



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on: April 17, 2015

Title	Agenda Item Type
Administrative Director's Report	Information Only
Submitted by	Date of Report
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Executive Summary

The following information outlines some of the many activities staff is engaged in to further the Judicial Council's goals and priorities for the judicial branch. The report focuses on action since the council's February meeting and is exclusive of issues on the April business meeting agenda.

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Addressing the Needs of Court Users With Mental Illness: The Forensic Mental Health Association of California presented its highest award, the William T. Rossiter Award, to the Judicial Council for its work in addressing the needs of offenders with mental illness (adults and juveniles) as well as other users of court services with mental illness. Judge Richard J. Loftus Jr., Chair of the Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force, received the award on behalf of the council.

Commission on the Future of California’s Court System: During the public session of the first meeting of the commission, the Chief Justice and commission chair and vice-chair, Supreme Court Justice Carol Corrigan and Administrative Presiding Justice William McGuiness, provided an overview of the commission’s charge. In addition to plenary sessions at the two-day meeting, the four working groups (Criminal/Traffic, Family/Juvenile, Civil, and Fiscal/Court Administration) held separate sessions.

Legislative Hearings:

- The Senate Budget Subcommittee 5 held its first hearing on the judicial branch budget. A number of court stakeholders, including presiding judges, court executives, members of the civil and criminal bar, and others spoke on behalf of improved court funding. The committee voted as follows on judicial branch funding and budget policy issues:
 - Trial Court Funding: This item served as a general discussion of judicial branch budget issues and focused on the Governor’s proposed General Fund augmentation of \$181 million (\$90 million of which represents the five percent in new funds proposed by the Governor, \$43 million for benefits, \$20 million for the Trial Court Trust Fund shortfall, and \$27 million for Proposition 47). The proposed augmentation was held open until a subsequent Senate Sub 5 budget hearing.
 - Proposition 47: The committee voted to approve the first year of the Governor’s two-year funding proposal of \$26.9 million. Included in the vote was the request for unspecified trailer bill language related to collecting data on the impacts of Proposition 47 in advance of next year’s budget discussion about ongoing/year two funding. The committee withheld a recommendation on the Governor’s proposal of \$7.6 million for fiscal year 2016–2017 pending availability of additional data on need, workload, and other court impacts.
 - Dependency Counsel: This item, which was presented as a panel discussion including several vendor-advocates who represent parents and children in dependency hearings, was held until a subsequent Senate Sub 5 budget hearing. The committee, while expressing a strong need for more dependency counsel funding, held open the recommendation for a statutorily required caseload cap for children’s dependency hearing attorneys.
 - Recidivism Reduction Fund: The committee voted to approve clean-up language that clarifies that funding for the competitive grant must be encumbered by June 30, 2017. They praised the judicial branch for its quick and comprehensive roll-out of grant guidelines and awards under the Recidivism Reduction Fund grant program.

- Other: Trial court security as provided by sheriffs departments and funded directly to the sheriffs was discussed. The Amnesty Trailer Bill Language was not discussed as part of the committee's discussion about the insolvency of the Peace Officer Training Fund shortfall.
- The Joint Legislative Audit Committee met to consider the recent audit of the Judicial Council by the California State Auditor. Items that the Judicial Council had already addressed were presented. There was no action taken at the hearing.

Legislative Advocacy: Governmental Affairs advocates continue to navigate Judicial Council-sponsored legislation through the legislative process. The Judicial Council is sponsoring 11 proposals this year—10 in stand-alone bills. The proposal relating to the sunset of fees is in the Governor's Budget and is expected to be included in budget trailer bill language.

State of the Judiciary Address and Bench-Bar Coalition Legislative Visits: The Chief Justice delivered her fourth State of the Judiciary address to a joint session of the Legislature. In addition, approximately 40 representatives from the Bench-Bar Coalition met with more than 80 Senators, Assembly Members, and legislative staff to deliver key messages about judicial branch budget and legislative priorities. The day's activities culminated in a well-attended, State Bar-sponsored reception in the newly renovated Stanley Mosk Library and Courts Building. Governor Brown and multiple legislators attended the reception.

Recidivism Reduction Fund: Staff finalized contracts with 27 courts in Phase I for the Recidivism Reduction Fund and issued a further Request for Proposals for the remaining six eligible courts, with a submission deadline of April 17, 2015.

Proposition 47:

- Criminal Justice Services staff surveyed the courts on the impact of Proposition 47 and found that over 100,000 petitions for resentencing and reclassification were filed with the courts between November 4, 2014, and March 30, 2015.
- Staff interviewed court subject matter experts on the impact of Proposition 47 in 36 counties. Information from the interviews and surveys will be provided to the state Department of Finance and will be used to inform potential future funding allocations.

