

## JUDICIAL COUNCIL of CALIFORNIA

455 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3688 Tel. 415-865-4200 Fax 415-865-4205 www.courts.ca.gov

#### HON. PATRICIA GUERRERO

Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council

HON. BRAD R. HILL

Chair, Executive and Planning Committee

#### HON. ANN C. MOORMAN

Chair, Judicial Branch Budget Committee Chair, Litigation Management Committee

## HON. STACY BOULWARE EURIE

Chair, Legislation Committee

#### HON. CARIN T. FUJISAKI

Chair, Rules Committee

#### HON. KYLE S. BRODIE

Chair, Technology Committee

Hon. Maria Lucy Armendariz

Hon. Bunmi O. Awoniyi

Hon. C. Todd Bottke

Hon. Carol A. Corrigan

Hon. Charles S. Crompton

Hon. Judith K. Dulcich

Hon. Maureen F. Hallahan

Hon. Maria D. Hernandez

Ms. Rachel W. Hill

Ms. Gretchen Nelson

Mr. Craig M. Peters Mr. Maxwell V. Pritt

Hon. Thomas J. Umbera

Hon. Tamara L. Wood

#### ADVISORY MEMBERS

Hon. Khymberli S. Apaloo

Ms. Kate Bieker

Hon. Ryan Davis

Hon. Joan K. Irion

Mr. Charles Johnson

Mr. Darrel E. Parker Hon, Lisa M. Rogan

Mr. David H. Yamasaki

#### MS. MICHELLE CURRAN

Administrative Director Judicial Council December 31, 2024

Ms. Cara L. Jenkins Legislative Counsel 1021 O Street, Suite 3210 Sacramento, California 95814

Ms. Erika Contreras Secretary of the Senate State Capitol, Room 307 Sacramento, California 95814

Ms. Sue Parker Chief Clerk of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 319 Sacramento, California 95814

Re: State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2023–24, as required under Government Code section 77209(i)

Dear Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Contreras, and Ms. Parker:

Under Government Code section 77209(i), the Judicial Council is submitting *State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Expenditures* in Fiscal Year 2023–24.

In fiscal year 2023–24, \$43.9 million was expended or encumbered from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund for various programs and projects that support the trial courts. The programs represent efforts by the judicial branch to improve services to the public and increase access to justice. Detailed expenditures by program can be found in Attachment 2 of the report.

Ms. Cara L. Jenkins Ms. Erika Contreras Ms. Sue Parker December 31, 2024 Page 2

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Judicial Council Budget Services, at 916-263-1397 or <a href="mailto:zlatko.theodorovic@jud.ca.gov">zlatko.theodorovic@jud.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Michelle Curran

Administrative Director

Middle J. Curan

Judicial Council

#### MC/HS

**Enclosures** 

Emelyn Rodriguez, General Counsel, Office of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas Anita Lee, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office Shaun Naidu, Policy Consultant, Office of Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office Mark Jimenez, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance Henry Ng, Budget Analyst, Department of Finance Margie Estrada, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee Mary Kennedy, Chief Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee Liah Burnley, Principal Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee Hans Hemann, Principal Consultant, Joint Legislative Budget Committee Eric Csizmar, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office Alison Merrilees, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee Andrew Ironside, Chief Counsel, Assembly Public Safety Committee Nora Brackbill, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee Jennifer Kim, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee Annika Carlson, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee Lyndsay Mitchell, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget Cory T. Jasperson, Director, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Budget Services, Judicial Council Fran Mueller, Deputy Director, Budget Services, Judicial Council Angela Cowans, Manager, Budget Services, Judicial Council Lynette Stephens, Supervisor, Budget Services, Judicial Council Alona Daniliuk, Administrative Coordinator, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council

cc: Eric Dang, Counsel, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL of CALIFORNIA

455 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3688 Tel. 415-865-4200 Fax 415-865-4205 www.courts.ca.gov

