



Judicial Council of California
Executive and Planning Committee

courts.ca.gov/epmeetings.htm
executiveandplanning@jud.ca.gov

EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

September 18, 2025

12:10 to 1:00 p.m.

Videoconference

Advisory Body Members Present: Hon. Brad R. Hill (Chair), Hon. Maureen F. Hallahan (Vice-chair), Ms. Kate Bieker, Hon. Stacy Boulware Eurie, Hon. Ryan Davis, Hon. Judith K. Dulcich, Hon. Patricia L. Kelly, Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Ms. Dena Stone, Hon. Tamara L. Wood, and Ms. Gretchen Nelson

Advisory Body Members Absent: Hon. Maria D. Hernandez

Committee Staff Present: Amber Barnett, Josely Yangco-Fronda, and Donna Ignacio

Committee Staff Present: Rebekah Askew, James Barolo, Olivia Bennett, Deborah Brown, Kristin Burford, Francine Byrne, Tony Cheng, Salena Chow, Blaine Corren, Sarah Davis, Robert Downs, Michael Etchepare, Audrey Fancy, Sarah Fleischer-Ihn, Michael Giden, Jenny Grantz, Frances Ho, Sarah Jacobvitz, Maddie Joyner, Julia Kaufman, Youn Kim, Stephanie Lacambra, Eric Long, Jason Lopez, Robert Lower, Chris Magnusson, Paarth Malkan, Ray Mata, Tracy Matthews, Anna Maves, Fran Mueller, Felizia Nava-Kardon, Robert Oyung, Hisham Qutob, Kara Portnow, Kelly Ragsdale, Akilah Robinson, Sarah Saria, Gabrielle Selden, Melanie Snider, Laura Speed, Corby Sturges, Gregory Tanaka, Zlatko Theodorovic, Jeremy Varon, Steven Warner, and Shaneen Williams

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Staff made the opening announcements and took roll call.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the following draft minutes:

- June 10, 2025, open meeting; and
- June 30, 2025, action by email.

Action: *The committee approved the minutes of the June 10, 2025, open meeting and June 30, 2025, action by email.*

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1–2)

Item 1

**Sabbatical Leave Request: Hon. Ronald Owen Kaye, Superior Court of Los Angeles County
(Action Required)**

Review the sabbatical request for Judge Ronald Owen Kaye and make a recommendation to the Judicial Council to consider approval.

Action: The committee approved that a recommendation be made to the Judicial Council to grant the request of Judge Ronald Owen Kaye for an unpaid sabbatical leave for the period of August 24, 2026, through January 8, 2027.

Item 2

Agenda Setting for October 24, 2025, Judicial Council Meeting (Action Required)

Review draft reports and set the agenda for the Judicial Council meeting in October.

Action: The committee set the agenda for the October 24, 2025, Judicial Council meeting by approving reports for placement on the business meeting agenda.

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

Approved by the committee on _____.



Judicial Council of California

Meeting Agenda

Judicial Council

Please visit
courts website:
www.courts.ca.gov
to view live meeting on
December 11, 2025.

Meeting materials
are available through
the hyperlinks in
this document.

*Open to the Public Unless Indicated as Closed
(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.6(a))*

*Requests for ADA accommodation should be directed to
JCCAccessCoordinator@jud.ca.gov*

Thursday, December 11, 2025

San Francisco

OPEN SESSION (RULE 10.6(a))—MEETING AGENDA

A link to the live videostream will be available in the Meeting Information Center at the start of the open session.

Open Session Begins: 3:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Chief Justice Opening Remarks

5 minutes

DISCUSSION AGENDA

25-188 Presentation of the 2025 Aranda Access to Justice Awards (No Report. No Action Required.)

Summary: Cosponsored by the Judicial Council, the California Lawyers Association, the California Judges Association, and the Commission on Access to Justice, the Aranda Access to Justice Award honors a judge who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to improving access to our courts, and who has significantly improved access for low- and moderate-income Californians.

Speakers: TBD

40 minutes

25-189 Presentation of the 2025 Distinguished Service Awards (No Report. No Action Required.)

