



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

FAMILY AND JUVENILE LAW
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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FAMILY AND JUVENILE LAW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

November 3, 2014

4:30-5:30 p.m.

**Advisory Body
Members Present:**

Hon. Jerilyn L. Borack, Co-Chair, Hon. Mark A. Juhas, Co-Chair, Mr. Robert J. Bayer, Mr. Brian Briggs, Hon. Carol D. Codrington, Mr. José Octavio Guillén, Hon. Jaime R. Román, and Ms. Julie Saffren

**Advisory Body
Members Absent:**

Hon. Louise Bayles-Fightmaster, Hon. C. Todd Bottke, Hon. Carolyn M. Caietti, Hon. Michael J. Convey, Ms. Christine N. Donovan, Frank Dougherty, J.D., Ph.D., Hon. Michael Gassner, Hon. Suzanne Gazzaniga, Hon. Scott M. Gordon, Ms. Cathi Grams, Hon. Maureen F. Hallahan, Ms. Leslie Heimov, Ms. LaRon Hogg Haught, Ms. Kathleen L. Hrepich, Ms. Sharon Lawrence, Ms. Patricia Lee, Hon. Susan J. Matcham, Hon. Cindee F. Mayfield, Hon. Kimberly J. Nystrom-Geist, Hon. Amy M. Pellman, Ms. Rebecca L. Ross, Mr. James Salio, Hon. Patrick Tondreau, and Ms. Alicia Valdez Wright

Others Present:

Ms. Shelly La Botte, Ms. Audrey Fancy, Mr. Michael Wright, Mr. Alan Herzfeld, and Ms. Julia Weber

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m., and took roll call.

Approval of Minutes

No minutes to approve.

Item 1 Access to Visitation Funding Allocations 2015–2016 through 2017–2018

Judicial Council staff has completed the Access to Visitation Grant Funding Request for Proposal and application review process consistent with the Judicial Council directives adopted at its April 25, 2014 meeting.

Discussion of previously approved methodology (Michael Wright)

Each grant funding period, the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends to the Judicial Council funding allocation for California's Access to Visitation Grant Program to support and facilitate noncustodial parents' access to and visitation with their children through supervised visitation and exchange services, parent education, and group counseling services.

The Judicial Council adopted at its April 25, 2014 meeting the following new funding methodology under the grant program:

1. Conduct an open request for proposals (RFP) process for the superior courts to apply for federal fiscal year funding for 2015–2016, and subject to the availability of federal funding, the superior courts selected by the Judicial Council for grant funding will receive continuation funding for three years (from federal fiscal years 2015–2016 through 2017–2018).
2. The RFP process will open up again in federal fiscal year 2018–2019 for another three-year funding period, with a permanent open RFP process repeating every three years and grant funding provided to the selected courts for a three-year period.

The RFP and application review process followed the statutory selection criteria and the process as outlined in Attachment C of the proposed Judicial Council report. An application review group of volunteer subject matter experts evaluated and ranked the applications consistent with the scoring system outlined in the RFP. Applications were ranked according to the review group's scores.

Question and Comments

Members were provided the opportunity to ask for further information from staff. One member asked for clarification about Orange County's application, specifically whether it met the qualifications. Staff clarified that they did but given the entirety of funds available their portion would be reduced.

Action:

The committee voted to recommend that the Judicial Council, effective December 12, 2014:

1. Approve the funding allocation and distribution of approximately \$755,000 to \$770,000 to the 11 superior courts for federal grant fiscal years 2015–2016 through 2017–2018 (each federal fiscal year), as set forth in Attachment A to the draft Judicial Council report.
2. Approve the allocation and distribution to the next ranking court if any of the selected courts decline their grant award amount after the Judicial Council allocation approval but before execution of a funding contract with the Judicial Council.

The committee also directed staff to alert applicants that the proposed allocations are posted with materials for this meeting.

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on November 20, 2014.

ATTACHMENT A

**Judicial Council of California
Center for Families, Children & the Courts**

ACCESS TO VISITATION GRANT PROGRAM

**List of Superior Courts and Grant Award Amounts
for Fiscal Years 2015–2016 and 2016–2017 and 2017–2018**

Superior Courts of California	Proposed Grant Funding Allocation
Superior Court of Butte County	\$60,000
Superior Court of El Dorado County	\$ 45,000
Superior Court of Los Angeles County	\$100,000
Superior Court of Mendocino County	\$60,000
Superior Court of Mono County	\$45,000
Superior Court of Orange County *	\$25,000–\$40,000
Superior Court of San Bernardino County	\$100,000
Superior Court of San Francisco County	\$100,000
Superior Court of Shasta County	\$ 60,000
Superior Court of Tulare County	\$100,000
Superior Court of Yuba County	\$ 60,000
Total	\$755,000 to \$770,000 **

*Superior Court of Orange County will not receive full funding request, ranking 11th out of 11 courts that are eligible for grant funding under the application review. The actual grant funding amount for Superior Court of Orange County will depend on final federal allocation. The recommendation is that Superior Court of Orange County be funded at the maximum amount available once the final federal allocation is received.

**The total proposal grant funding allocation range is \$755,000 to \$770,000 which includes allocation for Superior Court of Orange County.