Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions
Annual Agenda[1]—2025–2026
Approved by Rules Committee: October 16, 2025

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Adrienne M. Grover, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District
Lead Staff:	Eric Long, Supervising Attorney, Legal Services

Advisory Body's Charge/Membership:

Rule 10.58 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions, which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for updating, amending, and adding topics to the *Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions* (*CACI*).

Rule 10.58 sets forth the membership position of the committee. The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions currently has 24 members (a majority of which must be judges). Under rule 10.58, the Committee must include at least 1 member from each of the following categories: (1) appellate court justice; (2) trial court judge; (3) lawyer whose primary area of practice is civil law; and (4) law professor whose primary area of expertise is civil law. The current committee roster is available on the committee's web page.

Subgroups of the Advisory Body[2]:

The advisory committee has three subcommittees (referred to internally as working groups). Each working group is made up exclusively of committee members. Each working group reviews approximately one third of the proposed meeting agenda before the full committee meeting and makes recommendations to the committee regarding each proposal. The three working groups are (and are so numbered because the committee's original six working groups were consolidated into three):

1. Working Group 12
2. Working Group 34
3. Working Group 56

[1] The Annual Agenda outlines the work an advisory body will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and Judicial Council staff resources.
[2] For the definition of "subcommittee" see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); for "working group," see rule 10.70; for "workstream," see rule 10.53(c); and for "education curriculum committee," see rule 10.50(c)(6).

Advisory Body and Subgroup Meetings Planned for 2025–2026[3]

Three working group meetings: during the first two weeks of December 2025, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., videoconference
Advisory committee meeting: on or about January 29, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., San Francisco with hybrid videoconference option
Three working group meetings: during the first two weeks of June 2026, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., videoconference
Advisory committee meeting: on or about July 23, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., San Francisco with hybrid videoconference option

Due to the nature of the advisory committee's work and the detailed drafting that is required to write civil jury instructions that are legally accurate and understandable to the average juror, two in-person meetings have been authorized. To fulfill its charge to maintain *CACI*, to add instructions in new areas of the law, and to augment existing subject matter areas, the advisory committee will have two in-person meetings with a hybrid videoconference option for members who are unable to attend in person.

☒ Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.

[3] Refer to section IV. 2 (Meeting frequency) of the *Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies* for governance on in-person meetings. Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is extending the suspension of advisory body in-person meetings for the 2025–2026 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek approval from their advisory body's internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated June 23, 2025, for additional details.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

Priority Levels and Branch Goals Key:
Refer to the following key for populating your project priority levels and branch goals. For each Priority Level 1 proposal, the advisory body **must** provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category. If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.

Priority Levels for Non-Rules/Forms	
1	Must be done
2	Should be done
Priority Levels for Rules/Forms Proposals	
1a (Legal Compliance)	Proposal urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law.
1b (Council Directive)	Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms.
1c (Urgent Remedial Action)	Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public.
1d (Financial/ Legal Risk Mitigation)	Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk.
2a (Useful Changes in Law)	Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law.
2b (Responsive to Concerns)	Responsive to identified concerns or problems.
2c (Helpful Advancing Branch Goals)	Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives.

Judicial Branch Strategic Plan–Branch Goals	
I.	**Access, Fairness, Diversity, and Inclusion**
II.	**Independence and Accountability**
III.	**Modernization of Management and Administration**
IV.	**Quality of Justice and Service to the Public**
V.	**Education for Branchwide Professional Excellence**
VI.	**Branchwide Infrastructure for Service Excellence**
VII.	**Adequate, Stable, and Predictable Funding for a Fully Functioning Branch**