Summary: The Distinguished Service Award honors individuals and organizations who, through their unwavering commitment and dedication to fair and equal access to justice, continue to advance the strategic goals of the Judicial Council for the betterment of California's judicial branch.

Speakers: TBD

60 minutes

Adjournment

DRAFT



Judicial Council of California

Meeting Agenda

Judicial Council

Please visit
courts website:
www.courts.ca.gov
to view live meeting on
December 12, 2025.

Meeting materials
are available through
the hyperlinks in
this document.

*Open to the Public Unless Indicated as Closed
(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.6(a))*

*Requests for ADA accommodation should be directed to
JCCAccessCoordinator@jud.ca.gov*

Friday, December 12, 2025

San Francisco

CLOSED SESSION (RULE 10.6(b))—PLANNING, PERSONNEL, AND DISCUSSION PROTECTED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Session: 9:15–9:45 a.m.

OPEN SESSION (RULE 10.6(a))—MEETING AGENDA

A link to the live videostream will be available in the Meeting Information Center at the start of the open session. If the closed session adjourns late, the start time of the open session may be delayed.

Open Session Begins: 10:00 a.m.

Call to Order

10 minutes

Public Comment

10 minutes

The Judicial Council welcomes public comment on general matters of judicial administration. Written comments are encouraged in advance of the meeting for specific agenda items so council members can consider them prior to the council meeting.

For more information about meeting attendance and public comment procedures, visit:

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/28045.htm>

Submit advance requests to speak and written comments for this meeting by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, by email to:

judicialcouncil@jud.ca.gov

Chief Justice's Report

15 minutes

Administrative Director's Report

25-005 Administrative Director's Report

15 minutes

CONSENT AGENDA

5 minutes

A council member may request an item be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda. Please notify Josely Yangco-Fronda at 415-865-7626 at least 48 hours before the meeting.

[25-010](#) Minutes of October 24, 2025, Judicial Council Meeting

25-182: Judicial Council report pending and will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

25-182 Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Fiscal Year 2025-26 Increased Transcript Rate Allocations (Action Required)

Summary: Consideration of fiscal year (FY) 2025 -26 allocations for the ongoing \$7 million General Fund included in the Budget Act of 2025 to cover the additional costs incurred by courts associated with increased transcript rates.

[25-158](#) Judicial Administration | Judicial Branch Contracting Manual (Action Required)

Summary: Under rule 10.63(c) of the California Rules of Court, the Advisory Committee on Audits and Financial Accountability for the Judicial Branch proposes revising the *Judicial Branch Contracting Manual (JBCM)* to add provisions regarding generative artificial intelligence so that the *JBCM* will remain substantially similar to the *State Contracting Manual* and *State Administrative Manual*, as required by the Judicial Branch Contract Law. In addition, the committee's proposal to revise the *JBCM* aligns with the judicial branch's efforts to address the emerging technology of generative artificial intelligence.

[25-126](#) Judicial Council Administration | Judicial Council Conflict of Interest Code (Action Required)

Summary: The Judicial Council staff proposes amendments to the *Conflict of Interest Code for the Judicial Council of California*. These changes include expanding the list of job classifications requiring economic interest disclosure to encompass Building Official, Compliance Architect, Data Scientist, and Facilities AV Systems Specialist. This proposal would also amend category 7, Decision-Making Authority Affecting Real Property and Management, to include the requirement to disclose interests in real property, which is applicable to all classifications within this category. Additionally, this amendment includes minor copyediting corrections for grammar and clarification that do not change the scope of the code.

In accordance with Government Code sections 87303 and 87306, the code must be updated “when change is necessitated by changed circumstances, including the creation of new positions.” (Gov. Code, § 87306.) The council must review the proposed amendment to the code and approve the code as amended or direct that it be further revised and resubmitted for approval.

[25-036](#)**Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation | Alternative Methods for Family Courts to Give Notice of Child Custody Mediation (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2027, sponsor legislation to amend Family Code section 3176 to allow for alternative methods for the court to give notice to the parties about child custody mediation and require specific content in the notice for cases involving domestic violence. The proposal originates from a group of Family Court Services directors across the state seeking to modernize the procedures for providing notice of child custody mediation by more cost-effective methods, including electronic delivery.

