

Judicial Council of California

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

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 26-081

For business meeting on July 17, 2026

Language Access Plan: Allocations for Signage and Technology Grant Program, Cycle 8, Fiscal Year 2026–27

Judicial Council Report Details (Draft)

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected

None

Report Type

Action Required

Effective Date

July 17, 2026

Date of Report

April 27, 2026

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Recommended by

Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness

Hon. Kevin C. Brazile, Cochair

Hon. Victor A. Rodriguez, Cochair

Information Technology Advisory Committee

Hon. Sheila F. Hanson, Chair

Hon. Samantha P. Jessner, Vice-Chair

Executive Summary

The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness and the Information Technology Advisory Committee recommend approving proposed grant awards for the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program of \$2.35 million to improve services and expand language access for court users. For Cycle 8 (fiscal year 2026–27), 24 courts applied for and will be awarded grants for signage and technology projects.

Recommendation

The Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness and the Information Technology Advisory Committee recommend that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026:

1. Approve the proposed allocations for the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program for fiscal year 2026–27; and
2. Direct Language Access Services staff to work with Branch Accounting and Procurement to draft and execute intrabranch agreements with each awarded court.

The proposed allocations and summary of the requests for funding are included as Attachment A.

Relevant Previous Council Action

In January 2015, the Judicial Council adopted the *Strategic Plan for Language Access in the California Courts*.¹ The plan provides recommendations, guidance, and a consistent statewide approach to ensure language access for all of California’s approximately 6.4 million limited-English-proficient (LEP) residents, as well as those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The Budget Act of 2018 (Stats. 2018, ch. 29) included \$2.55 million in ongoing funding for language access signage and technology (S&T) infrastructure support and equipment needs for the trial courts and the Judicial Council. On September 24, 2019, the Judicial Council adopted a process to annually disburse these S&T grants to the trial courts and directed Language Access Services staff to solicit and review grant applications and develop recommendations for review and approval by the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness, the Information Technology Advisory Committee, the Technology Committee, and the Judicial Council.²

This is the eighth year of the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program (Cycle 8). In July 2025, for Cycle 7, the Judicial Council approved S&T grants to all 17 trial courts that applied under the \$2.35 million annual allocation.³

Analysis/Rationale

To support judicial branch language access expansion efforts, the Budget Act of 2018 included ongoing funding of \$1 million per year for language access signage and \$1.55 million per year for language access technology infrastructure support and equipment needs. Of the \$1.55 million for technology, \$200,000 is dedicated to the Judicial Council for updates to the Language Access Toolkit resources, which now include multilingual resources on the Self-Help Guide to the California Courts site, and other council language access resource development, including

¹ *Strategic Plan for Language Access in the California Courts*.

² Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., *Language Access Plan: Signage and Technology Grants* (Sept. 9, 2019).

³ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., *Language Access Plan: Allocations for Signage and Technology Grant Program, Cycle 7, Fiscal Year 2025–26* (June 13, 2025).

translation of court forms and web content. The amount available to trial courts for technology is, therefore, \$1.35 million each year. With the \$1 million available for signage funding, the total grant amount available to trial courts each year is \$2.35 million.

Under the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program, courts can apply for up to \$200,000 for signage projects and up to \$270,000 for technology projects. If total requests are under the annual allocation for each category, then larger amounts may be requested and approved by the council in order to expend funding.⁴

Following are the goals of the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program, which are aimed at enhancing court access for LEP, deaf, or hard-of-hearing court users:

- Support courts with the development of multilingual signage to help court users navigate the courthouse.
- Assist courts that may need equipment or software that will facilitate communication with court users.
- Allocate funds to as many trial courts as possible within the given budget to support language access signage and technology initiatives.
- Fund enhancements that provide court users with greater access to the courts and to information in the languages needed to serve court users.
- Encourage courts to establish an ongoing plan that coordinates with other facilities planning or with planned or ongoing technology initiatives that support language access as a core service of the court.

On January 14, 2026, Judicial Council Information Technology released a memorandum to courts on how to request funding for various technology grant opportunities via a single application process. The deadline for courts to apply was February 6, 2026. Judicial Council staff coordinated the review of Cycle 8 Language Access Signage and Technology Grant requests with the other technology funding requests (e.g., IT Modernization Funding Program and Jury Management Systems Grant (JMSG)) to ensure that no court would receive duplicate funding for the same project.