Revenue and Collections:

- The Finance office is supporting efforts to expand court peer-to-peer networking and problem resolution opportunities for court-ordered debt collections and trial court revenue distribution professionals. This includes launching a new listserv for collections and revenue distribution staff. Open to both court and county partners, the listserv will facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing regarding the collection of forthwith, non-delinquent, and delinquent court-ordered debt as well as local and state distribution of the monies collected.
- Support is being provided to the Superior Court of Trinity County in developing a transition plan as the court moves away from certain county-provided collections services. Assistance

is also being provided to Trinity County Probation to improve their collections program. Staff continued to work closely with the Superior Court of Merced County as it takes steps to assume responsibility for collections from the county on July 1, 2015.

Language Access Plan Implementation: Supreme Court Associate Justice Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar and Judge Manuel Covarrubias of the Superior Court of Ventura County, Chair and Vice-chair respectively of the Language Access Plan Implementation Committee, and Judicial Council staff met with the US Department of Justice representatives to introduce the leadership of the new Implementation Task Force and discuss mutual interests. Court Language Access Support Program staff continued discussions with the department the following day in ongoing information sharing on improvements to language access in California courts.

Judicial Branch Statistical Information System: The Office of Court Research completed the third and final enhancement to the web portal that will enable all courts to report case type data required in the Resource Assessment Study and Workload-based Allocation Funding Methodology models. The web portal now has a reference section that provides court users with an updated user manual, data definitions, and training documents.

Fee Waiver Application Updates: Staff updated 30 HotDocs programs to implement changes required for the revised waiver form, effective March 1, 2015. The project involved extensive revision of business rules and testing to ensure that financial information is accurately collected, displayed, and calculated. Courts using the family law and probate programs include: Kern, Los Angeles, Monterey, Orange, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Yolo Counties. The programs are used in court self-help centers, law libraries, and in some instances on court websites.

Judicial Resources and Technical Assistance Program: At the court's invitation, staff attorneys visited the juvenile courts in San Mateo, Mendocino, Merced, Humboldt, and Solano Counties to conduct a courtesy analysis of case files, and identify legal issues and training needs. In Placer County, a staff attorney conducted a training for probation officers, focused on placement cases and timeliness issues as a follow-up to a visit in September 2014.

Dependency Representation, Administration, Funding and Training Program: An assessment of Judicial Council-contracted court appointed counsel service providers for contract compliance included surveys to each service provider, the court, and county counsel; a review of administrative requirements; and courtroom observation. In Alameda County, Judicial Council staff met with the court executive officer, presiding judge of the juvenile court, and juvenile court personnel to review preliminary results. In Santa Clara County, staff conducted courtroom observation in the juvenile dependency courts. Staff was able to meet with each of the dependency judges to get their feedback about each of the court-appointed counsel service providers.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Site Visits: Staff visited the CASA program for Imperial County to ensure compliance with required standards.

Juvenile Dependency Counsel Collections Program: Staff hosted a quarterly conference call open to all judicial officers and court staff to discuss and collaborate on solutions to questions and issues related to local implementation of the program.

Affordable Care Act Child Support Focus Group: A focus group comprised of child support commissioners, family law facilitators, and the AB 1058 Child Support Program attorney convened to follow up on identifying additional cross-over issues between the Act and medical support/child support issues in AB 1058 courts. They also collected relevant promising practices, determining what kind of resources would be useful to the courts and court customers. The members, who volunteered to participate with their courts' approval, join in e-mail discussions and periodic conference calls.

Clerk/Administrators of the Courts of Appeal Quarterly Meeting: Staff provided information and updates on technology, budget, human resources, and other issues of import to the appellate courts.

Appellate Project Directors Quarterly Meeting: Appellate Court Services staff reviewed issues that affect the Court-Appointed Counsel program's budget including the fiscal impact of the new claims processing and case management system.

California Child Welfare Council: The council agenda included a presentation on a Partial Credits Took Kit for foster children and youth; a report on the Psychotropic Medications Quality Improvement Project; an update on out-of-county mental health services for children and youth in the foster care system; and reports from the Priority Access to Services and Supports Task Force and the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Action Team. The Judicial Council is represented on the Child Welfare Council by the Administrative Director and Center for Families, Children & the Courts staff.

Facilities

Capital Projects: There are 28 active capital projects totaling \$3.2 billion, and three projects that remain in the warranty or project close-out phase. Nine projects, totaling more than \$1.6 billion, are currently in construction.

Dedication of New North Butte County Courthouse: The dedication ceremony attended by the Chief Justice represented the first completed ground construction project funded by SB 1407. The court officially opened for business on March 23, 2015.

New Banning/Riverside Courthouse: The new courthouse received its certificate of occupancy on March 26, 2015.

New Madera Courthouse: The project received a temporary certificate of occupancy on March 30, 2015, allowing the installation of court furnished equipment in anticipation of the move into the building.