[25-187](#)**Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation | Collections-Related Statutes (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Judicial Branch Budget Committee recommends that the Judicial Council sponsor legislation to amend Penal Code section 1463.007 and Government Code section 68514 to improve compliance with the annual reporting requirements to the Legislature and the Department of Finance regarding court-ordered debt collections. The proposed amendments will help the court and county collections programs comply with existing requirements and report consistent statewide data. The proposed changes will be used in the fiscal year 2026-27 reporting period and reflected in the annual report due by December 31, 2027.

[25-175](#)**Jury Instructions | Civil Jury Instructions (Release 48) (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions recommends approval of new and revised civil jury instructions and verdict forms prepared by the committee. Among other things, these changes bring the instructions up to date with developments in the law over the previous six months. Upon Judicial Council approval, the instructions will be published in the official 2026 edition of the *Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instruction*.

[25-178](#)**Rules and Forms | Civil Practice and Procedure: Judgment Debtor Address Verification and Calculation of Earnings Withholding Period (Action Required)****Summary:**

Assembly Bill 774 (Stats. 2025, ch. 708), enacted October 13, 2025, makes several changes to the laws regarding enforcement of judgment, including a change to the start of the withholding period for earnings withholding orders. Judicial Council staff recommend revising eight Judicial Council forms to ensure they correctly state the law when AB 774 becomes effective on January 1, 2026. These revisions will be circulated for post-approval public comment as part of a larger proposal to implement AB 774.

25-043: Judicial Council report pending and will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

25-043**Trial Court Budget | 2024-25 Final Adjustments for Year-End Fund Balances (Action Required)****Summary:**

Under Government Code section 77203(b), a trial court may carry over unexpended funds in an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the court's operating budget from the prior fiscal year. The final one-time reduction will include an adjustment for the Judicial Council's approved Trial Court Trust Fund Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts, and the net amount for fiscal year 2024-25 will be reduced from the court's operating budget.

DISCUSSION AGENDA[25-042](#)**Trial Court Budget | Children's Waiting Room Fund Balance Cap Adjustments (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council approve a reduction of \$1.7 million for nine trial courts that have children's waiting room fund balances exceeding the allowable cap in fiscal year 2024-25 and \$5.2 million in children's waiting room fund balance cap adjustments for five trial courts. The request will allow courts to continue planned operations of their children's waiting rooms.

Speakers:

TBD

10 minutes

[25-041](#)**Trial Courts | Trial Court Trust Fund Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Action Required)****Summary:**

The Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approval of requests from trial courts for the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 annual submission cycle for the Trial Court Trust Fund Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts program. Under the Judicial Council's approved process, a court may request that reduced allocations related to the fund balance cap be retained in the Trial Court Trust Fund for the benefit of that court. Twenty-five courts submitted 57 requests--38 new and 19 amended, for a total of \$44 million in the FY 2024-25 submission cycle. The requests will allow the courts to meet contractual obligations

and fund necessary court projects or purchases.

Speakers:

Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Chair, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
Hon. Maria D. Hernandez, Presiding Judge, Superior Court of Orange County
Ms. Kate Bieker, Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of Ventura County
Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Budget Services

10 minutes

25-179: Judicial Council report pending and will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

25-179

Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules | 2026 Edition for Traffic, Boating, Forestry, Fish and Game, Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, and Business Licensing (Action Required)

Summary:

TBD

Speakers:

Hon. Maria Armendariz, Chair, Traffic Advisory Committee
Ms. Jamie Schechter, Criminal Justice Services

10 minutes

[25-177](#)

Report to the Legislature | California Court Interpreter Workforce Study (Action Required)

Summary:

The Court Interpreters Advisory Panel recommends that the council approve the *California Court Interpreter Workforce Study* for submission to the Legislature. The study complies with Government Code section 71900, which requires the Judicial Council to conduct a workforce study and provide recommendations to the Legislature regarding court interpreter availability and the future court interpreter workforce, on or before January 1, 2026.