For Cycle 8, 24 courts applied for signage and technology needs totaling \$15.17 million (see Table 1 for details). The majority of the projects proposed by all 24 courts can be fully or partially funded up to the total grant amount available to trial courts of \$2.35 million. Two project requests will not be funded: One court submitted a jury-related project that is being considered under the JMSG, and another court submitted a proposal that did not meet the program requirements.

⁴ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [*Language Access Plan: Signage and Technology Grant Program, Fiscal Year 2021–22: Requests and Proposed Allocations*](#) (Sept. 30, 2021).

Table 1. Requested Signage and Technology Projects by Trial Courts

Court	Signage Request	Technology Request	Total Request By Court	Total Proposed Grant Award
Calaveras	\$70,000	\$16,000	\$86,000	\$86,000
Contra Costa		109,068	109,068	109,068
Kern		33,117	33,117	33,117
Kings	11,523		11,523	11,523
Lassen	6,278	1,215	7,493	7,493
Los Angeles	9,498,942		9,498,942	200,000
Madera		443,908	443,908	180,427
Merced		77,940	77,940	77,940
Monterey		271,743	271,743	180,427
Orange		253,323	253,323	180,427
Placer		13,923	13,923	13,923
Riverside	75,000	238,645	313,645	180,427
Sacramento		163,375	163,375	163,375
San Benito		74,800	74,800	74,800
San Bernardino		95,235	95,235	95,235
San Diego		50,000	50,000	50,000
San Francisco	470,000		470,000	200,000
San Mateo	2,000		2,000	2,000
Santa Clara		10,000	10,000	10,000
Shasta		42,000	42,000	42,000
Solano		600,000	600,000	180,427
Sonoma		28,350	28,350	28,350
Sutter	62,614		62,614	62,614
Yolo		2,450,000	2,450,000	180,427
Totals	\$10,196,357	\$4,972,642	\$15,168,999	\$2,350,000

The trial courts have requested a total of \$10.2 million for signage. Of this amount, \$627,415 is recommended for funding. All courts, except two, can be fully funded for their signage requests. The exceptions are courts that requested more than the maximum allowed for signage; these courts will receive the \$200,000 maximum for their signage project. The remaining unallocated signage funds, totaling \$372,585, may be used for technology projects, provided those projects support language access for LEP, deaf, or hard-of-hearing court users. As in previous cycles, it is recommended that the \$372,585 in unallocated signage funds be applied to the technology category, where requests for technology funding have greatly exceeded the available resources (see Table 1). Table 2 below summarizes the number of eligible project requests by signage grant category.

Table 2. Signage Grant Project Requests

Category #	Signage Grant Project Category	Total # of Project Requests
1	Translation of Signage	0
2	Court Website Translations	1
3	Multilingual Wayfinding Strategies	5
4	Automated Queue Management System	2
5	Multilingual Nonelectronic Signage	0
Total Signage Grant Projects		8

The total amount requested by the trial courts for technology is \$4.97 million. The total recommended technology allocation is \$1.72 million. At this funding level, all but six courts can be fully funded for the amounts they requested. Because total requests exceeded available resources, the allocation strategy focused on supporting as many projects as possible. Smaller projects were funded first, and the remaining funds were then distributed evenly among the six courts with the largest requests, providing them with a combined total of approximately \$180,427 in partial funding per court. Table 3 below summarizes the number of eligible project requests by technology grant category.

Table 3. Technology Grant Project Requests

Category #	Technology Grant Project Category	Total # of Project Requests
1	Telephonic/Video Remote Solutions	5
2	Interpreter Equipment	10
3	Virtual Assistance, Scheduling, or Other Software	3
4	Multilingual Videos	0
5	Audiovisual Systems Upgrades	5
6	Multilingual Kiosks	4
Total Technology Grant Projects		27

The proposed allocations outlined in Attachment A are to be reviewed and approved by the Information Technology Advisory Committee in April 2026 and the Technology Committee in May 2026.