Real Estate and Facilities Management:

Facility modifications overview as of March 2015

Status	Number of Modifications	Total of Estimated Cost
Awaiting Shared Cost Approval	20	\$20,602,566
In Work	460	\$71,257,442
Total	480	\$91,860,008

During this period, 37 real estate transactions were completed including lease renewals, revenue licenses, and event licenses, as follows:

- Lease Renewals
 - Missions building expense lease, Madera County
 - 1130 12th Street expense lease, Stanislaus County
 - Traffic court expense lease, Yolo County
 - San Jose Facility Management Unit lease, Judicial Council
- Revenue licenses
 - Torrance Courthouse (Ideal Foods, Inc., and The Los Lobos Truck), Los Angeles County
 - Irvine Storage (CSU Sacramento), Orange County
 - San Diego Hall of Justice; North County Regional Center; South County Regional Center; East County Regional Center (Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)), San Diego County
- Event licenses: 26 short-term event licenses were executed

Technology

Telecommunications Infrastructure and Security: Seventeen superior courts are participating in an equipment replacement program to be completed by May 2015. Upgrades were completed for the Superior Court of Placer County during this reporting period.

Case Management Systems:

- *Criminal and Traffic (Fresno) V2:* Fresno will complete its conversion from the V2 system for criminal and traffic case types to Tyler Odyssey on April 13.
- *Sustain Justice Edition:* Maintenance activities included production support updates and system patching for this case management system hosted for eight courts at the California Courts Technology Center.

California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System: A major refresh and upgrade project was completed, including hardware replacement and software upgrades in all eight courts on this system.

Uniform Civil Fees System: This program supports distribution and mandated reporting of uniform civil fees collected by 58 superior courts, with an average of \$51 million distributed per month. Enhancements were made to provide a secured audit trail of all key database changes.

Human Resources

Classification and Compensation Study: New classification assignments, including Fair Labor Standards Act status, were made for all Judicial Council staff, reducing the number of classifications from 185 to approximately 75, with some modifications to be completed. The compensation phase of the study is in progress.

Labor Relations/Negotiations: Staff has been assisting 12 trial courts in 15 separate labor negotiations including impact bargaining issues. In the past two months, four successor Memoranda of Understanding have been ratified. Support is being provided to five trial courts in responding to seven different labor matters (e.g., assisting with a grievance, responding to the Public Employee Relations Board, or advising on contract interpretation).

Court Employee Relations: Support is being provided to 15 courts involving employee investigations, discipline matters, and leaves of absence.

Advisory Committees/Task Forces/Working Groups

The following committees met in person or by phone since the council's February meeting:

1. Appellate Indigent Defense Oversight Advisory Committee
2. Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee
3. Court Executives Advisory Committee - Executive Committee
4. Court Facilities Advisory Committee - Courthouse Cost Reduction Subcommittee
5. Court Technology Advisory Committee
6. Criminal Law Advisory Committee
7. Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee
8. Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program Advisory Committee
9. Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court Steering Committee
10. Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force
11. Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee - Revenue and Expenditure Subcommittee and Working Group on Court Appointed Dependency Counsel
12. Trial Court Facility Modifications Advisory Committee
13. Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee - Executive Committee
14. Tribal Court-State Court Forum

Meeting Details

Appellate Indigent Defense Oversight Advisory Committee

- Audited 140 compensation claims paid to individual attorneys in relation to work performed for the appellate project between October 1 and December 30, 2014. Approved 10 adjustment letters. Discussed quarterly reports that analyzed cost trends, program expenditures, and training programs.

Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee

- Developed final recommendations for revisions to the Notification of Military Status form required by recent legislation.
- Committee staff were invited by the San Francisco court to meet with the first community court judge for Israel from the city of Beer Shiva.

Court Executives Advisory Committee - Executive Committee

- Approved sponsoring a proposal to amend Rule 10.620. (Trial Court Management: Public Access to Administrative Decisions of Trial Courts).
- Discussed upcoming legislative hearings; the Legislative Analyst's report on Restructuring the Court-Ordered Debt Collection Process; the Governor's traffic amnesty proposal; progress on developing the Catalog of Courtroom Layouts for California Trial Courts; and the judicial branch budget.
- Discussed the possibility of a forum for court executive officers and chief information officers to assist with information sharing on technology issues facing the trial courts.

Court Facilities Advisory Committee

- Received comments on project labor agreements and reviewed the status update on the Immediate and Critical Need (Funds) Account.
- Courthouse Cost Reduction Subcommittee - Reviewed the 50 percent bridging documents of the Hollywood courthouse modernization project, and reviewed two projects (Riverside County's new Indio Juvenile and Family Courthouse and the new Redding Courthouse for Shasta County), both in the preliminary plans phase of design.

Court Technology Advisory Committee

- Approved a proposal to amend rule titles to modernize the rules to facilitate e-filing, e-service, and e-business. The proposed amendments are part of an ongoing comprehensive review of court rules to address technical changes.
- Approved a proposal to adopt new rules to address public access to electronic court records.
- Subcommittee chairs and workstream sponsors provided updates on 13 projects. The Projects Subcommittee provided a draft survey to assess court disaster recovery and next generation hosting needs.
- The data exchange workstream completed their survey. Survey results and future planning were discussed.

- A new joint technology subcommittee of the Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executives Advisory Committee will serve as an initial point of contact for technology concepts and proposals.

