



Judicial Council of California

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November 17, 2023

Subject Text

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File #: 23-071, Version: 1

Title

Juvenile Law | 2022-23 Allocations for Dependency Counsel Collections Program and Expected Unspent Program Funding (Action Required)

Summary

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends two redistributions of funding for court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel for fiscal year (FY) 2022-23. Under the Juvenile Dependency Counsel Collections Program, courts collect reimbursements from parents and other responsible persons liable for the cost of dependency-related legal services to the extent that those persons are able to pay. The committee recommends that the Judicial Council allocate the FY 2021-22 statutorily restricted funds remitted in excess of dependency counsel program administrative costs to the trial courts, calculated according to the methodology adopted by the council. The committee also recommends that the council reallocate unspent dependency counsel funding from courts that have identified funds they do not intend to spend to courts funded at below the average statewide funding level.

Recommendation

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective March 24, 2023:

1. Allocate Juvenile Dependency Counsel Collections Program funds of \$364,976 remitted in FY 2021-22;
and
2. Allocate FY 2022-23 trial court allocations of estimated unspent dependency counsel funding of \$1,145,000 from courts that have identified funds they do not intend to spend to courts funded at below the average statewide funding level.