Civil Jury Instructions Advisory Committee
Annual Agenda—2026–2027
Approved by Rules Committee: October 22, 2026

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair: Hon. Ioana Petrou, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division Three
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 categories for the committee. The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions currently has 25 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 membership roster is available on the committee's webpage.

Subgroups of the Advisory Body:

1. Subgroups of the Advisory Body: 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

Advisory Body and Subgroup Meetings Planned for 2026–2027:

- Three working group meetings in December 2026, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., videoconference
- Advisory committee meeting: on January 28, 2027, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., San Francisco with hybrid videoconference option
- Three working group meetings in June 2027, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., videoconference
- Advisory committee meeting on August 5, 2027, 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 by the internal committee oversight chair. To fulfill its charge to maintain *CACI*, to add instructions in new areas of the law, and to augment existing subject matter areas, two in-person meetings for the full committee are planned as noted above.

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

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

Priority Levels and Branch Goals Key

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. ***Project Title*: 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. ***Project Title*: 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. *Advisory body staff will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure its review of relevant materials.*

   Internal/External Stakeholders: None.

   AC Collaboration: None

2. ***Project Title*: 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. *Advisory body staff will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure its review of relevant materials.*

Internal/External Stakeholders: None.

AC Collaboration: None.

3. ***Project Title*: 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. *Advisory body staff will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure its review of relevant materials.*

Internal/External Stakeholders: None.

AC Collaboration: None.

4. ***Project Title*: 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.

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. *Advisory body staff will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure its review of relevant materials.*

Internal/External Stakeholders: None.

AC Collaboration: None.

5. ***Project Title*: 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. *Advisory body staff will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure its review of relevant materials.*

Internal/External Stakeholders: None.

AC Collaboration: None.

6. ***Project Title*: 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. *Advisory body staff will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure its review of relevant materials.*

Internal/External Stakeholders: None.

AC Collaboration: None.

7. ***Project Title*: 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

☐ 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: None.

AC Collaboration: None.

III. LIST OF 2025–2026 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Project Highlights and Achievements

1. **Maintenance—Case Law, Legislation, and Comments from Users:** Reviewed case law and new legislation affecting jury instructions, as well as comments from jury instruction users, to determine whether changes to the civil jury instructions were required or appropriate. Releases presented to the Judicial Council for approval on July 17, 2026, and anticipated to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about December 11, 2026. Releases 48 (the 2026 edition of *CACI* approved by the council in December 2025) and 49 (the midyear supplement to the 2026 edition of *CACI* approved by the council in July 2026) included revisions to 84 instructions and verdict forms to bring them up to date.
2. **New Instructions and Expansion into New Subject Matter Areas:** Reviewed case law and new legislation affecting jury instructions, as well as comments from jury instruction users, and proposed new civil jury instructions as appropriate. Releases presented to the Judicial Council for approval on July 17, 2026, and anticipated to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about December 11, 2026. Releases 48 and 49 included one new instruction in the Breach of Fiduciary Duty series and one new instruction in the Unlawful Detainer and Other Landlord-Tenant Claims series, which previously had only covered claims for Unlawful Detainer.
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 the Judicial Council for approval on July 17, 2026, and anticipated to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about December 11, 2026, and other updates to the Sources and Authority approved by the council's Rules Committee through a delegation of authority in October 2025 and June 2026.
4. **Maintenance—Secondary Sources:** Updated citations in *CACI*'s Secondary Sources. Releases presented to the Judicial Council for approval on July 17, 2026, and anticipated to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about December 11, 2026, and other secondary sources approved by the council's Rules Committee through a delegation of authority in October 2025 and June 2026.
5. **Technical Corrections:** Made necessary corrections or editing changes to the jury instruction publication.