Criminal Law Advisory Committee

- Prepared form proposals to circulate for public comment to facilitate new dismissal procedures for certain veteran defendants and victims of human trafficking.
- Developed an invitation to comment on a legislative proposal to clarify court jurisdiction to adjudicate violations of supervision under Penal Code section 1203.2.
- Formed an ad hoc subcommittee to develop rules and/or standards of judicial administration to establish guidelines for court use of risk/needs assessment information at sentencing.
- In conjunction with members of the Court Executives Advisory Committee, collaborated with the Chief Probation Officers of California on pending criminal legislation to govern the collection and disbursement of fines and fees after intercounty transfer under Penal Code section 1203.9.

Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee

- Discussed the status of referrals and other related initiatives within the committee's charge; promising practices in court coordination; and Spring 2015 rules and forms affecting both family and juvenile proceedings; Juvenile Custody Orders; Domestic Violence-520-INFO; and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status.
- Received a presentation from a *San Jose Mercury News* reporter on her year-long investigation into the use of psychotropic medication by youth under the jurisdiction of the courts.
- Subcommittees met separately for part of the day. Agenda items included spring 2015 rules and forms and implementation of council referred recommendations.

Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program Advisory Committee

- Reviewed the cost allocation methodology for participating courts and state judicial branch entities for the upcoming fiscal year.

Keeping Kids in School in School and Out of Court Steering Committee

- Discussed how the initiative could support the 32 county teams that were formed for the December 2013 summit, based on feedback from many of the judge-led teams.
- Discussed messaging and communications for the initiative.
- Steering committee member Jill Habig, Special Assistant Attorney General, presented information on Attorney General Kamala Harris's recently formed Bureau of Children's Justice.

Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force

- Discussed pending mental health-related legislation forms proposed by the Department of State Hospitals, and the task force's 2015 work plan.

Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee

Revenue and Expenditure Subcommittee

- Worked with the chairs of the Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executives Advisory Committees to develop a survey regarding Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund programs/projects and provide options under 15 and 25 percent reduction scenarios.

Working Group on Court Appointed Dependency Counsel

- Developed draft recommendations for consideration by the committee on a workload-based methodology for allocations for court appointed dependency counsel.
- The Children's Waiting Room Working Group, the Benefits Working Group, and the Funding Methodology Subcommittee also met.

Trial Court Facility Modifications Advisory Committee

- Reviewed and approved facility modification projects with a total potential cost of \$4,941,536. Under the current spending plan, \$4 million is available to fund facilities needs between March and the end of the fiscal year. It appears, based on available funding, that the advisory committee will be unable to fund Priority 3 (Needed) projects for the balance of the fiscal year. Priority 3 projects include security enhancements, non-critical system renewals, and upgrades to work areas such as public counters, public waiting, and holding areas.
- Reviewed and ratified 70 Priority 1 (Emergency) projects, with a total potential cost of \$1,266,206. The majority, 59 projects, occurred in Los Angeles County. Pasadena, Torrance, Van Nuys East, Van Nuys West, and airport courthouses accounted for 27 of the projects. At the current rate, the Priority 1 budget is projected to exceed the originally approved budget of \$7 million. Current projections anticipate a potential total expenditure of \$11.5 million in this fiscal year.
- In addition to the Napa earthquake initial remediation efforts that impacted the emergency budget for approximately \$1.5 million, the program has seen a significantly increased failure rate in HVAC systems, plumbing hardware, and remediation work in asbestos-laden areas. These are indicative of the age and deterioration widespread in the Judicial Council facility portfolio.
- Reviewed and approved the Trial Court Facility Modification Quarterly Activity Report. All reports are also posted on the public website.
- Reviewed and approved a request for an administrative exception to the Seismic Safety Policy for Leased Buildings for a new leased facility for the Superior Court of Los Angeles County.

Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee - Executive Committee

- Discussed upcoming legislative hearings; the Legislative Analyst's report on Restructuring the Court-Ordered Debt Collection Process; the Governor's traffic amnesty proposal; and progress on developing the Catalog of Courtroom Layouts for California Trial Courts.
- Approved sponsoring a proposal to amend Rule 10.620. (Trial Court Management: Public Access to Administrative Decisions of Trial Courts), and approved exploring a possible change to Penal Code 808, and other applicable statutes, to add commissioners to the definition of magistrates.

Tribal Court-State Court Forum

- Discussed the co-chair's report on the forum's annual agenda; the US Attorney General's Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Initiative; ICWA Proposed Draft Transfer Rule; the Blue Lake Tribes' legislative proposal to amend family code to authorize tribal court judges to solemnize a marriage; the Center for Judicial Education and Research Governing Committee meeting update; and brainstormed workshop ideas for *Beyond the Bench 23: The User Experience*.