#	New or One-Time Projects	
1.	None	***Priority: n/a***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☐ II *Independence* ☐ III *Modernization* ☐ IV *Quality* ☐ V *Education* ☐ VI *Infrastructure* ☐ VII *Funding* ☐	
	Project Summary: n/a ***Status/Timeline:*** n/a ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** n/a ☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. *Advisory body staff will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure its review of relevant materials.* ***Internal/External Stakeholders:*** n/a ***AC Collaboration:*** n/a	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1.	**Maintenance—Case Law**	***Priority 1***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☒ II *Independence* ☐ III *Modernization* ☐ IV *Quality* ☒ V *Education* ☐ VI *Infrastructure* ☐ VII *Funding* ☐	
	Project Summary: Review new case law affecting jury instructions to determine whether changes to any civil jury instructions are required. Draft and present proposed changes for council approval. ***Status/Timeline:*** Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; delivery of any changes requiring only Rules Committee approval to Rules Committee as needed. ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** Committee staff ☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. ***Internal/External Stakeholders:*** None. ***AC Collaboration:*** Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.	
2.	**Maintenance—Legislation**	***Priority 1***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☒ II *Independence* ☐ III *Modernization* ☐ IV *Quality* ☒ V *Education* ☐ VI *Infrastructure* ☐ VII *Funding* ☐	
	Project Summary: Review new legislation affecting jury instructions to determine whether changes to any civil jury instructions are required. Draft and present proposed changes for council approval. ***Status/Timeline:*** Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; delivery of any changes requiring only Rules Committee approval to Rules Committee as needed. ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** None. ☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts.	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	Internal/External Stakeholders: None. ***AC Collaboration:*** Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal	
3.	**Maintenance—Comments from Users**	***Priority 1***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☒ · II *Independence* ☐ · III *Modernization* ☐ · IV *Quality* ☒ · V *Education* ☐ · VI *Infrastructure* ☐ · VII *Funding* ☐	
	Project Summary: Review suggestions received from jury instruction users, including the bench and bar; draft and propose changes and refinements, as appropriate, based on user suggestions. ***Status/Timeline:*** Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; delivery of any changes requiring only Rules Committee approval to Rules Committee as needed. ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** Committee staff ☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. ***Internal/External Stakeholders:*** None. ***AC Collaboration:*** Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.	
4.	**New Instructions and Expansion into New Subject Matter Areas**	***Priority 1***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☒ · II *Independence* ☐ · III *Modernization* ☐ · IV *Quality* ☒ · V *Education* ☐ · VI *Infrastructure* ☐ · VII *Funding* ☐	
	Project Summary: Review new legislation, case law, and suggestions received from jury instruction users; draft and propose new civil jury instructions, including new series of instructions in an entirely new subject area, as appropriate.	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities
	Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings. ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** Committee staff ☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. ***Internal/External Stakeholders:*** None. ***AC Collaboration:*** Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.
5.	**Maintenance—Sources and Authority** — ***Priority 1***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☐ · II *Independence* ☐ · III *Modernization* ☐ · IV *Quality* ☒ · V *Education* ☐ · VI *Infrastructure* ☐ · VII *Funding* ☐
	Project Summary: Update Sources and Authority citations and case quotations as appropriate. ***Status/Timeline:*** Ongoing, with delivery to the Judicial Council at its July and December meetings; ongoing, with delivery of any changes that the Judicial Council has given the Rules Committee final authority to approve through a delegation of authority— for example, adding cases and statutes to and removing them from the Sources and Authority and editing the Sources and Authority—as needed. ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** Committee staff ☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. ***Internal/External Stakeholders:*** None. ***AC Collaboration:*** Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
6.	**Maintenance—Secondary Sources**	***Priority 1***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☐ II *Independence* ☐ III *Modernization* ☐ IV *Quality* ☒ V *Education* ☐ VI *Infrastructure* ☐ VII *Funding* ☐	
	Project Summary: Update Secondary Source citations to ensure that the secondary sources included in *CACI* are up to date. ***Status/Timeline:*** Ongoing, with delivery to the Judicial Council at its July and December meetings; ongoing, with delivery of any changes that the Judicial Council has given the Rules Committee final authority to approve through a delegation of authority—for example, adding, removing, and editing Secondary Sources—as needed. ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** Committee staff ☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. ***Internal/External Stakeholders:*** None. ***AC Collaboration:*** Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.	
7.	**Technical Corrections**	***Priority 1***
	Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals: I *Access* ☐ II *Independence* ☐ III *Modernization* ☐ IV *Quality* ☒ V *Education* ☐ VI *Infrastructure* ☐ VII *Funding* ☐	
	Project Summary: Make any necessary corrections or editing changes to the jury instructions. ***Status/Timeline:*** Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; ongoing, with delivery of any changes that the Judicial Council has given the Rules Committee final authority to approve through a delegation of authority—nonsubstantive grammatical and typographical corrections to the jury instructions, as well as minor substantive changes unlikely to create controversy—as needed. ***Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:*** Committee staff	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities
	☐ Check this box if this project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. ***Internal/External Stakeholders:*** None. ***AC Collaboration:*** Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.

III. LIST OF 2024–2025 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	**Maintenance—Case Law, Legislation, and Comments from Users:** Reviewed case law, new legislation affecting jury instructions, and comments from jury instruction users to determine whether changes to the civil jury instructions are required. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval on July 18, 2025, and to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about December 12, 2025. Release 46 (approved by the council in November 2024) included revisions to 13 instructions and verdict forms to bring them up to date, and release 47 (approved by the council in July 2025) included revisions to 15 instructions to bring them up to date.
2.	**New Instructions and Expansion into New Subject Matter Areas:** Reviewed new legislation, case law, and suggestions received from jury instruction users and proposed new civil jury instructions as appropriate. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval in July 2025 and to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about December 12, 2025. Release 46 (approved by the council in November 2024) included one new instruction in the Dangerous Condition of Public Property series concerning a dangerous roadway condition and one verdict form in the Unlawful Detainer series concerning an affirmative defense to eviction, and release 47 (approved by the council in July 2025) included two new instructions and two new verdict forms in the Premises Liability series and in the Fraud or Deceit series.
3.	**Maintenance—Sources and Authority:** Reviewed case law and new legislation and proposed inclusion of excerpts and citations from new sources and authority. Updates to the Sources and Authority presented to Judicial Council for approval on July 18, 2025, and to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about December 12, 2025, and through a delegation of authority to the council's Rules Committee in October 2024 and June 2025.
4.	**Maintenance—Secondary Sources:** Updated citations in *CACI*'s Secondary Sources. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval on July 18, 2025, and to be presented to Judicial Council on or about December 12, 2025, and other secondary sources updated through a delegation of authority to the council's Rules Committee in October 2024 and June 2025.
5.	**Technical Corrections:** Made necessary corrections or editing changes to the jury instruction publication. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval on July 18, 2025, and to be presented to Judicial Council on or about December 12, 2025, and other technical corrections made through a delegation of authority to the council's Rules Committee in October 2024 and June 2025.