Trial Court Allocations: Maximum Reimbursement of Unused Savings from TCTF Program 45.45 for Court Interpreter Expenditures

Judicial Council Meeting April 24, 2014

Previous Judicial Council Action

January 23, 2014

- Ad Hoc Joint Working Group to Address Interpreter Issues presents recommendations to council
- Council takes action of the COURTS

Previous Judicial Council Action

- Courts can be reimbursed from TCTF Program 45.45 and unspent savings for the following cases:
 - Domestic violence

THE COURTS

- Family law with DV issues
- Elder and dependent adult abuse
- Civil cases with indigent parties

Previous Judicial Council Action

 TCBAC directed to provide recommendations at April 2014 council meeting on the maximum amount each court will be eligible to receive in reimbursement from the unused savings.

Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee

- Funding Subcommittee that presented recommendations to TCBAC on February 26. TCBAC:
 - Approved 4 recommendations and
- Referred implementation of expansion of interpreter services in civil cases to CEAC

Court Executives Advisory Committee

 CEAC met on April 2. They unanimously approved an alternate to TCBAC's recommendation 1 that would allocate interpreter funds on a regional, rather than court, basis, except for courts that are not in a region.



Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee

TCBAC met again on April 17. They approved amending their original recommendation 1 to reflect the CEAC proposal.



 Each interpreter region is eligible to receive from the unused savings a % of the unused savings equal to the average % of Program 45.45 reimbursements it received over the past 5 years. Solano and Ventura County Superior Courts are eligible for individually earmarked funds based on the same methodology.



- AOC staff should track rate at which the unused savings are drawn down and report this each month to trial courts.
- TCBAC should review this information at least once each quarter.

- In FY 2013-14, if mandated and DV costs exceed \$92.7 million, use unspent savings.
- Set aside shortfall amount from unspent savings for FY 2014-15.
- If entire \$92.7 million not used in FY 2013-14, add to regions and 2 courts for FY 2014-15
- Direct staff to seek expenditure authority to permit reimbursement from unused savings in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

- Expenditures for reimbursements for interpreters for indigent parties in civil cases are to be tracked separately.
- Data should be tracked monthly to determine how quickly savings are being spent.
- Direct AOC staff to create procedures that would collect this data from Phoenix Financial System.

End of Presentation

