



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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MR. MARTIN HOSHINO  
*Administrative Director,*  
*Judicial Council*

January 26, 2016

Hon. Mark Leno, Chair  
Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Attn: Ms. Peggy Collins  
1020 N Street, Room 553  
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: *Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for Fiscal Year 2014–2015*, as required by Government Code section 68086(f)

Dear Senator Leno:

The Judicial Council respectfully submits this report, as required by Government Code section 68086(f), concerning court reporter fees collected under Government Code sections 68086(a)(1), 68086(a)(2), and 68086.1 and expenditures on court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings statewide in fiscal year (FY) 2014–2015.

In FY 2014–2015, \$23,694,655 was remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as required by Government Code sections 68086(a)(1), 68086(a)(2), and 68086.1. The breakdown of the remitted funds is as follows:

- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(1), \$4,892,621 came from fees paid by parties to civil proceedings for the services of an official court reporter in each proceeding lasting one hour or less.
- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(2), \$4,301,960 came from fees paid by parties to civil proceedings for the services of an official court reporter in proceedings lasting more than one hour on the first day and each succeeding judicial day the services were provided.

- The amount of \$14,500,074 is attributable to the fee required to be deposited in the Trial Court Trust Fund by Government Code section 68086.1 from the following: first paper filings and responses for civil proceedings, other than proceedings under the Probate Code, in the superior court where the amount demanded is more than \$10,000; family law filings and responses; and marriage dissolution filings and responses. This amount reflects the distribution to the Trial Court Trust Fund from total revenues collected for first paper, family law, and marriage dissolution filings and responses from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015.<sup>1</sup>

In FY 2014–2015, the estimated amount spent for the services of court reporters in superior court civil proceedings was \$67,320,659. The expenditure amount is an estimate because most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case categories. The estimate of \$67,320,659 was made by taking the sum of total FY 2014–2015 budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2014 (\$188,392,475), and total FY 2014–2015 expenditures on contract court reporters (\$6,739,872), and multiplying by the estimated proportion of time court reporters spend on civil cases (civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family) versus all cases, 34.5 percent. The time percentage estimate is based on the most recent time study survey, which was conducted by the National Center for State Courts in September 2003 and involved the superior courts in nine California counties—Amador, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, and Stanislaus—representing about 46.5 percent of statewide authorized court reporter positions.<sup>2</sup>

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Judicial Council Finance, at 916-263-1397.

Sincerely,



Martin Hoshino  
Administrative Director  
Judicial Council of California

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<sup>1</sup> Of the amount collected, \$8,000,074 was available to be used for services of an official court reporter in civil proceedings, because a \$6.5 million ongoing redirection of this revenue to offset trial court funding reductions was approved by the Judicial Council at its July 22, 2011, business meeting as authorized by Government Code section 68086.1(c).

<sup>2</sup> Per FY 2014–2015 Schedule 7A, as submitted by the courts, 620.5 of 1,334 authorized court reporter full-time equivalent positions as of July 1, 2014.

MH/CS

cc: Members, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Diane F. Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel  
Daniel Alvarez, Secretary of the Senate  
E. Dotson Wilson, Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
Margie Estrada, Policy Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León  
Fredericka McGee, Special Assistant to Assembly Speaker Toni G. Atkins  
Peggy Collins, Principal Consultant, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Benjamin Palmer, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Julie Salley-Gray, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Jolie Onodera, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office  
Mike Petersen, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office  
Alison Merrilees, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee  
Pedro Reyes, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Marvin Deon, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget  
Paul Dress, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget  
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