#### HON. PATRICIA GUERRERO

Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council

HON. BRAD R. HILL

Chair, Executive and Planning Committee

#### HON. ANN C. MOORMAN

Chair, Judicial Branch Budget Committee Chair, Litigation Management Committee

#### HON. STACY BOULWARE EURIE

Chair, Legislation Committee

## HON. CARIN T. FUJISAKI

Chair, Rules Committee

#### HON. KYLE S. BRODIE

Chair, Technology Committee

Hon. Maria Lucy Armendariz

Hon Bunmi O Autoniui

Hon. C. Todd Bottke

Hon. Carol A. Corrigan

Hon. Charles S. Crompton

Hon. Judith K. Dulcich

Hon Maureen F Hallahan

Hon. Maria D. Hernandez

Ms. Rachel W. Hill

Ms. Gretchen Nelson

Mr. Craig M. Peters Mr. Maxwell V. Pritt

Hon, Thomas J. Umbera

Hon. Tamara L. Wood

#### ADVISORY MEMBERS

Hon. Khymberli S. Apaloo

Ms. Kate Bieker

Hon. Ryan Davis

Hon. Joan K. Irion

Mr. Charles Johnson

Mr. Darrel E. Parker

Hon, Lisa M. Rogan

Mr. David H. Yamasaki

#### MS. MICHELLE CURRAN

Administrative Director Judicial Council

Report title: State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2023-24

Statutory citation: Government Code section 77209(i)

Date of report: December 31, 2024

The Judicial Council has submitted a report to the Legislature in accordance with Government Code section 77209(i). The following summary of the report is provided under the requirements of Government Code section 9795.

The State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund supports statewide services for the trial courts including (1) ongoing technology programs and infrastructure initiatives, (2) educational and development programs, (3) innovative and model programs, and (4) other special projects.

In fiscal year 2023–24, \$43.9 million was expended or encumbered from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund for various programs and projects that support the trial courts. The programs represent efforts by the judicial branch to improve services to the public and increase access to justice.

The full report can be accessed at www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm.

## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

#### Hon. Patricia Guerrero

Chief Justice of California and Chair of the Judicial Council

#### Michelle Curran

Administrative Director Judicial Council

#### **BUDGET SERVICES**

**Zlatko Theodorovic** 

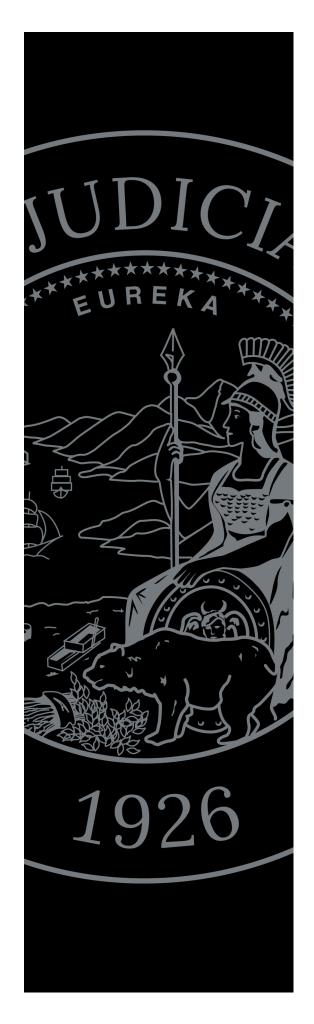
Director

## Angela Cowan

Manager

#### **Heather Staton**

Senior Fiscal Analyst and Primary Author of Report



State Trial Court
Improvement and
Modernization Fund
Expenditures in Fiscal
Year 2023–24

DECEMBER 2024



## **Table of Contents**

Recommendations	1
Resources, Expenditures, and Fund Balance Overview	1
Services and Programs for Trial Courts	1
Audit Services	2
Branch Accounting and Procurement	2
Treasury Services—Cash Management	2
Trial Court Procurement	2
Budget Services	2
Budget-Focused Training and Meetings	2
Centralized Rent for All IMF-Funded Positions	2
Business Management Services	2
Data Analytics Advisory Committee	2
Center for Families, Children & the Courts	3
Court Interpreters Program—Testing, Development, Recruitment, and Education	3
Interactive Software—Electronic Forms for Self-Represented Litigants	3
Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Project	3
Self-Help Centers	3
Statewide Multidisciplinary Education	3
Statewide Support for Self-Help Programs	4
Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER)	4
CJER Faculty—Trial Court Faculty Costs—Statewide Education Programs	4
Essential Court Management Education	4
Essential Court Personnel Education	4
Experienced Judge Education	5
New Judge Education	6

Human Resources	6
Trial Court Labor Relations Training	6
Information Technology	7
California Courts Protective Order Registry	7
Data Center & Cloud Service	7
Data Integration	7
Digitizing Court Records	7
Jury Management Systems	7
Statewide Planning and Development Support	8
Telecommunications Support	8
Leadership Support Services	9
Judicial Performance Defense Insurance	9
Legal Services	10
Jury System Improvement Projects	10
Litigation Management Program	10
Regional Office Assistance Group & Trial Court Transactional Assistance Progr	ram 10
Attachments	10

## State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2023–24

#### **Recommendations**

Under Government Code section 77209(i), the Judicial Council is required to submit an annual report to the Legislature on the use of the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund (IMF), with appropriate recommendations as needed. There are no recommendations included in this report.

