



## Judicial Council of California · Administrative Office of the Courts

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688

[www.courts.ca.gov](http://www.courts.ca.gov)

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# REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on: February 20, 2014

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| Title   | Agenda Item Type  |
| Judicial Council Report to the Legislature:<br>Compliance with Education Requirements of<br>Welfare and Institutions Code Section 304.7 | Action Required   |
| Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected<br>N/A  | Effective Date<br>February 20, 2014   |
| Recommended by<br>Diane Cowdrey, Director<br>CJER   | Date of Report<br>February 13, 2014   |
|   | Contact<br>Bob Lowney, 415-865-7833<br><a href="mailto:bob.lowney@jud.ca.gov">bob.lowney@jud.ca.gov</a> |

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### **Executive Summary**

The CJER Governing Committee recommends that the Judicial Council review and approve submission to the Legislature of a report on the compliance by trial court judges, commissioners, and referees with the education requirements of Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7. The report is derived from data submitted by the trial courts.

### **Recommendation**

The CJER Governing Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, after reviewing the attached 2013 Juvenile Judicial Officer Training Survey report, approve it for submission to the Legislature pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7(c).

Refer to the CJER Governing Committee, in consultation with the Center for Judiciary Education and Research and the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, to review the report on compliance by judges, commissioners, and referees with the education requirements of Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7 and consider whether any further action is needed.

## **Previous Council Action**

Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7 requires the following:

(a) The Judicial Council shall develop and implement standards for the education and training of all judges who conduct hearings pursuant to Section 300. The training shall include, but not be limited to, both of the following:

(1) A component relating to Section 300 proceedings for newly appointed or elected judges and an annual training session in Section 300 proceedings.

(2) Cultural competency and sensitivity relating to, and best practices for, providing adequate care to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth.<sup>1</sup>

(b) Any commissioner or referee who is assigned to conduct hearings held pursuant to Section 300 shall meet the minimum standards for education and training established pursuant to subdivision (a), by July 31, 1998.

(c) The Judicial Council shall submit an annual report to the Legislature on compliance by judges, commissioners and referees with the education and training standards described in subdivisions (a) and (b).

The Judicial Council, through the Governing Committee of the Center for Judicial Education and Research, has developed education and training for judges, commissioners, and referees in the area of juvenile dependency that satisfies the requirements of section 304.7, subdivisions (a) and (b). With respect to subdivision (c), up until the present it had been the practice that the report on compliance with section 304.7 be sent directly to the Legislature from the Administrative Director of the Courts. This practice has recently been changed, and this report shall now be submitted to the Judicial Council for review and approval prior to its submission to the Legislature.

## **Rationale for Recommendation**

The recommendation to approve the report is based upon the requirement in Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7(c):

(c) The Judicial Council shall submit an annual report to the Legislature on compliance by judges, commissioners and referees with the education and training standards described in subdivisions (a) and (b).

## **Comments, Alternatives Considered, and Policy Implications**

No alternatives were considered because this report is mandated by statute.

## **Implementation Requirements, Costs, and Operational Impacts**

There are no significant impacts or costs for courts to submit this data or for Administrative Office of the Courts staff to compile and submit this report to the Legislature.

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<sup>1</sup> (a)(2) is newly added and is effective 1/1/14.

## **Attachments**

1. 2013 Juvenile Judicial Officer Training Survey and cover letter to the Legislature
2. Attachment A: Welfare and Institutions Code section 300 can be viewed at [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=WIC&sectionNum=304.7](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=WIC&sectionNum=304.7).



# Judicial Council of California

455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688  
Tel 415-865-4200  
TDD 415-865-4272  
Fax 415-865-4205  
www.courts.ca.gov

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*Chair of the Judicial Council*

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HON. STEVEN JAHR  
*Administrative Director of the Courts*

January 28, 2014

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine  
Legislative Counsel  
State of California  
State Capitol, Room 3021  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Gregory P. Schmidt  
Secretary of the Senate  
State Capitol, Room 400  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson  
Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3196  
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Mandatory Education and Reporting Requirements Under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 304.7—Legislative Report Transmittal Letter.

Dear Ms. Boyer-Vine, Mr. Schmidt, and Mr. Wilson:

Attached is the Judicial Council report for calendar year 2013, required under Welfare and Institutions Code section 304.7, regarding the education and reporting requirements for judicial officers who hear juvenile dependency matters.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine  
Mr. Gregory P. Schmidt  
Mr. E. Dotson Wilson  
January 23, 2014  
Page 2

Diane E. Cowdrey, Director, Center for Judiciary Education and Research (CJER),  
Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), at 415-865-7795.