Judicial Branch Education and Training

Summary

Judicial Education

1. Civil Law Institute
2. Experienced Assignment Courses in Evidence, Felony Sentencing, Homicide, and Death Penalty Trials
3. New Judge Orientation
4. The Mentally Ill Defendant (regional judicial course)
5. Qualifying Judicial Ethics Core classes (Santa Cruz, Monterey– Retired Judges Institute, and Los Angeles)

Judicial Officer, Court Employee, and Justice System Stakeholder Education

6. Americans with Disabilities Act Webinar (for judges and court staff)
7. Child Protection Proceedings (for judicial officers, attorneys, and social workers)
8. Conservatee Visits: Getting the Facts (for court investigators)
9. Core 40: Basic Training (for managers and supervisors)
10. Dependency Representation, Administration, Funding, and Training
11. Family Law Programs
12. Forum on Legal Issues Related to Immigrant Children in State Court
13. Indian Child Welfare Act
14. Institute for Court Management - Visioning and Strategic Planning
15. Institute for Court Management - Education, Training, and Development
16. Labor Relations Academy
17. Managing Time for Effective Performance (for trial court leaders and staff)
18. Visual Design for Legal Communications (for Judicial Council staff)

New and Updated Broadcasts/Online Resources

19. Ten-Minute Mentor programs
20. Active and Productive Meetings (for trial court managers, supervisors, and leads)
21. Protective Orders (for trial court probate investigators)
22. Calendar Management in Family Court

Judicial Publications

23. 2015 Felony Sentencing Handbook

Distance Education

24. Satellite downlink installations were completed in two new court facilities (Butte County, Chico, and Riverside County, Banning) to enable the delivery of distance education.

Sharing Subject Matter Expertise with Justice System Partners

25. California Appellate Defense Counsel Conference

26. California Community Corrections Performance Incentive Act

27. Parolee Reentry Courts

Program Details

Appellate Court System Administrators Training: The Appellate Court Services and Information Services offices sponsored the annual session designed to update and train system supervisors and staff that directly support the Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal regarding new technology and proposed statewide upcoming technology changes.

Child Protection Proceedings: Judge Leonard P. Edwards (Ret.), Volunteer Mentor Judge at the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, provided an interactive training presentation involving hypothetical situations that occur in child protection proceedings for judicial officers, attorneys, social workers, and other participants in the child protection system. The presentation focused on how the reasonable efforts tool can be used to monitor the activities of social workers as they provide services to children and parents.

Conservatee Visits: This full day course was held in two locations and provided new and experienced court investigators with an opportunity to update their knowledge and skills regarding their responsibilities on conservatee assessments in the preappointment stage.

Core 40: Basic Training for Managers and Supervisors: Topics for the Monterey Superior Court management team included the role of the supervisor, employment law, and performance management.

Dependency Representation, Administration, Funding, and Training: As requested by the county, staff provided software training on the Juvenile Court Activity Tracker System, a comprehensive child dependency/child advocacy database. The system automates dependency practice by providing calendar management, client and matter management, conflict checking, time tracking, billing, task and document management, mobile access and other program management features.

Family Law Programs: Several multidisciplinary educational events at one location included: the Family Law Institute (open to judicial officers only); Child Support Commissioners' Roundtable Training; Dependency/Family Court Judicial Officers Training; Juvenile Dependency Law and Process Attorneys Training; Advanced Dependency Training; Juvenile Dependency Mediators Training; Family Dispute Resolution Institute for New Court Professionals; Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational Institute; Family Court Services Directors, Managers, and Supervisors Training Symposium; and Access to Visitation Grant Program: Advanced Skills Training.

Forum on Legal Issues Related to Immigrant Children in State Court: The Judicial Council and the Superior Court of San Diego County hosted an all-day forum on legal issues related to immigrant children in state court. The forum gathered almost 60 trial and appellate court judicial officers, court staff, federal immigration officials, nonprofit immigration and children's attorneys, and key legislative staff to begin collaborating on responses to the variety of legal issues facing immigrant children before the California courts.

Indian Child Welfare Act: Several trainings were provided for Title IV-E coordinators; graduate social work students; courts clerks; and family law mediators.

Labor Relations Academy: Two Academy I sessions were held for 17 representatives from 13 different trial courts. For Academy II (advanced), 58 participants representing 30 courts took part in the session.

Managing Time for Effective Performance: Two half-day courses at the Superior Court of Tehama County focused on assessing personal time management gaps and providing key strategies to improve in those areas.

Mentally Ill Defendants: Legal Issues and Practical Tips for a Regular Criminal Calendar: This judicial regional course covered procedures regarding competency to stand trial, developmental disability issues, issues regarding expert testimony, and mentally disordered offender extension hearings, and provided an overview of Murphy conservatorships, conservatorships under the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act, and Welfare and Institutions Code §6500 commitments.

Ten-Minute Mentor Videos:

- *Drug Testing, Part 1: Family Code §3041.5:* Commissioner JoAnn Johnson provides legal and practical information on when and how to order drug testing in Family Court cases.
- *Firearms Relinquishment in Criminal and Family Domestic Violence Cases:* Judge Becky Dugan discusses the law, procedure, and practice tips related to firearms relinquishment and proof of surrender.
- *Lactating and Nursing Jurors, Attorneys and Court Users:* Judge Angela Bradstreet discusses lactation and nursing laws, best practices, and protecting confidentiality of information provided by the lactating or nursing mother.

