Judicial Council *of* California

EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING WITH CLOSED SESSION

September 17, 2026

12:10 to 1:00 p.m.

Videoconference

Members Present: Hon. Brad R. Hill (Chair), Hon. Mary J. Greenwood (Vice-chair), Hon. Stacy Boulware Eurie, Hon. Rodney A. Cortez, Hon. Charles Crompton, Hon. Judith K. Dulcich, Hon. Maria D. Hernandez, Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Hon. Eric J. Wersching, Hon. Tamara L. Wood, Mr. David Slayton, and Ms. Dena Stone

Guests Present: Ms. Anabel Z. Romero and Mr. Jake Chatters

Others Present: Juan Ambriz, Amber Barnett, James Barolo, Alex Bender, Kristin Burford, Francine Byrne, Tina Carroll, Tony Cheng, Nicole Claro, Blaine Corren, Shelley Curran, Angela De Leon, Eric Divine, Robert Downs, Kerry Doyle, Michael Etchepare, Audrey Fancy, Sarah Fleischer-Ihn, Jenny Grantz, Kristin Greenway, Anne Hadreas, Frances Ho, Donna Ignacio, Cory Jasperson, Maddie Joyner, Julia Kaufman, Youn Kim, Stephanie Lacambra, Eunice Lee, Eric Long, Jason Lopez, Robert Lower, Nikki Marquez, Ray Mata, Tracy Matthews, Anna Maves, Russell McGregor, Cassandra McTaggart, Fran Mueller, Steven Quinn, Kara Portnow, Cristina Resendiz-Johnson, Akilah Robinson, Mustafa Sagir, Sarah Saria, Jamie Schechter, Kristen Schmit, Gabrielle Selden, Elaine Siega, Marymichael Smrdeli, Melanie Snider, Natalie L. Stone, Corby Sturges, Zlatko Theodorovic, Jarret Yee, and Carrie Zoller

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 9, 2026, open meeting;
- June 15, 2026, action by email;
- June 29, 2026, action by email; and
- July 28, 2026, closed meeting.

Action: The committee approved the minutes of the June 9 open meeting, the June 15 and June 29 actions by email, and the July 28 closed meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM (ITEM 1)

Item 1
Agenda Setting for October 16, 2026, Judicial Council Meeting (Action Required)
Review draft reports and set the agenda for the October Judicial Council meeting.

Action: The committee set the agenda for the October 16, 2026, Judicial Council meeting by approving available reports for placement on the business meeting agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the open meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(D)(2),(10)

Item 1
Discussion
Public access to judicial branch education materials held by the Judicial Council.

Adjourned closed session at 1:04 p.m.

Judicial Council *of* California

EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES OF ACTION BY EMAIL

October 2, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Members Present: Hon. Brad R. Hill (Chair), Hon. Mary J. Greenwood (Vice-chair), Hon. Stacy Boulware Eurie, Hon. Rodney A. Cortez, Hon. Charles Crompton, Hon. Judith K. Dulcich, Hon. Maria D. Hernandez, Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Hon. Eric J. Wersching, Hon. Tamara L. Wood, Mr. David Slayton, and Ms. Dena Stone

Others Present: Mr. Robert Oyung, Ms. Amber Barnett, Ms. Josely Yangco-Fronda, and Ms. Donna Ignacio

ACTION BY EMAIL

As provided in the California Rules of Court, rule 10.75 (o)(1)(B), the chair concluded that prompt action was needed. This action by email concerned matters that would otherwise be discussed in an open meeting; therefore, in accordance with rule 10.75(o)(2), public notice and the proposal were posted on October 1, 2026, to allow at least one complete business day for public comment before the committee took action. No comments were received.

ACTION ITEM

Item 1

Agenda Setting for October 16, 2026, Judicial Council Meeting (Action Required)

Review and consider the following draft reports for placement on the October 16, 2026, Judicial Council business meeting agenda.

