Judicial Council of California

Meeting Minutes

Judicial Council

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Friday, July 17, 2026 | **10:00 AM** | **San Francisco**

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

Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, Chair of the Judicial Council, called the closed session to order at 9:15 a.m.

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

Attendance

Council Members

Present: 25 - Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, Justice Carol A. Corrigan, Administrative Presiding Justice Mary J. Greenwood, Administrative Presiding Justice Brad R. Hill, Justice Stacy Boulware Eurie, Presiding Judge Patricia L. Kelly, Presiding Judge Tamara L. Wood, Judge Maria Lucy Armendariz, Judge Bunmi O. Awoniyi, Judge Judith K. Dulcich, Judge Maureen F. Hallahan, Judge Maria D. Hernandez, Judge Jeffrey C. Kauffman, Judge Ann C. Moorman, Judge Michael Rhoads, Commissioner Ryan Davis, Senator Thomas J. Umberg, Ms. Kate Bieker, Mr. Chad Finke, Ms. Rachel W. Hill, Mr. Charles Johnson, Ms. Gretchen M. Nelson, Mr. Craig M. Peters, Mr. David W. Slayton, and Ms. Dena Stone

Absent: 3 - Assistant Presiding Judge Ricardo R. Ocampo, Judge Charles S. Crompton, and Assembly Member Ash Kalra

Call to Order

Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, Chair of the Judicial Council, called the open session to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Judicial Council Board Room.

Swearing in of New Judicial Council Members

The Chief Justice administered the oath of office to new council members.

New members:

- **Hon. Mary J. Greenwood**, Administrative Presiding Justice, Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District
- **Mr. Chad D. Finke**, Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of Alameda County

Public Comment

Written comments were provided to the council members and filed in the record. Dr. Nick Kolev addressed the council on general matters of judicial administration. Ms. Naomi Adelson, Ms. Carol Palacio, Mr. Ryan T. Le, Ms. Guadalupe Jaime, Ms. Molly Katherine Smith, Ms. Eunji Averill, Ms. María del Carmen Muñoz, Ms. Michele Minsuk, Ms. Katy Van Sant, Mr. Francisco Jirón, Ms. Shannon Raintree, Ms. Jean Garascia, Ms. Brenda Oliver, Ms. Carla Cuevas, Ms. Jenny Faure, Ms. Christina Guerrero, Ms. Laura Villanueva, Ms. Margaret Layman, Ms. Mary Lou Aranguren, Mr. Daniel Navarro, Ms. Tatiana Iacona, Mr. Benjamin Yeung, Ms. Faera Taylor, and Mr. John Medina addressed the council on item 26-093, Report to the Legislature: Trial Court Interpreters Program Expenditure Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

Chief Justice's Report

Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero reported on her activities since the last council meeting.

Administrative Director's Report

26-003 **Administrative Director's Report**

Administrative Director Michelle Curran reported on some of the many activities Judicial Council staff engaged in to further the council's strategic goals and priorities for the judicial branch since the last business meeting, exclusive of items on the July meeting agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion to approve all of the following items on the Consent Agenda was made by Judge Dulcich and seconded by Judge Moorman. The motion was adopted.

26-008 **Minutes of April 24, 2026, Judicial Council Meeting**

26-094 **Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Funding for Court Reporters in Family Law and Civil Law Case Types for Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)**

Summary: Senate Bill 170 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240), which amended the Budget Act of 2021, provided $30 million in ongoing General Fund support for trial courts to increase

the number of court reporters in family law and civil cases. The budget language in the Budget Act of 2022 and subsequent years expanded the allowable uses for this funding. However, these changes do not affect how the funds are distributed to courts under the council-approved allocation methodology. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving the allocation of the ongoing $30 million to all trial courts, as specified, for fiscal year 2026-27.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026:

1. Approve $30 million for court reporters on a proportional basis using the council-approved methodology with assessed judicial need data based on the 2022 Judicial Needs Assessment as outlined in Attachment A; and
2. Approve and direct council staff to conduct a midyear survey in fiscal year 2026-27 and authorize a corresponding reallocation process to ensure maximum use of available funds to support court reporters in family law and civil case types.