Visual Design for Legal Communication: This Judicial Council staff training started with the fundamental principles of what makes for an engaging and legible visual design, and explored real-world examples to improve design literacy. Attendees learned about the potential of interactive, tech-based communication design, and what design principles and patterns should guide how we convey legal information through websites and apps. Presenter Margaret Hagan is a lawyer and designer who is currently based at Stanford University.

Sharing Subject Matter Expertise with Justice System Partners

California Appellate Defense Counsel Conference: The Director of the Appellate Court Services office participated in a roundtable discussion on the statewide Court of Appeal Court Appointed Counsel Program. The California Appellate Defense Counsel is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the interests at the appointed appellate and post-conviction counsel in California.

California Community Corrections Performance Incentive Act: Staff conducted a workshop for the Probation Research Network that assisted probation analysts charged with conducting data collection for the California Community Corrections Performance Incentive Act (SB 678). Staff presented data collection instruments and core data elements, discussed data definitions, and provided data collection technical assistance to approximately 60 probation staff.

Parolee Reentry Courts: Results of the Parolee Reentry Court project were presented at the Association of Criminal Justice Researchers Conference. The presentation was based on findings presented in the December 2014 legislative report that showed that the pilot reentry courts: 1) were serving high risk-high need populations; 2) resulted in fewer revocations and less time in prison; and 3) resulted in more re-arrests (a finding consistent with similar research that may indicate the reentry courts are more likely to utilize intermediate sanctions). Preliminary exploration of conviction data for a non-representative sub-sample of counties indicate that reentry courts result in significantly fewer convictions.

Staffing Report as of March 31, 2015

See definition of terms on the following page.

STAFFING	Leadership Services Division								Operations and Programs Division						Administrative Division						Judicial Council
	Executive Office	Governmental Affairs	Audit Services	Legal Services	Judicial Council Support	Communications	Special Projects	Trial Court Liaison	Center for Families, Child. & Courts	Court Operations Services	Criminal Justice Services	Center for Judiciary Education & Research	Appellate Court Services	Capital Programs	Finance	Human Resources	Information Technology	Admin Support	Real Estate & Facilities Mgmt	Trial Court Admin Services	
Authorized Position (FTE)	7.00	12.00	14.00	60.00	11.80	7.00	7.00	8.00	68.00	43.40	15.00	48.50	8.00	56.00	83.00	39.00	126.00	30.00	83.00	88.00	814.70
Filled Authorized Position (FTE)	7.00	10.00	13.00	42.70	11.60	7.00	7.00	8.00	55.35	39.40	12.30	42.30	4.00	48.00	76.00	37.00	106.88	27.80	75.80	80.88	712.01
Headcount - Employees	7	10	13	43	12	7	7	8	56	40	13	43	4	48	76	37	107	28	76	81	716.00
Vacancy (FTE)	0.00	2.00	1.00	17.30	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.65	4.00	2.70	6.20	4.00	8.00	7.00	2.00	19.13	2.20	7.20	7.13	102.71
Vacancy Rate (FTE)	0.0%	16.7%	7.1%	28.8%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18.6%	9.2%	18.0%	12.8%	50.0%	14.3%	8.4%	5.1%	15.2%	7.3%	8.7%	8.1%	12.6%
Temporary Employee (909)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.50
*Employment Agency Temporary Worker (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.00
Contractors (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	1.0	50.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	60.00
TOTAL WORKFORCE (based on FTE, 909s, Agency Temps & Contractors)	8.00	10.00	13.00	44.70	11.60	7.00	7.00	8.00	55.35	40.40	13.80	43.30	4.00	55.00	80.00	38.00	156.88	27.80	76.80	80.88	781.51