Policy implications

Under the grant program, courts can apply for funding for audio or video remote solutions to support language access, including video remote interpreting (VRI), if permitted by their

memorandums of understanding and any other agreements between court administration and court employees or independent contractors. All courts, including courts that participate in the grant program and request funding for VRI equipment, will be asked to follow the council's VRI guidelines for interpreted court events in spoken languages and American Sign Language.⁵

Comments

This proposal was not circulated for public comment. However, the recommendations were considered at meetings that were open to the public, and no public comments were received.

Alternatives considered

No alternatives were considered because the recommended allocations were calculated using the funding methodology approved by the Judicial Council.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

Funding assists courts with language access signage and technology initiatives. Courts may use grant funding for facilities modification costs that directly relate to the purpose of the grant—for signage or technology—as long as the anticipated facility modification costs are built into the total grant amount. Courts may use remaining awarded funding for additional signage and technology needs if those projects benefit LEP, deaf, or hard-of-hearing court users. Courts will need to notify Language Access Services staff and receive approval. The Signage and Technology Grant Program's application cycle renews annually; however, all state funding is subject to budget approval. The program encourages courts to develop diverse funding plans that align with other facilities or technology initiatives underway or are planned in their court to support language access.

Attachments and Links

Attachment A: Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program, Proposed Allocations for Cycle 8, FY 2026–27

⁵ Judicial Council of Cal., [*Recommended Guidelines and Minimum Specifications for Video Remote Interpreting \(VRI\) for Spoken Language–Interpreted Events*](#) (May 21, 2021); Judicial Council of Cal., [*Recommended Guidelines for Video Remote Interpreting \(VRI\) for ASL-Interpreted Events*](#) (2012).

Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program,
Proposed Allocations for Cycle 8, FY 2026–27

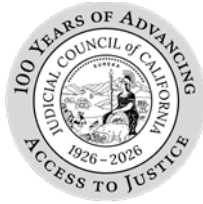
Attachment A

Court	Grant Category	Project Description	Request Amount	Proposed Grant Award
Calaveras	Signage 3 – Multilingual Wayfinding Strategies	Multilingual Wayfinding Signs	\$70,000	\$70,000
	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Language and Assisted Hearing Project	16,000	16,000
Contra Costa	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Wireless Audio Interpreter Devices	21,500	21,500
	Technology 3 – Virtual Assistance, Scheduling, or Other Software	AI-Enabled Multilingual Court Navigation and Q&A Assistant	45,000	45,000
	Technology 5 – Audiovisual Systems Upgrades	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Live Language Translation	42,568	42,568
Kern	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Interpreter Microphones and Listening Devices	33,117	33,117
Kings	Signage 4 – Automated Queue Management System	Accessibility Compliant Self-Queueing Kiosk	11,523	11,523
Lassen	Signage 3 – Multilingual Wayfinding Strategies	Electronic Signage System	6,278	6,278
	Technology 6 – Multilingual Kiosks	Multilingual Kiosks	1,215	1,215
Los Angeles	Signage 3 – Multilingual Wayfinding Strategies	CourtWays – Digital Signage and Wayfinding Infrastructure	9,498,942	200,000
Madera	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Interpreter ListenTALK System	3,201	3,201
	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Court Interpreter iPad	395	395
	Technology 5 – Audiovisual Systems Upgrades	Courtroom Audio Visual Upgrades	440,312	176,831
Merced	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Interpreter System Upgrade Project	77,940	77,940
Monterey	Technology 5 – Audiovisual Systems Upgrades	Courtroom Audio Visual Improvements	247,143	155,827
	Technology 6 – Multilingual Kiosks	Public Kiosks	24,600	24,600
Orange	Technology 1 – Telephonic/Video Remote Solutions	In-Custody Video Remote Interpreting Kits	253,323	180,427
Placer	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Interpreter Equipment	13,923	13,923

Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program,
Proposed Allocations for Cycle 8, FY 2026–27

