Judicial Council *of* California

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

September 16, 2026

12:00 p.m.

Videoconference

Members Present: Hon. Sheila F. Hanson, Chair; Hon. Samantha P. Jessner, Vice-Chair; Mr. Michael Baliel; Hon. Kathy Ciuffini; Mr. Brian Cotta; Hon. Sean Dabel; Hon. Tara Desautels; Mr. Jason Galkin; Mr. AJ Guzman; Mr. Brett Howard; Hon. Kimberly Menninger; Hon. Richard Miadich; Hon. Ioana Petrou; Ms. Jessica Thomson; Hon. Jason Webster

Members Absent: Mr. Timothy Fox, Ms. Katy Grant, Hon. Michael Groch, Mr. Kevin Harrigan, Ms. Carrie Holmes, Hon. Michael Mau, Hon. Eloise Gómez-Reyes; Ms. Jeannette Vannoy

Others Present: Hon. Maria Hernandez

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call
The chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and took roll call.

Approval of Minutes
The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of the July 15, 2026, Information Technology Advisory Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1–3)

Item 1
Chair Report (No Action—Information Only)
The committee received an update on activities and news from the Information Technology Advisory Committee chair, Hon. Sheila F. Hanson.

Item 2
Judicial Council Technology Committee Chair Report (No Action—Information Only)
The committee received an update on activities and news from the Judicial Council Technology Committee chair, Hon. Maria D. Hernandez.

Item 3
2027 Annual Agenda – Planning (No Action—Information Only)
Judge Hanson reviewed the 2026 Annual Agenda priorities and accomplishments. She then introduced the development of the 2027 Annual Agenda. The committee provided feedback on

projects and initiatives and will continue planning of the 2027 Annual Agenda at its next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved by the advisory body on enter date.

Information Technology Advisory Committee
DRAFT—Annual Agenda—2027
Approved by Technology Committee: Enter a date

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair: Hon. Sheila F. Hanson, Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Orange
Lead Staff: Christopher Sandino, Senior Business Systems Analyst, Judicial Council Information Technology

Advisory Body's Charge/Membership:

Rule 10.53 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC), which is to make recommendations to the council for improving the administration of justice through the use of technology and for fostering cooperative endeavors to resolve common technological issues with other stakeholders in the justice system. Rule 10.53(b) sets forth additional duties of the advisory body.

Rule 10.53(d) sets forth the membership position of the advisory body. ITAC currently has 23 members. The current advisory body roster is available on the advisory body's webpage.

Subgroups of the Advisory Body:

Subcommittees

1. Rules & Policy Subcommittee
2. Information Security Governance Subcommittee and Information Security Workstream

Workstreams

1. IT Modernization Program FY 2027–28
2. Frameworks for Effective Technology Adoption
3. Supporting the Exploration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Use in Courts
4. Electronic Evidence Phase 3: Pilot, Evaluation, and Request for Proposals (RFP) (pending resources)

Deferred Projects

1. Develop Strategies to Improve the Digital Experience on Court Websites

Advisory Body and Subgroup Meetings Planned for 2027:

- **Information Technology Advisory Committee:**
  - Third Wednesday of every month, 12–1 p.m. / remote
  - In-person Meeting, TBD

- **Rules & Policy Subcommittee:**
  - First Thursday of every month, 12–1 p.m. / remote
  - Exception: January 8, 12–1 p.m. / remote

- **Information Security Governance Subcommittee:**
  - Third Thursday every 2 months, 12:15–1:30 p.m. / remote

☐ 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

Ongoing Projects and Activities

1. ***Project Title*: Rules and Policy Subcommittee (RPS)**

   Priority: 1

   Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals:

I. Access	II. Independence	III. Modernization	IV. Quality	V. Education	VI. Infrastructure	VII. Funding
☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

   Project Summary: The subcommittee will develop rules and policies related to judicial branch technology and make recommendations for action by ITAC. The subcommittee will also review pending legislation related to court technology and provide input on impacts the legislation may have on the courts.

   Status/Timeline: Ongoing.

   Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Judicial Council Information Technology, Legal Services, and Governmental Affairs 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: Internal: Supreme Court, appellate and trial courts. External: justice partners, court users, and the public.

   AC Collaboration: Judicial Council Rules Committee, Judicial Council Legislation Committee, Joint Rules Subcommittee of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, Court Executives Advisory Committee, and other Judicial Council advisory bodies as needed.

