Permanency Month.

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Judge Boulware Eurie. The motion was adopted.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)**[20-058](#) Court Facilities | Lease Revenue Bond Issuance, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020**

Summary: The Administrative Director presents this report on actions taken in connection with lease revenue bonds issued by the State Public Works Board (SPWB) in fall 2019 and spring 2020, for the financing of court facilities projects as authorized and directed by the Judicial Council. No new lease-revenue bonds were issued by the SPWB on behalf of the Judicial Council in fall 2019 and spring 2020. However, a refunding of existing bonds was completed by the SPWB, and two new interim loans, and five renewals of interim loans were approved so that construction on capital outlay projects could begin.

[20-203](#) Court Security | Trial Court Screening Equipment Replacement for Fiscal Year 2019-20

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 (FY) 2019-20 using that funding.

[20-212](#) Report to the Legislature | 2020-21 Trial Court Trust Fund Backfill Report, Quarter 1

Summary: The Budget Act of 2020, Item 0250-113-001, Provision 3, requires the Judicial Council to submit quarterly reports to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on the estimated amount of General Fund required to backfill the Trial Court Trust Fund due to shortfalls in revenue to support trial court operations. This report is due no later than one month after the prior fiscal quarter. The first report is due in October 2020 for the reporting period of July through September 2020.

[20-056](#) Report to the Legislature | Allocation and Reimbursements to the Trial Courts in 2019-20

Summary: Government Code section 77202.5(a) requires the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature annually on allocations and reimbursements to the trial courts. On September 30, 2020, Judicial Council staff submitted to the Legislature the report entitled 2019-20 *Allocations and Reimbursements to the Trial Courts*.

[20-057](#) Report to the Legislature | Allocation of the State-Level Reserve in the Trial Court Trust Fund

Summary: Pursuant to Government Code section 68502.5(c)(2)(B), the Judicial Council is required to set aside funds in the Trial Court Trust Fund and allocate them for the trial courts to use for unforeseen emergencies, unanticipated expenses for existing

programs, or unavoidable funding shortfalls. On October 1, 2020, Judicial Council submitted the *Report of Allocation of the State-Level Reserve in the Trial Court Trust Fund in 2019-20* to the Legislature and the Department of Finance.

[20-095](#) **Report to the Legislature | Court Innovations Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2019-20**

Summary: The Budget Act of 2016 allocated \$25 million to the judicial branch to promote court innovations and efficiencies through the Court Innovations Grant Program. The act required the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature on the progress of that program and its projects no later than September 30, 2017, and each year thereafter. This year's report was submitted as required.

[20-211](#) **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.

[20-209](#) **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 is the 50th report to date listing the latest court notices received by the council under this statutory requirement. Since the previous report, three superior courts--the Superior Courts of Madera, San Bernardino, and Santa Clara--have issued new notices.

Appointment Orders

[20-219](#) **Appointment Orders since the last business meeting.**

Adjournment

With the meeting's business completed, the Chief Justice adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Director Martin Hoshino, Secretary to the Judicial Council, on January 22, 2021.