Sincerely,

Hon. Steven Jahr  
Administrative Director of the Courts

SJ/BL/sl

Enclosure

cc: Members of the Judicial Council  
Christine Patten, Interim AOC Chief Deputy Director  
Jody Patel, AOC Regional Administrative Director  
Curtis L. Child, Director, AOC Office of Governmental Affairs  
Diane E. Cowdrey, Director, AOC Education Division/CJER  
Nanette Zavala, Attorney, AOC Education Division/CJER  
Judicial Administration Library (2 copies)

## 2013 Juvenile Judicial Officer Training Survey

| County          | <i>Judges</i> |                   | <i>Commissioners</i> |                   | <i>Referees</i> |                   |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|                 | Assigned      | Attended Training | Assigned             | Attended Training | Assigned        | Attended Training |
| Alameda         | 3             | 3                 | 0                    | 0                 | 10              | 10                |
| Alpine          | *             | *                 | *                    | *                 | *               | *                 |
| Amador          | *             | *                 | *                    | *                 | *               | *                 |
| Butte           | 4             | 4                 | 2                    | 2                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Calaveras       | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Colusa          | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Contra Costa    | 3             | 3                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Del Norte       | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| El Dorado       | 5             | 4                 | 1                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Fresno          | 13            | 1                 | 2                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Glenn           | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Humboldt        | 3             | 3                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Imperial        | 5             | 5                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Inyo            | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Kern            | 4             | 4                 | 0                    | 0                 | 1               | 1                 |
| Kings           | 7             | 7                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Lake            | 3             | 3                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Lassen          | 3             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Los Angeles     | 15            | 15                | 6                    | 6                 | 6               | 6                 |
| Madera          | 3             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Marin           | 4             | 4                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Mariposa        | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Mendocino       | 4             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Merced          | 4             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Modoc           | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Mono            | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Monterey        | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Napa            | *             | *                 | *                    | *                 | *               | *                 |
| Nevada          | 2             | 2                 | 1                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Orange          | 8             | 8                 | 1                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Placer          | 3             | 3                 | 1                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Plumas          | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Riverside       | 3             | 2                 | 3                    | 2                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Sacramento      | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 3               | 3                 |
| San Benito      | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| San Bernardino  | 3             | 3                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| San Diego       | 10            | 8                 | 1                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| San Francisco   | 3             | 3                 | 2                    | 2                 | 0               | 0                 |
| San Joaquin     | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| San Luis Obispo | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| San Mateo       | 6             | 6                 | 1                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Santa Barbara   | 6             | 3                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Santa Clara     | *             | *                 | *                    | *                 | *               | *                 |
| Santa Cruz      | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Shasta          | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Sierra          | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Siskiyou        | 1             | 1                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Solano          | 2             | 2                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Sonoma          | 3             | 3                 | 2                    | 1                 | 0               | 0                 |
| Stanislaus      | 4             | 4                 | 0                    | 0                 | 0               | 0                 |

## 2013 Juvenile Judicial Officer Training Survey

|                        | <i>Judges</i>   |                          | <i>Commissioners</i> |                          | <i>Referees</i> |                          |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>County</b>          | <b>Assigned</b> | <b>Attended Training</b> | <b>Assigned</b>      | <b>Attended Training</b> | <b>Assigned</b> | <b>Attended Training</b> |
| Sutter                 | 3               | 3                        | 0                    | 0                        | 0               | 0                        |
| Tehama                 | 4               | 1                        | 0                    | 0                        | 0               | 0                        |
| Trinity                | 1               | 1                        | 0                    | 0                        | 0               | 0                        |
| Tulare                 | 2               | 2                        | 1                    | 1                        | 0               | 0                        |
| Tuolumne               | *               | *                        | *                    | *                        | *               | *                        |
| Ventura                | 5               | 2                        | 0                    | 0                        | 0               | 0                        |
| Yolo                   | 3               | 1                        | 0                    | 0                        | 0               | 0                        |
| Yuba                   | 1               | 1                        | 0                    | 0                        | 0               | 0                        |
| * No response received |                 |                          |                      |                          |                 |                          |