2. ***Project Title*: Information Security Governance (InfoSec) Subcommittee and Workstream**

Priority: 1

Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals:

I. Access	II. Independence	III. Modernization	IV. Quality	V. Education	VI. Infrastructure	VII. Funding
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Subcommittee Summary: The Subcommittee identifies and prioritizes information security deliverables needed to improve the branch's overall security posture. This work is carried out in coordination with the Judicial Council's Information Security Services group and includes reviewing recommendations from that group and other relevant entities. The Subcommittee assigns deliverables to its Workstream, reviews and evaluates Workstream outputs, prepares items for ITAC consideration, and provides direction on next steps.

Workstream Summary: The Workstream carries out the information security deliverables assigned by the Subcommittee. It produces draft proposals, templates, and policy recommendations for review and approval by the InfoSec Subcommittee.

Key Objectives for 2027:

a) Complete the Cybersecurity Baseline Model (continuing work initiated in 2026).
b) Develop a baseline Incident Response Plan (template) for courts to adopt or adapt, including both:
   i. A version for courts implementing autonomously, and
   ii. A version for courts requiring Judicial Council support.
c) Identify core information security policies needed for courts and propose a prioritized roadmap for their development and sequencing.

Status/Timeline: Subcommittee is ongoing. Workstream estimated 12-month timeline to complete key objectives.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Judicial Council Information Technology, and Legal Services 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: Internal: Appellate and trial courts. External: justice partners, court users, and the public.

AC Collaboration: ITAC Rules & Policy Subcommittee, Court Executives Advisory Committee, and other advisory bodies as needed.

New or One-Time Projects

1. *Project Title*: IT Modernization Program FY 2027–28

Priority: 1

Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals:

I. Access	II. Independence	III. Modernization	IV. Quality	V. Education	VI. Infrastructure	VII. Funding
☐	☐	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐

Project Summary: Review court applications, evaluate approved project implementation plans, and provide relevant program support functions.

Key Objectives:
a) Review and evaluate court project proposals; recommend list of projects to approve based on program criteria.
b) Seek ITAC approval and recommendation to the Technology Committee.
c) Review court progress reports, identify projects that need program support, and help inform staff support activities, where needed.
d) Upon the completion of these objectives, formally sunset the workstream.

Status/Timeline: Solicitation of membership to begin in late 2026; evaluation to the Technology Committee by May 2027 and the Judicial Council by July 2027; review of the implementation plan through November 2027.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Solicitation of membership to begin in late 2026; evaluation to the Technology Committee by May 2027 and the Judicial Council by July 2027; review of the implementation plan through November 2027.

☐ 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: Internal: Appellate and trial courts. External: justice partners, court users, and the public.

AC Collaboration: IT Modernization Workstream, Judicial Council Technology Committee.

2. ***Project Title*: Frameworks for Effective Technology Adoption (Tech Frameworks Workstream)**

Priority: 2

Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals:

I. Access	II. Independence	III. Modernization	IV. Quality	V. Education	VI. Infrastructure	VII. Funding
☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐

Project Summary: This project is continued from the 2026 agenda to develop new tools and resources that support the use of a unified framework for court-related technology solutions to measure progress, identify opportunities for collaboration, and inform priorities.

Key Objectives:

a) Review and inform updates to the California Courts Connected framework to ensure its continued applicability and include it in the Tactical Plan for Technology update.
b) Review and inform updates to the current Court Technology Assessment process to identify new or improved opportunities to measure technology adoption, identify common needs, and inform branch and local strategic priorities.
c) Define recommended baseline technologies to establish a consistent minimum level of technology across all courts.
d) Develop a technology solutions inventory across courts as a tool for information exchange, including a regular cadence to keep it current (i.e., aligned with IT Modernization Funding activities).
e) Conduct an information campaign to ensure that court leaders are informed of related technology frameworks and solutions.
f) At the completion of these objectives, formally sunset the workstream.

Status/Timeline: Solicitation of membership began in July 2026; updates to frameworks completed by May 2027; branchwide communications outreach completed by July 2027.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Judicial Council Information Technology 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: Judicial Council Information Technology staff.

AC Collaboration: Other Judicial Council advisory bodies as needed.

3. ***Project Title*: Supporting the Exploration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Use in Courts (AI Workstream)**

Priority: 2

Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals:

I. Access	II. Independence	III. Modernization	IV. Quality	V. Education	VI. Infrastructure	VII. Funding
☐	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐

Project Summary: This project is continued from the 2026 agenda to participate in and provide a technology perspective on branchwide efforts related to AI, identify potential court-related use cases, and assess the benefits and risks to the branch.