Attachment A

Court	Grant Category	Project Description	Request Amount	Proposed Grant Award
Riverside	Signage 3 – Multilingual Wayfinding Strategies	Court wide Digital Calendar and Information Display System	75,000	75,000
	Technology 5 – Audiovisual Systems Upgrades	Courtroom Assisted Listening Devices	238,645	105,427
Sacramento	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Expand ListenTALK Devices	12,000	12,000
	Technology 6 – Multilingual Kiosks	Multilingual Check-In Kiosks	151,375	151,375
San Benito	Technology 1 – Telephonic/Video Remote Solutions	Courtroom Judicial Camera Installation for Remote Proceedings	59,300	59,300
	Technology 3 – Virtual Assistance, Scheduling, or Other Software	Multilingual Voice-to-Text and Speech Translation Solution	2,500	2,500
	Technology 6 – Multilingual Kiosks	Public Kiosk Software Modernization	13,000	13,000
San Bernardino	Technology 1 – Telephonic/Video Remote Solutions	Mobile Video Remote Interpreting Kits	95,235	95,235
San Diego	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Interpreter Audio Equipment	50,000	50,000
San Francisco	Signage 3 – Multilingual Wayfinding Strategies	ACCESS Center PARTWAYS Virtual Wayfinder Project	470,000	200,000
San Mateo	Signage 2 – Court Website Translations	Wayfinding Translation of Instructions and Forms	2,000	2,000
Santa Clara	Technology 2 – Interpreter Equipment	Interpreter Equipment	10,000	10,000
Shasta	Technology 1 – Telephonic/Video Remote Solutions	Video Remote Interpreting Solutions	42,000	42,000
Solano	Technology 1 – Telephonic/Video Remote Solutions	Courtroom Audiovisual Upgrades	600,000	180,427
Sonoma	Technology 3 – Virtual Assistance, Scheduling, or Other Software	Automated Hearing Reminder System	28,350	28,350
Sutter	Signage 4 – Automated Queue Management System	Public Signage/Queueing Upgrades	62,614	62,614
Yolo	Technology 5 – Audiovisual Systems Upgrades	Courtroom Audiovisual Hardware Upgrades	2,450,000	180,427
Totals			\$15,168,999	\$2,350,000



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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.:

For business meeting on July 16, 2026

Judicial Branch Technology: Jury Management System Grant Program Allocations for Fiscal Year 2026–27

Judicial Council Report Details (Draft)

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected

None

Effective Date

July 17, 2026

Recommended by

Judicial Council Technology Committee
Hon. Maria D. Hernandez, Chair
Mr. David Slayton, Vice-Chair

Date of Report

April 30, 2026

Contact

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916-643-6907

Report Type

Action Required

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Executive Summary

The Judicial Council Technology Committee recommends approving proposed allocations totaling \$600,000 for fiscal year 2026–27 for the Jury Management System Grant. The goal of the Jury Management System Grant is to improve the juror experience and reduce court resource needs by enhancing access to information. In this cycle, 15 trial courts submitted grant applications for a total of 17 projects.

Recommendation

The Technology Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 17, 2026, approve the proposed allocations totaling \$600,000 for the Jury Management System Grant Program (JMS Grant Program) and direct Judicial Council staff to work on intrabranch agreements with each awarded court.

Relevant Previous Council Action

In fiscal year (FY) 2025–26, the Judicial Council approved the Technology Committee’s recommended allocations totaling \$500,000 in awards to courts for the JMS Grant Program.¹ The Technology Committee approved these grant allocations in prior years.

Analysis/Rationale

Background

The JMS Grant Program is funded through royalties from Judicial Council–developed jury instructions; the royalties are deposited into the Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund and designated exclusively for jury-related technology projects. The program also encourages courts to develop diverse funding strategies that align with current or planned technology initiatives, thereby enhancing juror access to information. Funds from the program are awarded each fiscal year. Courts apply for funding by submitting project descriptions and other information to Judicial Council Information Technology staff. For FY 2026–27, approximately \$600,000 is available in JMS Grant Program funding.

Evaluation criteria and application

Grant requests are evaluated using established objectives, prioritization categories, and funding considerations to ensure that recommended awards align with program goals and branch needs.

JMS Grant Program Objectives

The following objectives guide the review of grant requests:

- Maximize the number of courts receiving funding.
- Support courts in upgrading jury system software/infrastructure.
- Prioritize enhancements that reduce court costs.
- Improve juror experience and reduce court resource needs by enhancing access to information.

JMS Grant Program project prioritization categories

Consistent with the objectives outlined above, the following prioritization categories further guide the recommendations set forth in this report.

