



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688

www.courts.ca.gov

REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 21-149

For business meeting on: October 1, 2021

Title

Judicial Branch Budget Committee Chair's
Report

Agenda Item Type

Information Only

Date of Report

September 24, 2021

Submitted by

Judicial Branch Budget Committee
Hon. David M. Rubin, Chair

Contact

Angela Cowan, 916-643-8041
angela.cowan@jud.ca.gov

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.

Overview of Committee Meetings

Since the July Judicial Council business meeting, the committee will have met twice; on August 13 and September 30, 2021.

At its August 18 meeting, the Budget Committee considered allocations of funding that were included in the 2021–22 Budget Act. The committee considered a recommendation on allocation of \$60 million for COVID-driven backlog funding. The committee approved a recommendation to allocate the funding based on an updated data-driven methodology that utilizes both filing and dispositions by case type to calculate a clearance rate, to allocate the funding in two separate distributions, \$30 million in October 2021 based on data through March 2021 and \$30 million, in

January 2022 based on the most recent filing and clearance data available at that time, and to include complex case types in the data used to allocate future COVID-driven caseload backlog funding, should future funding be provided.

Additionally, at the August 18 meeting, the committee approved a recommendation to allocate \$140 million in Pretrial Release Funding in accordance with methodologies outlined in SB 129 and \$4.45 million in new AB 1058 Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program funding.

Finally, the Budget Committee was presented an update on the annual Work Plan for the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee's Funding Methodology Subcommittee, an overview of the Trial Court Executive Summary display, and an expenditure report on the Trial Court Trust Fund Funds Held on Behalf projects.

These recommendations that came from the August 18 meeting are on the Judicial Council's October 1 business meeting agenda.

At the September 30, 2021 meeting, the Budget Committee will debrief on the 2022–23 budget change proposal process, hear a Legal Aid education session, and will also be provided an overview of the final report to the Legislature on the Court Innovations Grant Program.

The final Court Innovations Grant Program legislative report is on the Judicial Council's October 1 business meeting agenda.