Speakers:

Hon. Maurice Sanchez, Chair, Court Interpreters Advisory Panel
Mr. Douglas G. Denton, Leadership Support Services

15 minutes

[25-184](#)

Judicial Council | 2026 Legislative Priorities (Action Required)

Summary:

Each year, the Judicial Council adopts legislative priorities to further key council objectives in the upcoming legislative year. The Legislation Committee recommends that the Judicial Council consider an approach similar to last year's for the 2026 legislative year to include: continued stable and reliable funding to address increased costs, continued advancement of remote access to the courts while balancing due process, funding for judgeships statewide and judicial officers in counties with the greatest need, availability of verbatim records of court proceedings, operational efficiencies in the courts, and increased security resources to safeguard personnel, the public, and court systems from physical and cyber threats.

Speakers:

Hon. Stacy E. Boulware Eurie, Chair, Legislation Committee
Mr. Cory T. Jasperson, Director, Governmental Affairs

10 minutes

INFORMATION AGENDA (NO ACTION REQUIRED)[25-040](#)**Court Facilities | Lease-Revenue Bond Issuance, Fall 2024 and Spring 2025****Summary:**

The Administrative Director presents this report on actions taken by the State Public Works Board in fall 2024 and spring 2025 to fund court facilities projects. New lease-revenue bonds were issued for two capital outlay projects, existing bonds were refunded for one project to improve the financial terms, and interim loans were issued for four projects in construction. All actions were authorized and directed by the Judicial Council to support the development and maintenance of court facilities.

[25-180](#)**Judicial Council Update | Trial Court Screening Equipment Replacement for Fiscal Year 2024-25****Summary:**

The Trial Court Trust Fund provides funding through the Screening Equipment Replacement Program to replace outdated or malfunctioning screening equipment in the trial courts. Each year, the Administrative Director approves entrance screening equipment to be replaced through the program. This report updates the council on the equipment that was replaced in fiscal year 2024-25 using that funding.

[25-181](#)**Report to the Legislature | Disposition of Criminal Cases According to the Race and Ethnicity of the Defendant****Summary:**

Penal Code section 1170.45 directs the Judicial Council to report annually on the statewide disposition of criminal cases according to defendants' race and ethnicity. The attached report fulfills that mandate. The data used in this report come from the Automated Criminal History System, a data repository maintained by the California Department of Justice. This report describes and analyzes patterns seen in criminal case dispositions of adult felony arrests by race/ethnicity and tests whether any available legal or demographic information can account for the observed patterns.

[25-183](#)**Report to the Legislature | Preliminary Proposition 36 Court Data (December 2024 and June 2025)****Summary:**

The Budget Act of 2025 (Stats. 2025, ch. 5) provides funding for the courts to support the implementation of Proposition 36, "The Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act." It appropriated \$20 million to the Judicial Council and the trial courts to support the increased workload and expanding or establishing collaborative courts for the implementation of the act. Item 0250-101-0001 of the act requires the Judicial Council to submit to the Legislature preliminary data pertaining to Proposition 36--specifically, the number of Health and Safety Code section 11395 cases courts received from December 18, 2024 (the date of enactment) through June 30, 2025. Judicial Council staff submitted the attached report to the Legislature to fulfill this mandate.

[25-185](#)**Report to the Legislature | Report on the Firearms Relinquishment Grant Program for 2024-25****Summary:**

As required by the Budget Act of 2022 (Assem. Bill 178; Stats. 2022, ch. 45), by October 1 of each year, beginning in 2023 and ending in 2025, the Judicial Council must provide a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee related to the court-based firearm relinquishment program. The attached report for fiscal year 2024-25 describes how funding has been allocated, how the funding has or will be used by each court, the structure of the program at each court, the roles and responsibilities of the court and its contractors, any implementation challenges or other challenges faced, and key data outcomes for each court. Although delayed, this report was sent to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on October 24, 2025.

[25-161](#)**Trial Courts | Annual Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25****Summary:**

This annual investment report covers the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and provides the financial results for the funds invested by the Judicial Council on behalf of the trial courts as part of the judicial branch treasury program. The report is submitted under the Resolutions Regarding Investment Activities for the Trial Courts, approved by the Judicial Council on February 27, 2004.