1. Jury Management System Replacement/Upgrade—Keeps jury management systems current and supported.
2. Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System, Interactive Web Response (IWR) System, or Other Module Enhancements—Reduces staff workload and provides jurors easier access to information.
3. Self-Check-In—Enables jurors to check in independently.
4. Imaging—Automates responses to paper correspondence and phone requests.

¹ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Technology: Jury Management System Grants, Fiscal Year 2025-26](#) (June 16, 2025).

5. Peripheral Hardware—Includes scanners, printers, mail equipment, and audiovisual tools.
6. Juror Experience Equipment—Enhances the juror experience with items like charging stations and monitors.

JMS Grant Program additional funding considerations

1. Ongoing costs (e.g., subscriptions, maintenance), are not eligible for funding.
2. No court may receive more than 10 percent of the total budget unless surplus funds remain after qualifying projects are funded.
3. Staff may consider whether a court has received funding through the JMS Grant Program in recent years.

Application process

On January 14, 2026, Judicial Council Information Technology released a memorandum to courts on how to request funding for various technology grant opportunities via a single application process. The deadline for courts to apply was February 6, 2026.

Judicial Council staff coordinated the review of FY 2026–27 JMS Grant Program requests alongside other technology funding programs—such as the Information Technology Modernization Funding Program and the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program—to ensure that no court receives duplicate funding for the same project.

Allocations and Recommendations

For FY 2026–27, 15 courts submitted 17 jury technology project proposals. All projects can be funded by the \$600,000 FY 2026–27 allocation, with 12 projects fully funded and 5 projects receiving partial awards. To maximize statewide impact, partial awards are based on the projects' relative cost, scope, and alignment with available resources. These adjustments are consistent with recent funding patterns and ensure that essential modernization efforts can move forward across the state. All courts recommended for partial awards have confirmed their ability to complete their projects using alternate funding sources.

Specific funding levels, including partial award adjustments, are presented in Attachment A, which provides the complete list of court requests and recommended allocations.

Policy implications

By allocating approximately \$600,000 in JMS Grant Program funding directly to trial courts, the Judicial Council will improve access to jury information and the juror experience. Allocating funds directly to individual courts for projects that meet the key criteria described above allows them to best serve the needs of their communities, while remaining aligned with the *Strategic Plan for Technology* and *Tactical Plan for Technology*.

Comments

On [enter date], the Technology Committee held a public meeting and approved the recommended program objectives, court projects, and allocations. This proposal was not

circulated for public comment. However, the funding recommendations were considered in a meeting that was open to the public, and no public comments were received.

Alternatives considered

No other alternatives were considered because the recommended allocations were calculated using the funding methodology approved by the Technology Committee.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

Awarding JMS Grant Program funding does not impose costs on the awarded courts other than costs associated with the projects that are funded by the awards. Any cost overruns from these projects are the responsibility of the individual courts. Some projects may lead to reduced operational expenses.

Attachments and Links

1. Attachment A: Jury Management System Grant Program, FY 2026–27: Proposed Allocations

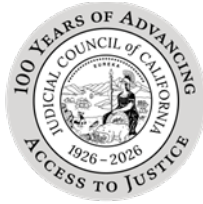
Jury Management System Grant Program, FY 2026–27: Proposed Allocations (Draft)

#	Court	Description	Requested Allocation	Proposed Allocation	JMS Program Priority Category
1	Butte	Hardware Replacement A/V in Jury Rooms	\$70,914	\$45,914*	Peripheral Hardware
	Butte	Jury Management System Upgrade	42,457	42,457	Jury Management System Upgrade
2	Calaveras	Self-Check-In Kiosk	5,670	5,670	Self-Check-In
3	Colusa	Jury Case Management System Module Upgrade	18,887	18,887	Jury Management System Upgrade
4	Kings	Juror Orientation Video—Spanish Audio Upgrade	5,800	5,800	Juror Experience Equipment
5	Lassen	Self-Check-In Kiosks	7,623	7,623	Self-Check-In
6	Madera	Juror Experience Technical Equipment	62,224	41,349*	Peripheral Hardware
7	Napa	Jury Management System Upgrade	7,000	7,000	Jury Management System Upgrade
8	Nevada	Jury Management System Cloud Migration	32,000	32,000	Self-Check-In
9	Placer	Jury Case Management System Module Upgrade	15,000	15,000	Jury Management System Upgrade
10	San Benito	Jury Management System Replacement	90,782	65,782*	Jury Management System Replacement
11	San Francisco	IVR/IWR Enhancement	215,600	100,000*	IVR/IWR Enhancements
12	Santa Clara	Jury Management System Upgrade	38,000	38,000	Jury Management System Upgrade
	Santa Clara	Jury Room Scanners and TVs	5,000	5,000	Peripheral Hardware
13	Santa Cruz	Jury Management System Upgrade	75,000	50,000*	Jury Management System Upgrade
14	Sutter	Jury Management System Cloud Migration	105,018	105,018	Jury Management System Upgrade
15	Yuba	Jury Case Management System Module Upgrade	14,500	14,500	Jury Management System Upgrade
		Total:	\$811,475	\$600,000	