- Consent Item 26-143 Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2026–27 Involuntary Medication Order Funding Allocations (Action Required)
- Consent Item 26-153 Trial Court Budget | Workload Formula Adjustment Request Process Update (Action Required)
- Consent Item 26-154 Trial Court Budget | Workload Formula Policy Base Funding Floor Adjustment Process (Action Required)
- Discussion Item 26-122 Court Interpreters | Payment Policies for Independent Contractor Interpreters (Action Required)

Action: The committee approved the reports above for placement on the October 16, 2026, Judicial Council business meeting agenda.

CLOSURE OF ACTION

The voting concluded at 12:25 p.m. on October 5, 2026.

Approved by the committee on _____.

Judicial Council *of* California

EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES OF CLOSED MEETING

October 28, 2026

1:30–3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Hon. Brad R. Hill (Chair), Hon. Mary J. Greenwood (Vice-chair), Hon. Stacy Boulware Eurie, Hon. Rodney A. Cortez, Hon. Charles Crompton, Hon. Judith K. Dulcich, Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Hon. Tamara L. Wood, and Ms. Dena Stone

Member Absent: Hon. Eric J. Wersching and Mr. David Slayton

Others Present: Ms. Amber Barnett, Ms. Josely Yangco-Fronda, and Ms. Kathy Joson.

CLOSED SESSION (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(D)(1))

Call to Order and Roll Call
The chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and staff took roll call.

Item 1
Pursuant to California Rules of Court, 10.75 (d)(1) (Action Required)
2026 Out-of-Cycle Advisory Body and Education Curriculum Committee Nominations Discussions

Review out-of-cycle nominations for the following advisory bodies and education curriculum committee and develop recommendations to be submitted to the Chief Justice:

- Appellate Advisory Committee
- Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions
- Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions
- Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee
- Court Interpreters Advisory Panel
- Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee
- Information Technology Advisory Committee
- Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program
- Legal Services Trust Fund Commission
- Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation
- Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
- Appellate Practice Curriculum Committee

Action: The committee developed recommendations to be submitted to the Chief Justice for appointments to all advisory bodies and education committee listed above, except for the Appellate Advisory Committee and Appellate Practice Curriculum Committee, which will be reviewed at the November 5, 2026, closed meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Approved by the committee on _____.

Judicial Council *of* California

EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES OF ACTION BY EMAIL

October 29, 2026

5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Hon. Brad R. Hill (Chair), Hon. Mary J. Greenwood (Vice-chair), Hon. Stacy Boulware Eurie, Hon. Rodney A. Cortez, Hon. Charles Crompton, Hon. Judith K. Dulcich, Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Hon. Tamara L. Wood, and Ms. Dena Stone

Members Absent: Hon. Eric J. Wersching and Mr. David Slayton

Others Present: Mr. Robert Oyung, Ms. Amber Barnett, Ms. Josely Yangco-Fronda, and Ms. Donna Ignacio

ACTION BY EMAIL

As provided in the California Rules of Court, rule 10.75 (o)(1)(B), the chair concluded that prompt action was needed. This action by email concerned matters that would otherwise be discussed in an open meeting; therefore, in accordance with rule 10.75(o)(2), public notice and the proposal were posted on October 28, 2026, to allow at least one complete business day for public comment before the committee took action. No comments were received.

ACTION ITEM

Item 1

Subordinate Judicial Officer (SJO) Exception Conversion: Superior Court of Placer County (Action Required)

Review a recommendation from Research, Analytics, and Data staff to confirm the request by the Superior Court of Placer County for the continued exception to the conversion of a SJO position to a judgeship.

Action: The committee approved the recommendation from the Research, Analytics, and Data staff to confirm the request by the Superior Court of Placer County for the continued exception to the conversion of an SJO position to a judgeship.

CLOSURE OF ACTION

The voting concluded at 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2026.

Approved by the committee on _____.