Judicial Council Internal Committee Reports**25-186****Written Reports****Appointment Orders****25-174****Appointment Orders since the last business meeting.****Adjournment**



Judicial Council of California

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

Telephone 415-865-4200 · Fax 415-865-4205

M E M O R A N D U M

Date

October 10, 2025

Action Requested

Review and Approve

To

Members of the Executive and Planning
Committee

Deadline

November 6, 2025

From

Judicial Council staff
Leah Rose-Goodwin, Principal Manager
Kristin Greenaway, Manager
Research, Analytics, and Data

Contact

Mustafa Sagir, Supervising Research Analyst
415-865-7553 phone
mustafa.sagir@jud.ca.gov

Subject

Creation of One New Subordinate Judicial
Officer Position in the Superior Court of San
Bernardino County

Executive Summary

Research, Analytics, and Data staff recommend that the Judicial Council's Executive and Planning Committee approve the creation of one new, limited-term subordinate judicial officer (SJO) position in the Superior Court of San Bernardino County. The court has informed council staff that this new SJO/commissioner position will play a critical role in the establishment of a collaborative court to address Proposition 36 workload. Currently, the Superior Court of San Bernardino County has the highest assessed judicial need in the state and aims to use funding from the 2025–2026 Budget Act to increase its judicial resources. Confirming this request is consistent with established council policy of improving access to justice by providing judicial resources that are proportionate to court workloads.

Recommendation

Research, Analytics, and Data staff recommend that the Executive and Planning Committee approve the request by the Superior Court of San Bernardino County for the addition of one new, limited-term SJO position in the court.

Relevant Previous Council Action

In 2007, the Judicial Council adopted a policy for the review and approval of requests from trial courts to change the number of subordinate judicial officer positions and delegate approval authority to its Executive Committee. Government Code section 71622(a) grants authority to the council to determine the number and type of subordinate judicial officer positions in each trial court.¹

More specifically, the Judicial Council adopted a policy pertaining to changes in the number and status of SJO positions that, for the purposes of the current request, contain the following elements:

1. To establish a new SJO position, permanently eliminate an SJO position, or change the time base of an existing SJO position, a court must request and obtain approval from the Executive Committee. The requesting court must fund and bear all costs associated with an additional or augmented SJO position.
2. If an increase in the number of SJO positions is sought, the court must submit a request in writing to the appropriate Judicial Council regional administrative director.² A request must contain a certification by the presiding judge that the court has sufficient funds in its ongoing budget to cover the cost of any additional or augmented position. Judicial Council staff must provide the Executive Committee with (1) an estimation of the requesting court's ability to fund one-time and ongoing costs resulting from the establishment or augmentation of a new position, and (2) a confirmation of need, both SJO workload and overall judicial need, based on the most recent council-approved Judicial Needs Assessment.
3. The Executive Committee will authorize new or augmented SJO positions only if (1) the court can continuously fund the associated increased costs, and (2) the most recent council-approved Judicial Needs Assessment demonstrates that the requesting court's SJO workload justifies additional SJO positions and cannot be handled with existing judicial resources. The Executive Committee's decision to change the number or type of SJO positions must be in writing and contain an analysis of the factors underlying the decision.

¹ Judicial Council of Cal., mins. (Feb. 23, 2007), item 9, p. 12, and item 10, p. 15, www.courts.ca.gov/documents/min0207.pdf.

² The position of regional administrative director was eliminated in 2012 as a result of the restructuring of the Administrative Office of the Courts (former name of the Judicial Council staff organization).

4. The Executive Committee will eliminate or decrease the time base of an SJO position upon the request of a trial court.

Analysis/Rationale

The request by the Superior Court of San Bernardino County for the addition of one new, limited-term SJO position is based on several factors. The court states that it currently has significantly fewer judges than assessed need, which results in delays for certain case types and high caseloads for existing judicial officers. This claim is supported by the *2022 Update of the Judicial Needs Assessment*, which shows that the court is operating with 100 authorized judicial positions but a need of 130.5 judicial positions.³ This difference of 30.5 judicial positions represents the highest judicial need in the state (30 percent need). Furthermore, the most recent analysis of SJO need indicates that the Superior Court of San Bernardino County has an unmet need of seven SJO positions.