26-090 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 2026-27 pretrial release funding of $48.95 million General Fund for the trial courts and directing Judicial Council staff to conduct a midyear survey and recommend a methodology for reallocating funding to trial courts based on demonstrated need, if available. Funding through the pretrial release program provides for the operation of ongoing court programs and practices that promote the safe, efficient, fair, and timely pretrial release of individuals booked into jail.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve fiscal year 2026-27 pretrial release allocations of $48.95 million General Fund for the trial courts in accordance with methodologies outlined in the Budget Act of 2026, as authorized by Assembly Bill 109, including minimum funding floors. The committee also recommends that the council direct staff to conduct a midyear survey and to recommend a methodology for reallocating funding to trial courts based on availability and demonstrated need.

26-099 Child Support | Assembly Bill 1058 Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program Funding for Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Summary: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council approve the allocation of funding for the Assembly Bill 1058 Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program (AB 1058 Program) for fiscal year 2026-27. The funds are provided through a cooperative agreement between the California Department of Child Support Services and the Judicial

Council. The agreement requires the council to annually approve the AB 1058 Program funding allocations.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026:

1. Approve the recommended allocation for the Child Support Commissioner program for fiscal year 2026-27, as set forth in Attachment A. This allocation maintains the current workload-based methodology approved by the Judicial Council on January 16, 2019, and updated with new workload data every two years; and
2. Approve the recommended allocation for the Family Law Facilitator program for fiscal year 2026-27, as set forth in Attachment B. This allocation maintains the current population-based methodology approved by the Judicial Council on July 9, 2021, and updated with new population data every two years.
3. Authorize distribution of federal drawdown funding consistent with methodology previously adopted by the council (January 2019) and courts' surveyed requests; any unrequested amounts will be reallocated consistent with past practice.

26-101 Collaborative Justice | Fiscal Year 2026-27 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 Collaborative Justice Courts Substance Abuse Focus Grant (SAFG) Program's fiscal year 2026-27 funds to the trial courts using the population-based methodology approved in September 2023. The Budget Act of 2026 allocated $1.16 million for the SAFG 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 fiscal year 2026-27 to fund dependency drug courts.

Recommendation: The Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve the distribution of grants from the SAFG Program and the Dependency Drug Court Augmentation for fiscal year 2026-27 to courts as allocated by the population-based methodology approved at the Judicial Council meeting on September 19, 2023, as outlined below. The proposed distribution is detailed in Attachment A, Substance Abuse Focus Grant Allocation Summary: FY 2025-26 and FY 2026-27.

26-105 Court Facilities | Naming Request for New Mendocino Courthouse in Ukiah (Action Required)

Summary: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Superior Court of Mendocino County's request to name the new main courthouse in the city of Ukiah. This approval would establish the facility's official name.

Construction of the courthouse began in winter 2025 and will conclude in summer 2027.

Recommendation: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve the name "Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino" for the new main courthouse in Ukiah.

26-092 Court Facilities | Naming Request for New Sixth Appellate District Courthouse in Sunnyvale (Action Required)

Summary: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Sixth Appellate District's request to name the new Court of Appeal courthouse in the city of Sunnyvale. This approval would establish the facility's official name in advance of construction, which is scheduled to begin in summer 2026 and conclude in fall 2028.

Recommendation: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve the name "California Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District" for the new courthouse in Sunnyvale.

26-102 Judicial Branch Technology | Jury Management System Grant Program Allocations for Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Summary: The Judicial Council Technology Committee recommends approving proposed allocations totaling $600,000 for fiscal year 2026-27 for the Jury Management System Grant Program. The goal of the program is to improve the juror experience and reduce court resource needs by enhancing access to information. In this cycle, 15 trial courts submitted grant applications for a total of 17 projects.

Recommendation: The Technology Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve the proposed allocations totaling $600,000 for the Jury Management System Grant Program and direct Judicial Council staff to work on intrabranch agreements with each awarded court.

26-052 Juvenile Law | Fiscal Year 2026-27 Funding Allocations for Court Appointed Special Advocate Local Assistance (Action Required)

Summary: The fiscal year 2026-27 judicial branch budget includes $2.7 million for Judicial Council Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) grants. The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council allocate $2.7 million to fund 45 CASA programs serving 53 counties, using the amended funding methodology approved on July 12, 2024.

Recommendation: Effective July 1, 2026, the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council allocate the $2.7 million in CASA grant funds for fiscal year 2026-27 using the amended funding methodology approved on July 12, 2024.