Judicial Council of California

Draft Meeting Agenda

Judicial Council

Please visit the California Courts website to view live meeting on December 11, 2026.

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 11, 2026 **San Francisco**

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

Session: 9:00–10:00 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: 10:15 a.m.

Call to Order

10 minutes

Public Comment

10 minutes

The Judicial Council welcomes public comment on general matters of judicial administration or specific agenda items. 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, visit the Attendance and Public Comment Procedures webpage.

Submit advance requests to speak and written comments for this meeting by:

judicialcouncil@jud.ca.gov

Chief Justice's Report

15 minutes

Administrative Director's Report

26-005 **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.

26-010 **Minutes of October 16, 2026, Judicial Council Meeting**
Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-171 **Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts | Fiscal Year 2026-27 Increased Transcript Rate Allocations (Action Required)**

Summary:
Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-185

Court Facilities | 2026 Edition of the California Trial Court Facilities Standards (Action Required)

Summary:
The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends adoption of the *California Trial Court Facilities Standards, 2026 Edition*. Over time, various code provisions and best management practices have changed from the Judicial Council's current trial court facilities standards. Upon adoption, Judicial Council Facilities Services will apply these facilities standards for design and construction of trial court facilities.

26-179

Court Interpreters | Revised Credential Review Procedures (Action Required)

Summary:
The Court Interpreters Advisory Panel proposes amendments to the *California Court Interpreter Credential Review Procedures* to establish a standardized, diagnostic skills assessment for substantiated concerns about interpreting performance and to provide disciplinary letters as an intermediate response to substantiated misconduct. The revisions give the Judicial Council's Court Interpreters Program a more structured way to evaluate skills and respond proportionately to concerns affecting a statewide credential.

26-188

Equal Access Fund | Distribution of Funds to Legal Service Trust Fund Commission for Public Law Center and Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association (Action Required)

Summary:
Judicial Council staff recommends approving the distribution of $1,750,000 to the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission of the State Bar of California for distribution to two legal aid organizations designated in the Budget Act of 2026 (Stats. 2026, ch. 21): $1,000,000 to the Public Law Center in Orange County to increase the capacity of its Immigration Unit and $750,000 to the Inland Empire Latino Lawyers

Association to expand free civil legal services for low-income individuals and families throughout Riverside County and San Bernardino County. The Budget Act specifies the recipients, and the commission will distribute funds accordingly.

26-123

Judicial Branch Administration: Revisions to 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* to increase the threshold below which a competitively bid procurement is not required, and to make other conforming edits, improvements, and corrections.

26-172

Judicial Branch Technology | Hybrid Courtroom Findings and Recommendations (Action Required)

Summary:

The Judicial Council's *Minimum Technology Standards for Remote Proceedings* and Senate Bill 133 (Stats. 2023, ch. 34) establish statewide functional requirements for conducting remote appearances. To support implementation of these standards, the Information Technology Advisory Committee convened the Advancing the Hybrid Courtroom Phase 2 Workstream to develop recommendations that provide courts with structured, functional guidance for implementing technology solutions that support effective remote participation across various courtroom environments.

The committee recommends that the Judicial Council adopt the resulting *Remote Proceedings Technology Recommendations* to give courts clear, adaptable guidance for meeting the standards, reduce variation in courtroom capabilities, and strengthen the quality, consistency, and accessibility of remote proceedings statewide.

26-190

Judicial Branch Technology | IT Modernization Funding Allocation, Fiscal Year 2026-27 (Action Required)

Summary:

For fiscal year 2026-27, the Judicial Council Technology Committee recommends allocating IT Modernization Branchwide Funding to continue the hosting and maintenance of branchwide technology solutions. The recommended allocations align with the judicial branch's strategic goals and reflect the IT Modernization program's continued commitment to advancing court operations through innovative technology.

26-170

Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation | Procedures for Sealing Arrest Records (Action Required)

Summary:

The Criminal Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council sponsor legislation amending several Penal Code statutes to improve consistency in how arrest records are sealed when a person successfully completes diversion.