Definitions:	
Authorized Position (FTE)	Authorized positions include all regular ongoing positions approved in the Budget Act for that year. The number is based on the position's approved full time equivalency.
Filled Authorized Position (FTE)	Filled authorized positions are the number of authorized positions filled based on the employee's full time equivalency.
Headcount	The actual count of persons employed, regardless of FTE. This number could be more than the FTE count due to part-time employees being counted as "1". It does not include Temporary Employees (909) or Employment Agency Temporary Workers.
Vacancy (FTE)	The number of vacancies is the number of authorized positions minus the number of filled authorized positions.
Vacancy Rate (FTE)	Vacancy Rate is calculated by dividing the number of authorized positions by the number of vacant authorized positions. This number excludes temporary employees ("909" funded employees). See definition of temporary employees below.
Temporary Employees (909)	The 909 category is the State Controller code used to reference a temporary position or temporary employee. A 909 position may not be funded through the Budget Act. It is categorized as a temporary position in the absence of an authorized position. 909 positions may be occupied by regular full-time employees due to the unavailability of an authorized vacant position and may receive benefits if employed at least half-time for more than six months. Types of "909" Employees include: Retired Annuitants: A retiree hired by a former employer or other employer that participates in the same retirement system as the former employer. This includes a former participant in a state retirement system who previously retired and currently receives retirement benefits. Temporary Employees: Employed on a temporary basis - they do not receive full benefits (but do receive Calpers retirement service credit).
Employment Agency Temp. Worker (FTE)	These are workers from an employment agency who provide short-term support for workload.
Contractor (FTE)	Individuals augmenting the work of the organization and providing services for a limited period of time or on a specific project, where a particular skill set is required that is either (1) not within an existing classification and/or job description or (2) where recruitment issues require the use of a contractor.
Full Time Equivalency (FTE)	Full Time Equivalency is the number of total maximum compensable hours designated in a year divided by actual hours worked in a year. For example, the work year is defined as 2,080 hours; one employee occupying a paid full time job all year would consume one FTE. One employee working for 1,040 hours each would consume .5 FTE.
Time Base	Full time: Employee is scheduled to work 40 hours per week. Receives full benefits. Part time: Employee is scheduled to work less than 40 hours per week. Employees that work more than 20 hours per week receive full benefits. Intermittent: Employees have no established work schedule and work on an as-needed basis that varies from one pay period to the next. Eligibility for certain benefits may be limited for these employees.
Regular Employee	Commonly referred to as "permanent employees" – They receive full benefits.
Limited Term	Limited Term Position – A position funded through the Budget Act with a specific end date and counted as an authorized position. Employee in limited term positions may be regular or temporary.

New Judgeships and Vacancies Report

Judicial Appointments: In March, the Governor made 12 judicial appointments to the following Superior Courts: Alameda (2), Los Angeles (4), San Diego (2), San Francisco (3), and Tulare (1).

NUMBER OF JUDGESHIPS AUTHORIZED, FILLED AND VACANT AS OF MARCH 31, 2015

TYPE OF COURT	NUMBER OF COURTS	NUMBER OF JUDGESHIPS					
		Authorized	Filled	Vacant	Vacant (AB 159 positions)	Filled(Last Month**)	Vacant(Last Month**)
Supreme Court	1	7	7	0	0	7	0
Courts of Appeal	6	105	98	7	0	100	5
Superior Courts	58	1713	1612	51	50*	1603	110
All Courts	65	1825	1717	108		1710	115

*Authorized January 1, 2008, 50 new (AB 159) judgeships are added. However, funding for the 50 positions has not been provided.

**As of January 31, 2015

Below: **New Vacancies that occurred in March 2015**

JUDICIAL VACANCIES: APPELLATE COURTS

Appellate District	Vacancies	Reason for Vacancy	Justice to be Replaced	Last Day In Office
<i>Second Appellate District</i>				
Division One	6	Elevated	Hon. Frances Rothschild	07/16/14
Division Three		Deceased	Hon. H. Walter Croskey	08/29/14
Division Five		Retirement	Hon. Orville A. Armstrong	07/31/13
Division Six		Retirement	Hon. Paul H. Coffee	01/31/12
Division Seven		Retirement	Hon. Fred Woods	03/31/15
Division Seven		Retirement	Hon. Frank Y. Jackson	06/30/13
Fourth Appellate District, Division Two	1	Retirement	Hon. Betty Ann Richli	03/31/15
TOTAL VACANCIES	7			

JUDICIAL VACANCIES: SUPERIOR COURTS

County	Vacancies	Reason for Vacancy	Judge to be Replaced	Last Day In Office
Alameda	3	Retirement	Hon. John M. True III	01/22/15
Alameda		Retirement	Hon. Kenneth Mark Burr	12/27/14
Alameda		Retirement	Hon. Gary M. Picetti	11/30/14
Amador	1	Retirement	Hon. Susan C. Harlan	01/16/15
Butte	1	Deceased	Hon. Denny R. Forland	12/20/14
Contra Costa	1	Retirement	Hon. David B. Flinn	04/30/14
Fresno	1	Elevated	Hon. M. Bruce Smith	12/09/14
Los Angeles	20	Retirement	Hon. Patrick J. Hegarty	03/31/15
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Patricia M. Schnegg	03/31/15
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Ronald H. Rose	03/19/15
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Rand Steven Rubin	02/27/15
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Thomas R. White	02/19/15
Los Angeles		Elevated	Hon. Lee Smalley Edmon	01/04/15
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Leslie A. Dunn	11/07/14
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. James A. Steele	09/30/14
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Steven D. Ogden	09/24/14
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Cesar C. Sarmiento	09/16/14
Los Angeles		Retirement	Hon. Antonio Barreto, Jr.	09/05/14
Los Angeles		Elevated	Hon. Brian M. Hoffstadt	08/27/14
Los Angeles		Converted	New Position	07/01/14
Los Angeles		Converted	New Position	07/01/14
Los Angeles		Converted	New Position	07/01/14
Los Angeles		Converted	New Position	07/01/14
Los Angeles		Converted	New Position	07/01/14
Los Angeles		Converted	New Position	07/01/14
Los Angeles		Converted	New Position	07/01/14
Marin	1	Retirement	Hon. Lynn Duryee	02/28/14
Orange	6	Retirement	Hon. Linda Lancet Miller	02/28/15