26-081

Language Access Plan | Allocations for Signage and Technology Grant Program, Cycle 8, Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Summary: The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness and the Information Technology Advisory Committee recommend approving proposed grant awards for the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program of $2.35 million to improve services and expand language access for court users. For Cycle 8 (fiscal year 2026-27), 24 courts applied for and will be awarded grants for signage and technology projects.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness and the Information Technology Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026:

1. Approve the proposed allocations for the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program for fiscal year 2026-27; and
2. Direct Language Access Services staff to work with Branch Accounting and Procurement to draft and execute intrabranch agreements with each awarded court.

26-100

Rules and Forms | Adjustment to Deposit Account Exemption From Enforcement of Judgment (Action Required)

Summary: The Code of Civil Procedure requires the dollar amount of the deposit account exemption from enforcement of judgment to be adjusted annually in July to reflect increases in the minimum basic standard of care for a family of four. Judicial Council staff recommend revising the form that lists the dollar amounts of exemptions from enforcement of judgment to reflect the updated figure for deposit accounts.

Recommendation: Judicial Council staff recommend that the Judicial Council, effective July 20, 2026, revise *Current Dollar Amounts of Exemptions From Enforcement of Judgments* (form EJ-156) to reflect increases in the minimum basic standard of care for a family of four.

26-095

Rules and Forms | Jury Instructions: Civil Jury Instructions (Release 49) (Action Required)

Summary: The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends approval of revised civil jury instructions and verdict forms prepared by the committee. Among other things, these changes bring the instructions up to date with developments in the law over the previous six months. Upon Judicial Council approval, the instructions will be published in the midyear supplement to the official 2026 edition of the *Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions*.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve for publication under California Rules of Court, rules 2.1050 and 10.58, revisions to 33 instructions and verdict forms: CACI Nos. 100, 441, 1305B, 2500, 2512, 2521A, 2521B, 2521C, 2522A, 2522B, 2522C, 2540, 2547, 2570, 2740, 2741, 2742, 3061, 3102A, 3102B, 3104, 3107,

VF-3102, VF-3103, VF-3104, VF-3105, 3920, VF-3907, 4000, 4002, 4320, 4350, and 5000.

26-033

Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act | Selection of Shriver Projects (Action Required)

Summary: The Judicial Council is asked to approve funding recommendations under the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act (Assem. Bill 590; Stats. 2009, ch. 457) to support projects providing legal representation and improved court services to low-income parties on critical legal issues affecting basic human needs. These projects address housing, domestic violence, civil harassment, probate conservatorships, guardianships, elder abuse, and child custody matters. Recommendations are submitted by the Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee for the upcoming three-year grant cycle.

Recommendation: The Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective October 1, 2026:

1. Approve grant funding for 15 projects under the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act in an amount not to exceed $18,000,000 per year--subject to the availability of funding--for a total of $54,000,000 over three years, covering the period from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2029. Funding would be awarded to qualified legal services providers and court partners for the administration of Shriver projects.
2. Authorize the committee to request revised budgets and project plans from all projects once the Judicial Council approves the allocations, as no program will receive the full amount requested.

26-109

Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2026-27 Allocation of Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act Funding (Action Required)

Summary: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends allocating $32.9 million to trial courts for fiscal year 2026-27 to support Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act operations. The amount included in the 2026 Budget Act may be adjusted based on final appropriations. The Judicial Branch Budget Committee approved this recommendation for consideration by the Judicial Council.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026:

1. Continue all elements of the allocation methodology approved in fiscal year 2023-24, including employing the Workload Formula and the funding base already defined; and
2. Allocate $32.9 million, with base funding and pro rata distribution of remaining funds, to fund trial court operations related to the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act for fiscal year 2026-27.

26-051 Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2026-27 Allocation of Court-Appointed Juvenile Dependency Counsel Funding (Action Required)

Summary: The Judicial Council approves the allocation of court-appointed dependency counsel funding on an annual basis. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends allocation of the $186.7 million appropriation for court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel for fiscal year 2026-27. Allocations are subject to necessary technical adjustments and contingent upon funding included in the final enacted budget for fiscal year 2026-27.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, allocate $186.7 million for fiscal year 2026-27 to the trial courts for court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel costs. The following recommendations were considered by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee on June 10, 2026, and approved for consideration by the Judicial Council:

1. Approve the fiscal year 2026-27 allocations for court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel that reflect the results of the spending plan survey conducted in May 2026, as detailed in Attachment A, column H, including any needed technical adjustments and contingent on funding included in the final enacted budget. The savings identified in the survey are available for allocation to:
    a. Small courts impacted by funding reductions due to the existing methodology to provide a glide path to adjust to fiscal year 2026-27 reductions, up to 50 percent of the difference, if any, between their proposed allocation and the allocation calculated after applying small court adjustments, but before being capped at 100 percent of their total need as detailed in Attachment C, column D; and
    b. Large courts, based on available remaining funding, to offset funding for small court adjustments.
2. Authorize Judicial Council staff to (1) conduct a midyear survey of trial courts in fiscal year 2026-27 to assess projected court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel expenditures and determine whether any courts will not fully spend their allocations and how much funding is available to reallocate to courts that need additional resources, and (2) implement a reallocation of this funding based on the existing methodology to maximize the appropriation to serve children and families in dependency proceedings.
3. Direct Judicial Council staff to report the results of the fiscal year 2026-27 reallocation at the time the council considers the next year's proposed allocations, ensuring transparency in how the funds were redistributed to meet program needs.

26-039

Trial Court Budget | State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Allocations for Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Summary: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving allocations totaling $47.8 million for fiscal year 2026-27 from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund. The allocations to various Judicial Council offices will provide funding to support statewide trial court programs, technology initiatives, operational improvements, and modernization efforts. With the proposed allocations, the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund is projected to end fiscal year 2026-27 with a fund balance of $38.7 million, of which approximately $36.6 million is unrestricted.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee, with Judicial Branch Budget Committee approval on May 20, 2026, recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve a total of $47.8 million in allocations for fiscal year 2026-27 from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund. The requested allocations and change from the fiscal year 2025-26 allocation value, by Judicial Council office, are as follows:

- $423,000 to Audit Services, a decrease of $10,000;
- $309,000 to Branch Accounting and Procurement, an increase of $4,000;
- $8,000 to Budget Services, no change;
- $5.3 million to the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, a decrease of $169,000;
- $2.3 million to the Center for Judicial Education and Resources, a decrease of $578,000;
- $9,000 to Criminal Justice Services, no change;
- $410,000 to Human Resources, an increase of $387,000;
- $34.5 million to Information Technology, an increase of $314,000;
- $2.2 million to Leadership Support Services, a decrease of $112,000;
- $2.3 million to Legal Services, a decrease of $26,000; and
- $149,000 to Research, Analytics, and Data, an increase of $140,000.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

26-041

Trial Court Budget | Allocations for Trial Court Operations for Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Summary: Government Code section 68502.5(c)(2)(A) requires the Judicial Council to issue preliminary allocations for trial court operations in July and finalize those allocations in January of each fiscal year. In accordance with this requirement, the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends allocating $3.2 billion to the trial courts for fiscal year 2026-27. This total includes $3.1 billion from the Trial Court Trust Fund and $117.8 million from the General Fund. The committee also recommends approval of the Workload Formula policy calculation of $2.7 billion, which is based on

methodologies previously approved by the Judicial Council. Based on current revenue projections and estimated savings from fiscal year 2025-26 appropriations, the Trial Court Trust Fund is projected to end fiscal year 2026-27 with a fund balance of $335.5 million. Approximately $248 million of this amount will be unrestricted and available to support future funding needs.

Recommendation: The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026:

1. Approve total allocations of $3.2 billion from the Trial Court Trust Fund and General Fund, including base, discretionary, and nondiscretionary program funding (Attachment B, column W). These allocations are subject to technical adjustments and funding included in the final enacted budget for fiscal year 2026-27.
2. Approve the Workload Formula policy calculation of $2.7 billion for fiscal year 2026-27, consistent with existing Judicial Council-approved methodologies (Attachment C, column V).

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Administrative Presiding Justice Hill and seconded by Judge Moorman. The motion was adopted.

26-104 Court Facilities | Judicial Branch Five-Year Infrastructure Plan and Capital-Outlay Budget Change Proposals for Fiscal Year 2027-28 (Action Required)

Summary: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends approval of the *Judicial Branch Five-Year Infrastructure Plan for Fiscal Year 2027-28* and five capital-outlay budget change proposals for fiscal year 2027-28 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 (fiscal year 2027-28) of the plan.

