



Judicial Council of California

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April 24, 2026.

Subject Text

Meeting materials
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File #: 17-218, **Version:** 1

Title

Trial Courts: Children's Waiting Room Fund Balance Cap Adjustments (Action Required)

Summary

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council approve three requests to adjust the requesting trial courts' Children's Waiting Room fund balance cap. The Judicial Council revised its Children's Waiting Room (CWR) Distribution and Fund Balance Policy on June 26, 2015, placing a cap on the amount of CWR fund balance that courts can accumulate. Courts with fund balances that exceed the cap are required to return the amount above the cap to the Trial Court Trust Fund by the end of the fiscal year, unless the council approves a court's request for a cap adjustment. The Judicial Council approved additional revisions to the policy on March 24, 2017, to extend the review and adjustment of CWR fund balances from an annual to a biennial schedule, beginning with the 2016-17 fund balances. The total amount requested by the trial courts that would increase their CWR fund balance cap is \$862,289.

Recommendation

Based on actions taken at its October 12, 2017 meeting, the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) recommends that the Judicial Council, effective November 17, 2017:

1. Increase the amount of the 2016-17 cap on the CWR fund balance the courts can carry forward from one fiscal year to the next by \$66,981 for the Superior Court of Contra Costa County, \$351,922 for the Superior Court of Orange County, and \$443,386 for the Superior Court of Santa Barbara County (see Attachments C1, C2, and C3).