*Indicates projects recommended for partial funding to maximize statewide distribution of funds based on program-wide prioritization factors.

DRAFT

Court	Project Title	Proposed Funding
5DCA	CoCounsel Pilot - Supreme Court & Courts of Appeal »	\$ 548,460
Alameda	Network Access Control Security Modernization	\$ 136,000
Alameda	Compute and Storage Capacity Infrastructure Modernization	\$ 101,000
Amador*	IT Infrastructure	\$ 128,500
Butte	Court Hearings Self-Scheduling Tool »	\$ 426,967
Calaveras*	MFA Badge Scanners	\$ 49,700
Contra Costa	Web Application & Infrastructure Health Check (Audit & Pentest)	\$ 85,000
Contra Costa	Identity & Device Management Modernization	\$ 63,000
Contra Costa	Information security audit 2024 remediation	\$ 65,000
Del Norte*	Evidence Management	\$ 19,474
Fresno	Badge access system	\$ 300,000
Imperial	Upgrade DMV Server with our CMS	\$ 23,507
Inyo*	Cyber Security Protections	\$ 3,065
Kern	Kern - Project A - ThreatLocker	\$ 345,668
Kings	CMS Backups	\$ 22,000
Kings	Active Directory Migration and Security Hardening	\$ 4,500
Kings	VOIP Phone System	\$ 45,000
Lassen*	Case Management System Replacement	\$ 1,728,750
Los Angeles	CourtOrder »	\$ 3,500,000
Marin	Court Minutes Modernization: Training and Implementation Support	\$ 15,000
Nevada	Network Microsegmentation	\$ 12,000
Orange	Software-Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN)	\$ 150,000
Orange	Public Applications Security Re-Architecture Program	\$ 240,000
Orange	Cloud Security Posture Management (CSPM)	\$ 75,000
Orange	Vision NG	\$ 300,000
Placer	Placer & Placer Court Hosting Center Server Infrastructure Upgrade »	\$ 607,300
Riverside	Third Party Application Security & AI Risk Management Project	\$ 75,000
Riverside*	Integrated Digital Court Recording and Audio Search Platform	\$ 60,140
Sacramento	Ransomware Prevention and Resilience Initiative	\$ 210,000
San Benito*	Court Network Security and URL Filtering Enhancement	\$ 5,000
San Benito*	CMS-Enabled Automated Party Notification System	\$ 12,000
San Bernardino	Enhanced Endpoint Protection - Zero Trust Execution Control	\$ 300,000
San Diego	Upgrade Critical Network Load Balancers Appliances	\$ 300,000
San Diego	Odyssey (ODY) Integrations Project	\$ 200,000
San Diego	Security Appliance Hardware Migration/Replacement	\$ 150,000
San Francisco	AI Security Information and Event Management	\$ 800,000
Santa Clara	Network Detection and Response	\$ 150,000
Santa Clara	Privileged Access Management	\$ 75,000
Santa Clara	Cloud - Disaster Recovery	\$ 150,000
Santa Cruz	Internal MFA	\$ 71,328
Sierra*	Electronic Filing »	\$ 125,000
Solano	CMS Collaborative Courts Module	\$ 50,000
Solano	Enhancement of Data Protection Appliance & Services	\$ 37,380
Solano	3rd Party Application Patch Management & MDM	\$ 13,214
Solano	Redundant Internet Connection at Vallejo Courthouse	\$ 27,054
Stanislaus	QC Desktop – Courtroom Forms Modernization	\$ 120,000
Sutter	Endpoint Management and Patching Solution	\$ 25,000
Tulare	Identity Threat Detection and Response	\$ 133,993
Ventura	Disaster Recovery	\$ 415,000
		\$ 12,500,000
Waitlist		
Riverside	Integrated Digital Court Recording and Audio Search Platform	\$ 309,860
San Diego	AI Solutions – Automating Family Law Judgment Processing	\$ 200,000
Monterey	Locally Hosted Large Language Model	\$ 67,461
Merced	Document Digitization Project	\$ 154,950
Sonoma	Offsite Records Digitization	\$ 260,685
San Bernardino	Court Access Portal (CAP) Architecture Update »	\$ 500,000
1DCA	Digitization of Court Records »	\$ 400,000
Madera	Court Mobile Application	\$ 28,500
Marin	Court Access Chatbot	\$ 96,875
Shasta	Shasta Intake System	\$ 75,250
*Small Courts - as defined by the "Cluster" size (based on numbers of authorized judicial positions)		
» Identifies collaboration projects in which multiple courts have committed to benefit from the solution.		
DCA = District Court of Appeal		