Recommendation: The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026:

1. Approve the *Judicial Branch Five-Year Infrastructure Plan for Fiscal Year 2027-28*;
2. Approve the five capital-outlay budget change proposals for fiscal year 2027-28; and
3. Direct staff to submit the plan and the five budget change proposals to the state Department of Finance.

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Justice Boulware Eurie and seconded by Justice Corrigan. The motion was adopted.

26-107

Judicial Branch Technology | IT Modernization Funding, Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Summary: The fiscal year 2026-27 judicial branch budget includes approximately $12.5 million IT Modernization local court grant funding. The Technology Committee proposes the enclosed grant funding allocations following an application and review process in which projects were evaluated and--for the first time--ranked to inform the funding recommendations. This updated approach supports funding the most impactful projects that align with the judicial branch's technology goals and funding priorities.

Recommendation: The Technology Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 20, 2026, allocate approximately $12.5 million to trial and appellate courts in fiscal year 2026-27 for judicial branch technology modernization. The proposed allocations are included as Attachment A, *IT Modernization Funding Local Court Grants: Proposed Allocations for FY 2026-27.*

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Judge Moorman and seconded by Judge Hallahan. The motion was adopted.

26-040

Judicial Branch Budget | Fiscal Year 2027-28 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 promote responsible and sustainable investment in the judicial branch's core programs and services--in anticipation of the new administration taking office in January 2027 and in recognition of the state's projected multiyear deficit--the Judicial Branch Budget Committee recommends submitting 24 budget change proposals, including one proposal deferred for submission in the spring, to the Department of Finance for consideration in the fiscal year 2027-28 Governor's Budget.

Recommendation: The Judicial Branch Budget Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve the following fiscal year 2027-28 budget change proposals (not in priority order) for submission to the Department of Finance. Proposals 1 through 23 will be submitted in September 2026 to the Department of Finance. Proposal 24 may be submitted in spring 2027
after further assessment of financial need due to an additional $20 million for court interpreters included in the fiscal year 2026-27 May Revision.

1. Inflationary Adjustment for Trial Courts (Consumer Price Index)--$82.3 million General Fund;
2. Trial Courts Technology Ongoing Support--$42.5 million General Fund;
3. Improving Branchwide Cybersecurity--$19.1 million General Fund;
4. Appellate Court Technology Modernization and Ongoing Cost Adjustment--$4.5 million General Fund;
5. Addressing the Impact of the Disproportionate Increase in Competency Evaluations--$10.4 million General Fund;

6. Judicial Branch Data Analytics Modernization--$9.8 million General Fund;
7. Habeas Corpus Resource Center Case Team Staffing--$7.3 million General Fund;
8. Appellate Court Unarmed Security Guard - Expanded Coverage--$707,000 General Fund;
9. Proposition 66 in Courts of Appeal--$9.9 million General Fund;
10. Racial Justice Act Retroactivity (Assembly Bill 256) for the Appellate Courts and Trial Courts--$22.6 million General Fund;
11. Appellate Court Facilities Staff--$1.3 million General Fund;
12. Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal Court-Appointed Counsel Programs--$15.7 million General Fund;
13. Trial Court Facility Modifications--$49.3 million General Fund and State Court Facility Construction Fund; ***#13 Modified, see motion.***
14. Judicial Branch Facilities Maintenance and Utilities--$30.4 million General Fund and Reimbursement Authority;
15. Trial Court Physical Security Assessment and Evaluation--$2.7 million General Fund;
16. ~~Judicial Branch Deferred Maintenance--$163.2 million General Fund;~~ ***#16 Stricken, see motion.***
17. Courts of Appeal Facility Modification--$1.1 million General Fund;
18. Workload Assessment for Court-Appointed Dependency Counsel--$807,000 General Fund;
19. ~~Funding for 26 New Judgeships--$350-$425 million General Fund;~~ ***#19 Stricken, see motion***
20. Capital Outlay Project Reassessment and Program Support--$14 million General Fund;
21. Capital Outlay Funding: Fiscal Year 2027-28 Through Fiscal Year 2031-32--$1.5 billion General Fund and Public Buildings Construction Fund; ***#21 Modified, see motion.***
22. Los Angeles Spring Street Courthouse - Chatsworth Buildout--$34.8 million General Fund;
23. Statewide: Budget Packages and Advance Planning--$500,000 General Fund; and
24. Language Access in the California Courts--cost to be determined and deferred to spring.