According to the court, this shortage of judicial officers has historically prohibited the court from establishing programs that support access to justice. Using one-time funding available through the 2025–2026 Budget Act, the court aims to establish a collaborative court to address Proposition 36 workload. More specifically, the court will use this funding to cover the expenses for a new SJO who will oversee Proposition 36 cases, facilitate treatment plans, and coordinate with community partners to ensure participants receive appropriate support.

Confirming the court’s request in this matter is within the scope of the Judicial Council’s responsibilities under Government Code section 71622(a),⁴ which delegates authority to the Executive Committee for review and approval of courts’ requests to permanently adjust the workload or number of SJOs serving in a court.⁵

Policy implications

Confirming this request for the addition of one new, limited-term SJO position in the Superior Court of San Bernardino County is consistent with well-established tenets of council policy on SJO positions.

Comments

This proposal, which is consistent with council policy on the status and funding of SJO positions, did not circulate for comment.

³ *The Need for New Judgeships in the Superior Courts: 2022 Update of the Judicial Needs Assessment*, www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Report-to-the-Legislature_2022-Update-of-the-Judicial-Needs-Assessment.pdf.

⁴ “Each trial court may establish and may appoint any subordinate judicial officers that are deemed necessary for the performance of subordinate judicial duties, as authorized by law to be performed by subordinate judicial officers. However, the number and type of subordinate judicial officers in a trial court shall be subject to approval by the Judicial Council. Subordinate judicial officers shall serve at the pleasure of the trial court.” (Gov. Code, § 71622(a).)

⁵ Judicial Council of Cal., mins. (Feb. 23, 2007), item 10, p. 15, www.courts.ca.gov/documents/min0207.pdf.

Alternatives considered

The proposed addition of one new, limited-term SJO position is consistent with council policy. On that basis, no alternatives were considered.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

The court indicates that it has performed the necessary budget analysis to confirm that it has sufficient funds to pay for the costs associated with this request. The fiscal year 2025–26 Budget Act provided one-time funding, available through June 30, 2028, to support Proposition 36 workload. The court will use this one-time funding to cover salary and benefits for a limited-term SJO who will preside over the collaborative court. Implementing the recommendation would generate no fiscal or operational costs to the branch as a whole.

Attachments and Links

1. Attachment A: Letter from Presiding Judge Lisa M. Rogan, Superior Court of San Bernardino County, to Executive and Planning Committee (September 24, 2025)



**Superior Court of California
County of San Bernardino**

Lisa M. Rogan
Presiding Judge

247 West Third Street, Eleventh Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0302

(909) 501-3635

September 24, 2025

Hon. Brad R. Hill, Chair
Executive & Planning Committee
Judicial Council of California
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Request for Subordinate Judicial Officer/Commissioner Position

Dear Justice Hill and members of Executive and Planning Committee:

The Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino respectfully requests approval to create one (1) new, limited term, authorized Subordinate Judicial Officer/Commissioner position. This new Subordinate Judicial Officer/Commissioner will play a critical role in the establishment of a Collaborative Court to address the Proposition 36 workload.

The 2025-2026 Budget Act provided one-time funding, available through June 30, 2028, to support Proposition 36 workload. The San Bernardino Superior Court will use this funding to cover salary and employee benefit expenses for a Subordinate Judicial Officer/Commissioner who will preside over the Collaborative Court.

Our court currently has twenty-seven fewer judges than assessed need, resulting in delays for certain case types and high caseloads for existing judicial officers. This significant shortage—the highest in the State—routinely prevents our court from establishing programs that better support access to justice for our community. By leveraging this one-time funding, we aim to increase our judicial resources, thereby improving access to justice.

The new Commissioner will oversee Proposition 36 cases, facilitate treatment plans, and coordinate with community partners to ensure participants receive appropriate support. This position is essential to the effective operation of a Collaborative Court and will directly benefit both the court and the community by promoting rehabilitation and reducing recidivism.

With your committee's support, I look forward to establishing a Proposition 36 Collaborative Court in alignment with legislative funding. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please contact me at (909) 708-8767 or at LRogan@sb-court.org if you or any member has questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

Presiding Judge, Lisa M. Rogan

cc: Anabel Z. Romero, Court Executive Officer