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Subject Text

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Title

Trial Court Budget | \$50 Million COVID-19 Backlog Funding (Action Required) Summary

The Judicial Branch Budget Committee recommends approval of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommendations regarding a COVID-19 related backlog definition, reporting requirements, and methodology for allocating the remaining \$25 million from the one-time \$50 million COVID-19 backlog funding appropriation.

Recommendation

The Judicial Branch Budget Committee recommends that the Judicial Council:

- 1. Approve the COVID-19 backlog definition developed by the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee as workload that was not disposed of during the pandemic period of March 1 through August 31, 2020, compared to the same period in 2019.
- 2. Approve the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee's recommendation for at least quarterly reporting requirements regarding progress in reducing the COVID-19 backlog with continued evaluation of trial court spending. In March 2021, the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee will perform a reconciliation using trial court COVID-19 spending reports and court projections to redistribute COVID-19 backlog funds to courts still in need of COVID-19 backlog funding as defined.
- 3. Approve the allocation methodology for the remaining \$25 million COVID-19 backlog funding as displayed in Attachment A.
- 4. Continue work on the Judicial Council staff-created template that has been distributed to all 58 courts to report nondispositional information on how courts have addressed COVID-19 related challenges.

Speakers

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

- Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Chair, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
- Ms. Rebecca Fleming, Vice-chair, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
- Ms. Leah Rose-Goodwin, Business Management Services
- Ms. Fran Mueller, Budget Services
- Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Budget Services