Trial Court Trust Fund Allocations: 2 Percent State-Level Reserve

Judicial Council Meeting

October 28, 2014

1926

Judicial Council Criteria for Eligibility for Supplemental Funding

Under the policy adopted by the council, the main criteria for determining whether a court may receive supplemental funding related to an urgent need is that the court is projecting a current year negative fund balance due to an unavoidable funding shortfall, unanticipated expense or unforeseen emergency.



October Supplemental Funding Requests for Urgent Needs

- Court must submit request by October 1, pursuant to GC 68502.5.
- Under Judicial Council policy, court can receive amount contributed to 2 percent reserve. If request is beyond contribution amount, council may distribute more funding to the court, after October 31 up to March 15.



Supplemental Funding Request Submissions

 Superior Court of Del Norte, Kings, Mono, and Siskiyou Counties submitted applications for supplemental funding for urgent needs.



Review of Court Applications

Trial Court Budget Advisory
 Committee's Working Group provided
 subject matter expertise and input to
 Judicial Council staff in the review of
 the court applications.



Review of Court Applications

- Results of working group and staff review:
 - All four courts project negative fund balance (General Fund) for 2014– 2015.
 - Only Superior Court of Kings County demonstrated unavoidable funding shortfall.



Recommended Options

- Option 1—Deny Request
- Option 2—Approve Funding at 2
 Percent Contribution Amount
- Option 3—Grant Request Beyond 2
 Percent Contribution Amount



Superior Court of Del Norte County

- Supplemental funding request of \$300,000 for projected 2014–2015 negative fund balance (General Fund) of \$292,000.
- Court attributes deficit to significant loss in fund balance.



Superior Court of Del Norte County

- 2014–2015 TCTF allocation reduced by \$523,000 due to fund balance being over 1% cap.
- Court indicates restricted statutory monies of \$550,000 in fund balance cannot be used for deficit.



Superior Court of Del Norte County

- Option 1 \$0
 - Implement furloughs and closures
- Option 2 \$57,000
 - Deficit of \$235,000 remains
- Option 3 \$300,000
 - No furloughs or closures needed



Previous Council Action Superior Court of Kings County

January 2013, court submitted application for \$1.97 million negative fund balance due to unanticipated expenditure for soonto-be unsupported county CMS.



Previous Council Action Superior Court of Kings County

- February 26, 2013, approved allocation of up to \$2.11 million over 5-year period with conditions, starting with \$733,000 for 2012-2013.
- February 20, 2014, approved \$130,000 for 2nd year cost of new CMS deployment in 2013-2014.



Superior Court of Kings County

- Supplemental funding request of \$509,000 for projected 2014–2015 negative fund balance (General Fund) of \$786,000.
- Court attributes deficit to 3rd year costs to deploy new CMS to replace soon-tobe unsupported county CMS.



Superior Court of Kings County

- Anticipates additional revenues in 2014– 2015 from grant that will reduce remaining deficit.
- Plans to implement additional cost savings measures, if needed, to address remaining deficit.



Superior Court of Kings County

- Option 1 \$0
 - Potential CMS vendor contract default
- Option 2 \$129,000
 - Revenue shortfall of \$380,000 for 3rd year CMS deployment
- Option 3 \$509,000
 - Continue CMS deployment to transition off county in 2015

Superior Court of Mono County

- Supplemental funding request of \$82,000 for projected 2014–2015 negative fund balance (General Fund) of \$82,000.
- Court anticipated close to full restoration of TCTF funding in 2014–2015, which did not occur.



Superior Court of Mono County

Court is implementing court closures with mandatory staff furloughs every
 3rd Friday of month, beginning October
 31, to reduce deficit to \$82,000.



Superior Court of Mono County

- Option 1 \$0
 - Furloughs and closures days will increase to 25 days
- Option 2 \$32,000
 - Deficit of \$50,000 remaining
- Option 3 \$82,000
 - No additional court closures and furloughs



Superior Court of Siskiyou County

- Supplemental funding request of \$72,000 for projected 2014–2015
 negative fund balance (General Fund) of \$70,000.
- Court is requesting return of 2 percent contribution of \$72,000 to prevent cash flow issues.



Superior Court of Siskiyou County

- Option 1 \$0
 - Implement furloughs and court closures to meet cash liabilities
- Option 2 \$72,000
 - Cash flow to meet payroll and vendor contract liabilities



