



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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### MEMORANDUM

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**Date**

October 17, 2014

**Action Requested**

Please Review Memo and Proposed Judicial Council Report

**To**

Family and juvenile Law Advisory Committee  
Hon. Jerilyn L. Borack, Cochair  
Hon. Mark A. Juhas, Cochair

**Contact**

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**From**

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**Subject**

Access to Visitation Funding Allocation for Federal Grant Fiscal Years 2015-2016 through 2017-2018

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This memorandum is to provide you with some background on the proposed recommendations for the Access to Visitation Funding Allocation for Federal Grant Fiscal Years 2015–2016 through 2017–2018.

- The Judicial Council adopted a new funding methodology for this grant at its meeting on April 25, 2014. The council also adopted the recommendation to conduct an open request for proposal (RFP) for superior courts to apply for grant funding for federal funding fiscal years 2015–2016 through 2017–2018.
- Judicial Council staff complied with this council directive and has completed the RFP process, convened the application Grant Review Group and completed the ranking results of that application review.

- As expected, there was a robust response to the RFP with 20 lead applicant courts responding representing 27 counties.
- The application review process is outlined in detail in the proposed Judicial Council Report and was based upon application of the statutory evaluation criteria.
- The courts ranked to receive grant funding represent a diverse group of courts based upon geographic location, county size and rural/urban characteristics.
- The federal funder, the Office of Child Support Enforcement Services does not typically notify the states of their exact award amount until the end of the current calendar year or beginning of the next calendar year. The Judicial Council report, therefore, reflects the recent historical funding range.
- The top 11 ranked applicant courts are eligible to receive funding at the requested level with the exception of Orange County Superior Court.
- Orange County Superior Court ranked 11th out of 11 courts eligible for funding and as a result there is only \$25,000 to \$40,000 in grant funding available depending on the final confirmed federal grant amount. Orange is eligible to receive up to \$100,000 in grant funding based upon the approved funding criteria.
- The court was contacted and indicates it is still interested in participating in the grant even at a reduced funding amount.
- There does not appear to be any particular controversial issues with this proposal as it merely applies the recently adopted council directives.