A motion to adopt a modified version of the recommended action was made by Mr. Slayton and seconded by Mr. Peters with the following changes:

- **Proposal 13 was modified to: Trial Court Facility Modifications--$51.3 million General Fund and State Court Facility Construction Fund.**
- **Proposals 16 and 19 were stricken and will be considered as part of future budget priorities.**
- **Proposal 21 was modified to: Capital Outlay Funding: Fiscal Year 2027-28 Through Fiscal Year 2031-32--$1.2 billion General Fund and Public Buildings Construction Fund.**

The motion was adopted.

INFORMATION AGENDA (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

26-097 Child Support | Midyear Funding Reallocation for Fiscal Year 2025-26

Summary: This report presents the midyear reallocation of funding for the Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program (AB 1058 Program) for fiscal year 2025-26. The Judicial Council approved the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee's recommendation to delegate authority, effective January 17, 2020, to the Administrative Director to implement annual midyear reallocations of AB 1058 Program funds using the council-approved methodology for reallocation. This report describes the annual midyear reallocation for the current fiscal year.

26-103 Judicial Branch Technology | Technology Governance and Funding Model

Summary: The Judicial Council Technology Committee is updating the Judicial Branch *Technology Governance and Funding Model*, which has remained unchanged since its adoption in 2014. This model provides the foundation for the branch's *Strategic Plan for Technology* and *Tactical Plan for Technology* and ensures a comprehensive, cohesive approach to branchwide technology strategy. Because technology has advanced significantly over the past decade and the needs of the courts, court users, and the judicial branch have evolved in parallel, updating the governance and funding model is essential to address these changes and position the branch for continued progress. The purpose of this report is to inform the council that while this work is underway, the existing *Strategic Plan for Technology* and *Tactical Plan for Technology* will remain in effect and will not be revised until an updated governance and funding model is approved by the Judicial Council.

26-110 Judicial Council Update | Trial Court Facility Modifications Report for Quarter 3 of Fiscal Year 2025-26

Summary: This informational report to the Judicial Council outlines the allocations of facility modification funding made to improve trial court facilities in the third quarter (January through March) of fiscal year 2025-26. To determine allocations, the Trial Court Facility Modification Advisory Committee reviews and approves facility modification requests from across the state in accordance with the council's *Trial Court Facility Modifications Policy*.

26-108 Report to the Legislature | Court Realignment Data (Calendar Year 2025)

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, Board of State and Community Corrections, and Joint Legislative Budget Committee by September 1. *Court Realignment Data*

(Calendar Year 2025), included as Attachment A to this report, includes statistics from January 1 through December 31, 2025, for each county regarding the dispositions of felonies at sentencing and petitions to revoke probation, mandatory supervision, postrelease community supervision, and parole.

26-106 **Report to the Legislature | Electronic Recording Equipment**

Summary: Under Government Code section 69958, the Judicial Council is required to report to the Legislature semiannually on the purchase and lease of any electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. For the reporting period of July 1 through December 31, 2025, two superior courts reported a combined total of $26,251 for the purchase or lease of electronic recording equipment or related items. In May 2026, Judicial Council staff submitted the Report of Electronic Recording Equipment Purchased or Leased by Superior Courts (July 1 through December 31, 2025) to the Legislature.

26-096 **Report to the Legislature | Review of the Statewide Uniform Child Support Guideline 2025**

Summary: Under Family Code section 4054 and federal regulations (45 C.F.R. § 302.56), the Judicial Council must review the statewide uniform child support guideline every four years and submit its findings and recommendations. The 2025 review has been completed and transmitted as required. This report summarizes the key findings of that review, including how the guideline is applied and its impact on children and families across California.

26-093 **Report to the Legislature | Trial Court Interpreters Program Expenditure Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25**

Summary: On June 30, 2026, Judicial Council staff submitted the annual report on trial court interpreter expenditures to the Legislature and Department of Finance. This report is required by the Budget Act of 2024 (Assem. Bill 107; Stats. 2024, ch. 22).

26-042 **Trial Courts | Quarterly Investment Report for Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2025-26**

Summary: This quarterly investment report covers the period from January 1 through March 31, 2026, 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

26-111 **Written Reports**

Appointment Orders

26-112 **Appointment Orders since the last business meeting.**

Adjournment

With the meeting's business completed, the Chief Justice adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Director Michelle Curran, Secretary to the Judicial Council, on October 16, 2026.