JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Administrative Office of the Courts
Malcolm M. Lucas Board Room
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102-3688
June 30, 2006
8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Open to the Public (except executive session)

AGENDA

8:30–8:40 a.m. Public Comment Related to Trial Court Budget Issues*

[Subject to requests]

*This time is reserved for public comment on discussion agenda items relating to trial court budgets.

8:40–8:45 a.m. **Approval of Minutes**

April 21, 2006, business meetings

[Minutes Tab]

8:45–8:50 a.m. **Introduction of New Judicial Council Members**

Chief Justice Ronald M. George

8:50–9:00 a.m. **Judicial Council Committee Presentations**

Executive and Planning Committee

Hon. William J. Murray, Jr., Vice-Chair

Policy Coordination and Liaison Committee

Hon. Marvin R. Baxter, Chair Rules and Projects Committee

Hon. Suzanne N. Kingsbury, Chair

[Council Reports Tab]

9:00–9:20 a.m. **Judicial Council Court Visit Reports**

Hon. Michael T. Garcia, Team Leader

Ms. Christine Patton, Bay Area/Northern Coastal Regional Office Report on visit to the Superior Courts of Lake, Mendocino,

and Sonoma Counties.

9:20–9:35 a.m. **Administrative Director's Report**

Mr. William C. Vickrey, Administrative Director of the Courts, will

make a report.

9:35–9:50 a.m. Chief Justice's Report

Chief Justice Ronald M. George will report on activities in which he has been involved since the last Judicial Council meeting.

Consent Agenda (Items 1-4)

A council member who wishes to request that any item be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda is asked to please notify Sonya Smith at 415-865-7653 at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Item 1 Site Selection for New Courthouses, Superior Courts of Plumas/Sierra and Mono Counties (Action Required)

The Office of Court Construction and Management staff recommends that the Judicial Council direct AOC staff to proceed with the site selection process for the new courthouse projects for the Superior Courts of Plumas/Sierra and Mono counties. The negotiation for property acquisition, pending funding and authority in the FY 2006–2007 budget, and authority to proceed to site selection will allow for timely and competitive negotiation for the below-market-rate properties that are proposed for these two projects, or other properties available at market.

Staff: Mr. Lee Willoughby

Office of Court Construction and Management

Ms. Rona G. Rothenberg

Office of Court Construction and Management

Item 2 Jury Instructions: Approve Publication of Revisions and Additions to Civil Instructions (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 8.55(d)) (Action Required)

The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends approval of the publication of revisions to the Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions that were first published in September 2003 and last amended in January 2006. The instructions would be added or revised to improve clarity and accuracy.

Staff: Ms. Lyn Hinegardner

Office of the General Counsel

Item 3 Technical Changes to Judicial Council Forms (revise forms DV-110, DV-130, and DV-520–INFO) (Action Required)

Administrative Office of the Courts staff and the Rules and Projects Committee recommend that several domestic violence forms be revised to correct typographical omissions.

Staff: Ms. Tamara Abrams

Center for Families, Children & the Courts

Ms. Audrey Fancy

Center for Families, Children & the Courts

Item 4

Approval of Travel Expense Reimbursement for Trial Court Judges and Employees and Business Meal Expense Guidelines Policies and Procedures (Action Required)

AOC staff recommends adoption of revised policies, schedules, and procedures for trial court business-related travel expenses as required annually by Government Code section 69505 and business meal expense guidelines.

Staff: Mr. Mark Crouse

Finance Division

Discussion Agenda (Items 5–7)

Item 5 Reorganization of the California Rules of Court (Action Required) 9:50–10:15 a.m.

Administrative Office of the Courts staff recommends that the Judicial Council adopt the reorganization of the California Rules of Court, effective January 1, 2007. This comprehensive reorganization reorders, renumbers, and amends significant portions of the rules and standards so that they are more logically located, better formatted, and easier to read.

A complete set of the reorganized California Rules of Court can be accessed using this link: http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules/reorg.htm

Presentation (15 minutes)

Speakers: Mr. Patrick O'Donnell

Office of the General Counsel

Ms. Audrey Fancy

Center for Families, Children, & the Courts

Ms. Heather Anderson Office of the General Counsel

Discussion/Council Action (10 minutes)

Item 6 Status: Workload Growth and Equity Funding (Information 10:15–10:40 a.m. **Only; No Action Required)**

The Judicial Council approved an allocation to various trial courts of \$13.86 million in Workload Growth and Equity funding from the fiscal year 2005–2006 State Appropriations Limit (SAL) funding at its July 2005 meeting. The council required that the courts receiving this funding report to the Administrative Office of the Courts regarding how the funds were used and the benefits they received from the funds. The council also required that this information be presented to them at a future meeting. This report summarizes how the funds were used.

Presentation (15 minutes)

Speakers: Ms. Christine M. Hansen

Finance Division Ms. Sheila Calabro

Southern Regional Office

Ms. Jody Patel

Northern/Central Regional Office

Ms. Christine Patton

Bay Area/Northern Coastal Regional Office

Discussion/Council Action (5 minutes)

Item 7

10:40-11:00 a.m.

Status: Court Facilities (Information Only; No Action Required)

Administrative Office of the Courts staff will provide an update on court facilities transfers and related issues.

Presentation (10 minutes)

Speakers: Mr. Ronald G. Overholt

Chief Deputy Director

Discussion/Council Action (10 minutes)

BREAK

11:00-11:15 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Legislative Update (Closed Session)

11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Circulating Orders Since the Last Business Meeting.

[Circulating Orders Tab]

Judicial Council Appointment Orders Since the Last Business Meeting

[Appointment Orders Tab]

Publication of Jury Instructions

Staff update on relations with publishers of jury instructions after the amendment to rule 855(c) authorized the AOC to require commercial publishers to pay fees or royalties in exchange for permission to publish the instructions. (Report for Information Only)

[Information Only Tab]