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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.:

For business meeting on July 17, 2026

Judicial Branch Technology: *Technology Governance and Funding Model*

Judicial Council Report Details (Draft)

Submitted by

Judicial Council Technology Committee

Hon. Maria D. Hernandez, Chair

Mr. David Slayton, Vice-Chair

Date of Report

April 27, 2026

Contact

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Report Type

Information

Executive Summary

The Judicial Council Technology Committee is updating the Judicial Branch *Technology Governance and Funding Model*, which has remained unchanged since its adoption in 2014. This model provides the foundation for the branch's *Strategic Plan for Technology* and *Tactical Plan for Technology* and ensures a comprehensive, cohesive approach to branchwide technology strategy. Because technology has advanced significantly over the past decade and the needs of the courts, court users, and the judicial branch have evolved in parallel, updating the governance and funding model is essential to address these changes and position the branch for continued progress. The purpose of this report is to inform the council that while this work is underway, the existing *Strategic Plan for Technology* and *Tactical Plan for Technology* will remain in effect and will not be revised until an updated governance and funding model is approved by the Judicial Council.

Relevant Previous Reporting or Action

The Judicial Council adopted the initial *Court Technology Governance and Strategic Plan*¹—which included the *Technology Governance and Funding Model*, the *Strategic Plan for Technology*, and the *Tactical Plan for Technology*—in September 2014. An updated *Court Technology Governance and Strategic Plan*² was adopted in November 2014 to reflect the importance of language access in the plan.

In September 2015,³ the council amended rules 10.16 and 10.53 of the California Rules of Court to implement the *Court Technology Governance and Strategic Plan* and revise the roles and responsibilities of the Technology Committee and the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC). The Technology Committee develops, recommends, and oversees the strategic plan and, for the tactical plan, sets priorities and provides oversight approval. ITAC provides input on the strategic plan and, for the tactical plan, develops, recommends, solicits input on, and sponsors initiatives.

The model directs the Judicial Council to adopt a strategic technology plan every four years and a tactical technology plan every two years. The strategic plan was updated and adopted in December 2018⁴ and again in January 2023.⁵ The tactical plan was updated and adopted in March 2017,⁶ May 2019,⁷ March 2021,⁸ July 2023,⁹ and April 2025.¹⁰

¹ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Court Technology Governance and Strategic Plan](#) (August 7, 2014).

² Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Update to Court Technology Governance and Strategic Plan](#) (October 2, 2014).

³ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Administration: Implementation of Court Technology Governance and Strategic Plan](#) (August 11, 2015).

⁴ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Strategic Plan for Technology 2019–2022](#) (November 9, 2018).

⁵ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Technology: Strategic Plan for Technology 2023–2026](#) (December 14, 2022).

⁶ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Tactical Plan for Technology 2017–2018](#) (March 2, 2017).

⁷ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Tactical Plan for Technology 2019–2020](#) (May 16, 2019).

⁸ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Tactical Plan for Technology 2021–2022](#) (February 11, 2021).