26-173 **Jury Instructions | Civil Jury Instructions (Release 50) (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-169 **Probate Conservatorship | Handbook for Conservators: 2026 Revised Edition (Action Required)**

Summary: The law governing conservatorship has changed substantially since the publication of the *Handbook for Conservators: 2016 Revised Edition*. The Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee therefore recommends updating the handbook, posting the updated edition on the California courts website, and authorizing production and distribution of the updated edition in print form by courts and such other entities as the Administrative Director may approve. The proposed updates would also reorganize the handbook, reformat it to make it easier to use online, simplify the language, and reduce unnecessary repetition. Finally, the committee recommends delegating to the advisory committee itself the authority to approve future revisions to the handbook as needed to conform to changes to the law and respond to requests for improvement from courts and other stakeholders.

26-175 **Rules and Forms | Amendment of Rule 2.900 (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-174 **Rules and Forms | Civil Practice and Procedure: Form Revisions to Implement AB 2781 (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-182 **Rules and Forms | Family Law: Implementation of Assembly Bill 1267 Prohibiting a Minor from Marrying or Establishing a Domestic Partnership (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-191 **Rules and Forms | Probate Conservatorship and Guardianship: Accounting Waiver Form (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-176 **Rules and Forms | Remote Proceedings: Implementation of Senate Bill 174 (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-048 **Trial Court Budget | Fiscal Year 2025-26 Final Adjustments for Year-End Fund Balances (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

26-049 **Trial Court Budget | Minimum Operating and Emergency Fund Balance Policy Updates (Action Required)**

Summary: The Judicial Council's suspension of the minimum operating and emergency fund balance policy will expire on June 30, 2027. This policy requires trial courts to maintain a designated percentage of funds for use in emergency situations or due to budget shortfalls. Since fiscal year 2012-13, the council has repeatedly suspended the policy due to statutory changes and the availability of alternative emergency funding options. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends to update the policy to ensure it better aligns with the current financial realities and reserve needs of the trial courts.

26-047 **Trial Courts | Trial Court Trust Fund Funds Held on Behalf of the Trial Courts for Fiscal Year 2025-26 (Action Required)**

Summary: The Judicial Council's approved process of the Trial Court Trust Fund Funds Held on Behalf of the trial courts program allows courts to preserve and use funds that exceed the statutory cap for approved projects or expenditures. Through this 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. The Fiscal Planning Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends the approval of requests from trial courts in the amount of $20.5 million for the fiscal year 2025-26 annual submission cycle. Twenty-eight courts submitted 59 requests--34 new, 14 amended and 11 time-only amended--to allow the courts to meet contractual obligations and fund necessary court projects or purchases.

26-177 **Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules | 2027 Edition for Traffic, Boating, Forestry, Fish and Game, Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Business Licensing (Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

26-166 **Judicial Branch Strategic Plan Updates (Action Required)**

Summary: In recognition of the Judicial Council's 100th anniversary and to ensure that required affirmations are made within the timeline, the Judicial Council is asked to approve the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan as updated to continue to provide a guiding vision and direction for the judicial branch. The plan has been refreshed to better articulate values vital to the effective administration of justice while accounting for state and national trends, essential court-system values, external mandates, stakeholder

expectations, and other forces that share the environment of the courts in 2026 and beyond.

Speakers: Hon. Brad R. Hill, Chair, Executive and Planning Committee

10 minutes

26-192 **Judicial Branch Administration | Artificial Intelligence Task Force Update (No Report. No Action Required.)**

Summary: The Artificial Intelligence Task Force will provide an update on its work.