Orange		Retirement	Hon. Francisco P. Briseño	09/02/14
Orange		Retirement	Hon. Ronald P. Kreber	05/05/14
Orange		Retirement	Hon. Luis A. Rodriguez	04/30/14
Orange		Retirement	Hon. Marjorie Laird Carter	03/31/14
Orange		Retirement	Hon. Wendy Lindley	02/19/14
Riverside	2	Retirement	Hon. Elisabeth Sichel	05/29/14
Riverside		Retirement	Hon. Sherrill A. Ellsworth	03/01/14
Sacramento	1	Retirement	Hon. Roland L. Candee	05/15/13
San Bernardino	4	Retirement	Hon. Kenneth Barr	11/03/14
San Bernardino		Retirement	Hon. Jules E. Fleuret	11/01/14
San Bernardino		Retirement	Hon. Larry W. Allen	11/30/13
San Bernardino		Retirement	Hon. Shahla S. Sabet	11/29/13
San Diego	3	Retirement	Hon. Thomas P. Nugent	01/11/15
San Diego		Retirement	Hon. Christine K. Goldsmith	10/10/14
San Diego		Retirement	Hon. William J. McGrath, Jr.	08/15/14
San Francisco	1	Retirement	Hon. James J. McBride	02/15/15
San Luis Obispo	1	Retirement	Hon. Earle Jeffrey Burke	12/31/14
San Mateo	1	Dis Retirement	Hon. Stephen M. Hall	10/01/14
Santa Barbara	1	Retirement	Hon. Frank J. Ochoa	01/03/15
Santa Clara	2	Dis Retirement	Hon. Kurt E. Kumli	06/26/14
Santa Clara		Retirement	Hon. James P. Kleinberg	04/15/14
Tulare	1	Retirement	Hon. Paul Anthony Vortmann	08/01/14
Tuolumne	1	Retirement	Hon. Eleanor Provost	01/09/15
TOTAL VACANCIES	51			

**Authorized January 1, 2008, 50 new (AB 159) judgeships.
Funding for these 50 positions has not been provided.**

Fresno	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Humboldt	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Imperial	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Kern	3	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Kings	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Los Angeles	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Merced	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Orange	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Placer	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Riverside	9	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Sacramento	3	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
San Bernardino	9	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
San Joaquin	3	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Shasta	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Solano	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Sonoma	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Stanislaus	3	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Sutter	1	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Tulare	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Ventura	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
TOTAL VACANCIES:	50			

Number of Judgeships Authorized, Filled and Vacant as of the End of Each Month: From March 2013 through March 2015 (two years)*

Month	Superior Courts				Courts of Appeal			
	Authorized	Filled	Vacancy	Vacancy Rate	Authorized	Filled	Vacancy	Vacancy Rate
Mar-13	1,695	1,574	125	7.4%	105	101	4	3.8%
Apr-13	1,695	1,567	128	7.6%	105	101	4	3.8%
May-13	1,695	1,576	119	7.0%	105	101	4	3.8%
Jun-13	1,695	1,571	124	7.3%	105	100	5	4.8%
Jul-13	1,695	1,579	116	6.8%	105	98	7	6.7%
Aug-13	1,703	1,582	121	7.1%	105	98	7	6.7%
Sep-13	1,703	1,579	124	7.3%	105	98	7	6.7%
Oct-13	1,704	1,575	129	7.6%	105	97	8	7.6%
Nov-13	1,705	1,570	135	7.9%	105	97	8	7.6%
Dec-13	1,705	1,601	104	6.1%	105	97	8	7.6%
Jan-14	1,705	1,601	104	6.1%	105	97	8	7.6%
Feb-14	1,706	1,591	115	6.7%	105	95	10	9.5%
Mar-14	1,706	1,580	126	7.4%	105	95	10	9.5%
Apr-14	1,706	1,572	134	7.9%	105	95	10	9.5%
May-14	1,706	1,568	138	8.1%	105	95	10	9.5%
Jun-14	1,706	1,579	127	7.4%	105	94	11	10.5%
Jul-14	1,713	1,586	127	7.4%	105	96	9	8.6%
Aug-14	1,713	1,582	131	7.6%	105	96	9	8.6%
Sep-14	1,713	1,577	136	7.9%	105	96	9	8.6%
Oct-14	1,713	1,572	141	8.2%	105	96	9	8.6%
Nov-14	1,713	1,578	135	7.9%	105	96	9	8.6%
Dec-14	1,713	1,590	123	7.2%	105	99	6	5.7%
Jan-15	1,713	1,607	106	6.2%	105	100	5	4.8%
Feb-15	1,713	1,603	110	6.4%	105	100	5	4.8%
Mar-15	1,713	1,612	101	5.9%	105	98	7	6.7%

* As of March 31, 2015

Authorized Judgeships and Vacancies in the Superior Courts