⁹ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Tactical Plan for Technology 2023–2024](#) (June 22, 2023).

¹⁰ Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., [Judicial Branch Administration: Tactical Plan for Technology 2025–2026](#) (April 7, 2025).

Analysis/Rationale

The *Technology Governance and Funding Model* adopted in 2014 has provided a strong foundation for guiding branchwide technology decisions. Over the past decade, the technology landscape has evolved significantly. Courts and court users increasingly rely on cloud-based services, advanced cybersecurity, data analytics, and user-focused digital platforms. Funding approaches have also evolved, particularly through the creation of an IT Modernization program and the critical need to address the rising costs of maintaining existing technologies. Collaboration across the branch and courts has grown more effective and strategic. To ensure the governance structure remains responsive to these changes, the model needs to be updated so that technology investments align with evolving business objectives and strategic priorities guide decision-making, planning, and resource allocation.

To begin this work, the Technology Committee is initiating a comprehensive review and update of the current model, including an assessment of technology trends, best practices, stakeholder needs, and funding considerations. This effort is estimated to take 18 to 24 months and includes time to convene a dedicated workstream, conduct analysis, develop recommendations, and gather input from stakeholders throughout the branch. While this effort is underway, the existing *Strategic Plan for Technology* and *Tactical Plan for Technology* will remain in effect.

The Technology Committee and ITAC chairs reviewed the current strategic and tactical plans for technology and confirmed that both continue to reflect branch priorities and align with current operational needs. To maintain continuity while the governance and funding model is updated, both plans will be extended through 2029 to allow sufficient time for a comprehensive update of the governance and funding model to be completed and presented to the Judicial Council. Work on updating the next strategic and tactical plans will begin thereafter. Table 1 summarizes the current effective periods, the extended time frames needed to maintain continuity, and the estimated timing of the next plan cycles based on the milestones in Table 2.

Table 1. Current and Proposed Governance and Plan Time Frames

Document	Current Time Frame	Extended Time Frame (through governance update completion)	Next Cycle (estimated)
<i>Technology Governance and Funding Model</i>	effective October 2014	effective April 2028	indefinite
<i>Strategic Plan for Technology</i>	2023–2026	2027–2029	2030–2033
<i>Tactical Plan for Technology</i>	2025–2026	2027–2029	2030–2031

In addition to extending the effective periods of the plans, an estimated timeline has been developed to illustrate the dependencies between updating the governance and funding model and initiating subsequent updates to the strategic and tactical plans. This estimated timeline demonstrates why the extension is required and provides transparency regarding the anticipated

flow of work, including stakeholder engagement and preparation for future Judicial Council consideration. Table 2 outlines the time frames and milestones for this work and explains how the timing supports the extended plan periods shown in Table 1.

Table 2. Estimated Timeline of Governance Plan Updates

Estimated Date	Milestone
July 2026	Recommend extension of existing plans to the Judicial Council
September 2026	Commence governance and funding model workstream
April 2028	Present updated governance and funding model to the Judicial Council
May 2028	Commence update to strategic plan workstream
September 2028	Commence update to tactical plan workstream
December 2029	Present updated strategic plan to the Judicial Council
February 2030	Present updated tactical plan to the Judicial Council

Fiscal Impact and Policy Implications

Updating the governance and funding model and maintaining the current strategic and tactical technology plans during this process will not impose any one-time or ongoing costs on the courts or the Judicial Council, other than staff time. An up-to-date governance framework provides the foundation for technology direction, ensuring accountability, transparency, and clarity in decision-making. An update strengthens the branch’s ability to secure new branch funding for both transformative innovation and the rising costs of ongoing maintenance and operations required to keep core systems reliable. Historically, maintaining and adhering to the governance structure has resulted in additional funding for technology initiatives that enhance branch operations and court services to the public.

The updated model will reflect the evolving technology landscape and guide strategic and tactical planning to achieve branchwide goals. This alignment advances the judicial branch strategic plan¹¹ by promoting equal access to justice, improving operational efficiency, and fostering innovation in court services. Keeping our governance framework current enables consistent and reliable digital services, enhances transparency, and supports fairness in technology-driven processes—all of which advance the branch’s core values and commitment to public trust.

Attachments and Links

1. None

¹¹ [*The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch.*](#)