Key Objectives:

a) Contribute to and support assignments carried out by the Chief Justice's Artificial Intelligence Task Force, including providing input on policies, potential rules of court, and other projects.
b) Identify potential uses of AI by the courts and within the branch. For those uses:
   i. Explicitly distinguish between AI and Generative AI uses, and
   ii. Complete an assessment of:
      a. Potential benefits such as increasing accuracy and efficiency; increasing access to justice; and enhancing data-informed decision making; and
      b. Potential risks such as confidentiality, reliability, bias, information security, and transparency.
c) Present findings to ITAC, the Artificial Intelligence Task Force, the Technology Committee, and the Judicial Council (if applicable).
d) At the completion of these objectives, formally sunset the workstream.

Status/Timeline: Solicitation of membership begin in July 2026. Initiation pending input from the Artificial Intelligence Task Force. Estimated 12-month timeline to complete key objectives.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Judicial Council Information Technology, Executive Office, Legal Services, Leadership Support Services, Policy and Research, and Governmental Affairs 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: Internal: Appellate and trial courts. External: justice partners, court users, and the public.

AC Collaboration: Court Executives Advisory Committee Artificial Intelligence Working Group, Artificial Intelligence Task Force and other Judicial Council advisory bodies as needed.

4. ***Project Title*: Electronic Evidence Phase 3: Pilot, Evaluation, and Request for Proposals (RFP) (Electronic Evidence Workstream)**

Priority: 2

Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals:

I. Access	II. Independence	III. Modernization	IV. Quality	V. Education	VI. Infrastructure	VII. Funding
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Project Summary: Continue assessment of electronic evidence solution options and use findings (including from previous workstream) to potentially develop an enterprise request for proposal (RFP) for a branchwide solution(s), if recommended.

Key Objectives:
Based on findings from Phase 2:

a) Identify and evaluate electronic evidence solution(s) in small-to-medium-sized court(s) to collect additional data and requirements (Phase 2 included data from large courts).
b) Evaluate both commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) and home-grown solutions used by courts.
c) Investigate additional vendors, including using product demonstrations, education sessions, and proofs of concept.
d) Provide findings and recommendations regarding enterprise solution(s) for the branch (including whether a branch master agreement with vendor options is desired).
e) If recommended, consider developing an enterprise RFP seeking a master agreement of solution(s)/product(s) to meet the needs and requirements of the various court sizes.
f) Seek approval from ITAC, the Technology Committee, and the Judicial Council (if applicable) on any recommendations.
g) At the completion of these objectives, formally sunset the workstream.

Status/Timeline: Initiation of workstream is pending resources. Once confirmed, estimated 18-month timeline to complete key objectives.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Judicial Council Information Technology 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: Internal: trial courts. External: justice partners, court users, and the public.

AC Collaboration: Court Executives Advisory Committee, Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, ITAC's Rules & Policy Subcommittee, and other Judicial Council advisory bodies as needed.

III. LIST OF 2026 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Project Highlights and Achievements

1. **IT Modernization Program FY 2026–27** — In 2026, this workstream evaluated 149 total project proposals using a new multi-level rubric enabling the Technology Committee to rank for funding consideration. The Judicial Council ultimately awarded the $12.5 million allocation to 49 projects.
2. **Advancing the Hybrid Courtroom** — In July 2026, this workstream presented its final draft of its *Remote Proceedings Technology Recommendations* to ITAC and in August 2026, to the Technology Committee. These recommendations will go to the Judicial Council for approval in December 2026 and are intended to be a playbook for courts to enable remote proceeding technology that will be updated regularly.
3. **Joint Information Security Governance** — In 2026 the subcommittee published the *Information Security Service Catalog*, giving courts a comprehensive list of information security services available and guidance on how to request support from Judicial Council Information Technology.

IV. PROJECTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

1. ***Project Title*: Develop Strategies to Improve the Digital Experience on Court Websites**
   Priority: 2

   Supported Strategic Plan Branch Goals:

I. Access	II. Independence	III. Modernization	IV. Quality	V. Education	VI. Infrastructure	VII. Funding
☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐

Project Summary: The purpose of this initiative is to identify opportunities to provide an improved user experience on court websites and portals across the judicial branch through user-centered design principles, content management strategies, and modern technology solutions.

Key Objectives:
a) Research user centered design principles to inform improvement strategies to modernize court websites.
b) Inventory existing sites to identify areas of focus for improved content management strategies.
c) Evaluate opportunities to modernize common digital public facing services.
d) Develop a report of recommended considerations.
e) At the completion of these objectives, formally sunset the workstream.

Status/Timeline: Initiation of this workstream is pending approval and resources. Once confirmed, estimated 12-month timeline to complete key objectives.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Judicial Council Information Technology 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: Internal: trial courts and appellate courts. External: justice partners, court users, and the public.

AC Collaboration: Other Judicial Council advisory bodies as needed.