Speakers: Hon. Brad R. Hill, Chair, Artificial Intelligence Task Force
Hon. Mary J. Greenwood, Vice-Chair, Artificial Intelligence Task Force
Ms. Jessica Devencenzi, Policy & Research
Ms. Sarah Fleischer-Ihn, Policy & Research

15 minutes

26-186 **Report to the Legislature | Roadmap to Accelerate and Streamline Courthouse Construction Projects (Action Required)**

Summary: Under provision 1 of section 7, item 0250-490 of Senate Bill 111 (Budget Act of 2026; Stats. 2026, ch. 21), the Judicial Council is required to submit a report to the Legislature on or before January 10, 2027, in consultation with the California Department of Finance, on a roadmap to accelerate and streamline courthouse construction projects. The Judicial Council has consulted with and received input from the California Department of Finance on this report, which focuses on common barriers that have hindered the planning, acquisition, design, and construction process and provides the council's recommendations to accelerate projects while maintaining appropriate oversight and risk mitigation measures. The Court Facilities Advisory Committee recommends the Judicial Council approve the report to submit it to the Legislature.

Speakers: Hon. Brad R. Hill, Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
Hon. Eric J. Wersching, Vice-Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
Mr. Tamer Ahmed, Facilities Services

10 minutes

26-181 **Trial Courts | Caseflow Management Recommendations (No Action Required)**

Summary: Pending. This item will be considered by the Executive and Planning Committee at a later date.

Speakers: Hon. Julie A. Emede, Vice-Chair, Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee
Mr. David Slayton, Chair, Court Executives Advisory Committee

15 minutes

26-183

Judicial Council | 2027 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 2027 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; language access and the growing interpreter shortage; 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, Governmental Affairs

10 minutes

INFORMATION AGENDA (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

26-046

Court Facilities | Lease-Revenue Bond Issuance, Fall 2025 and Spring 2026

Summary:

The Administrative Director presents this report on actions taken by the State Public Works Board in fall 2025 and spring 2026 to fund court facilities projects. New lease-revenue bonds were issued for one capital outlay project 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.

26-162

Judicial Branch Education | Final Report on the 2024-2026 Education Plan

Summary:

The Judicial Council's Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee successfully delivered the *2024-2026 Education Plan,* ensuring a robust array of educational programs and resources were available to judicial officers and court staff to support high standards of professionalism, ethics, and performance across the judicial branch.

26-178

Judicial Council Update | Trial Court Screening Equipment Replacement for Fiscal Year 2025-26

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 the replacement of entrance screening equipment through the program. This report updates the council on the equipment that was replaced in fiscal year 2025-26 using that funding.

26-189

Report to the Legislature | 2026 Update of the Judicial Needs Assessment

Summary:

The Need for New Judgeships in the Superior Courts: 2026 Update of the Judicial Needs Assessment, a report to the Legislature required by Government Code section 69614(c)(1), shows that 159 new judgeships are needed across 18 courts to meet workload demand. This represents a significant increase from the 2022 assessment, which identified a need for 98 judgeships across 17 courts. The increase is driven by updated model parameters from the 2026 Judicial Workload Study--based on data collected through a time study conducted in 2025--and post-pandemic filings data from fiscal year 2022-23 through fiscal year 2024-25. The mandated report also includes information about the conversion of additional subordinate judicial officer positions, as required by Government Code section 69614(c)(3).

26-187

Report to the Legislature | Disposition of Criminal Cases According to Race and Ethnicity of 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 and ethnicity and tests whether any available legal or demographic information can account for the observed patterns.

26-180

Trial Courts | Annual Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26

Summary:

This annual investment report covers the period from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, 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.

26-184

Trial Courts | Public Notice of Court Closures or Reduced Clerk's Office Hours

Summary:

Government Code section 68106 directs (1) trial courts to notify the public and the Judicial Council before closing courtrooms or clerks' offices or reducing clerks' regular office hours, and (2) the council to post all such notices on its website and relay them to the Legislature. This report lists the latest court notices received by the council under this statutory requirement. Since the previous report, two courts, the Superior Courts of Fresno and San Francisco Counties, have issued new notices.

Judicial Council Internal Committee Reports

26-015 **Written Reports**

Adjournment