#### Resources, Expenditures, and Fund Balance Overview

In fiscal year 2023–24, the IMF was supported by a variety of revenue sources including:

- A 50-50 split of excess fees, fines, and forfeitures revenue under Government Code section 77205(a);
- Moneys from the 2 percent automation fund under Government Code section 68090.8(b);
- Interest from the Surplus Money Investment Fund;
- Royalties from publication of jury instructions under Government Code section 77209(h);
   and
- A transfer from the state General Fund.

Including prior-year adjustments and transfers into the Trial Court Trust Fund, the total available resources for the IMF were \$82.3 million (Attachment 1).

For fiscal year 2023–24, a total of \$43.9 million was expended or encumbered for various programs, projects, and statewide administrative costs that support the trial courts. Expenditures include but are not limited to self-help centers, education programs for judicial officers and trial court personnel, complex civil litigation programs, and information technology (Attachment 2).

Based on the resources that were available for fiscal year 2023–24 and the final expenditures and encumbrances, the fund ended the fiscal year with an estimated balance of \$38.4 million (Attachment 3).

#### **Services and Programs for Trial Courts**

The Judicial Council approved allocations from the IMF to various offices within the council that provide services and administer programs for the trial courts. These services and programs are intended to improve trial court administration, efficiency, case processing, and the timeliness of trials, as well as increase access to justice throughout the state.

A description of how the IMF allocation was used for each service and program is described below and organized by the Judicial Council office providing the services.

#### **Audit Services**

\$361,000 was expended for the salaries, benefits, and support costs for two auditor positions. Seven court audit reports were completed. Audit Services performs recurring audits of the state's 58 trial courts to assess their compliance with statute and Judicial Council policies and procedures. These audits include the review of various aspects of court operations, including court procurement activity, the accuracy of reported case filings, and vendor payment controls.

#### **Branch Accounting and Procurement**

#### **Treasury Services—Cash Management**

\$91,000 was expended for the Treasury Services Cash Management program, which manages and monitors the trial court treasury, including all cash and investments held in branch bank accounts on behalf of the trial courts.

#### **Trial Court Procurement**

\$141,000 was expended for one position to maintain statewide contracts for the trial courts. The statewide contracts are leveraged procurement agreements designed to consolidate the procurement needs of the courts and leverage their combined buying power to reduce prices, improve terms and conditions, and improve procurement efficiency. Branch Accounting and Procurement staff currently maintain approximately 45 statewide contracts within 17 goods/services categories on behalf of the trial courts, which are publicly accessible.

#### **Budget Services**

#### **Budget-Focused Training and Meetings**

\$1,500 in travel costs were expended by the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee. This committee provides input on the trial court budget process for the benefit of all trial courts statewide and makes recommendations to the Judicial Branch Budget Committee and Judicial Council on trial court funding consistent with council goals.

#### **Centralized Rent for All IMF-Funded Positions**

\$257,000 was expended for rent for all work space designated for IMF-funded positions.

#### **Business Management Services**

#### **Data Analytics Advisory Committee**

\$7,000 was expended on travel expenses for in-person Data Analytics Advisory Committee meetings and member attendance at the Gartner Data and Analytics Conference and a data analytics summit hosted by the Judicial Council. The committee makes recommendations to the Judicial Council regarding the collection, use, and sharing of judicial branch data and information to inform decision-making, promote transparency, and improve the administration of justice while ensuring the security of nonpublic data and data sources.

#### Center for Families, Children & the Courts

#### Court Interpreters Program—Testing, Development, Recruitment, and Education

\$143,000 was expended to support the court interpreter testing program. The Judicial Council's Court Interpreters Program contracts with Prometric, LLC (a third-party exam administrator for the interpreting testing program) to provide the following services: administering interpreting exams, training, managing exam proctors and raters, operating a customer support call center, updating existing and developing new exams, processing appeals, providing reports, and maintaining public information on the Judicial Council website.

The Court Interpreters Program worked with Prometric to conduct court interpreter testing to provide more testing opportunities. For the Bilingual Interpreting Examination, which is required for certified languages, testing was available for up to 600 candidates in July through September of 2023. Testing was also available year-round for the Written Examination and the Oral Proficiency Examination.

#### Interactive Software—Electronic Forms for Self-Represented Litigants

\$60,000 was expended to develop document assembly software programs that simplify the process of completing Judicial Council forms and other pleadings. Using a "TurboTax" model, litigants enter information once and the program automatically populates that information on the form, saving substantial time and assisting self-represented litigants in preparing thorough and accurate pleadings.

#### **Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Project**

\$212,000 was expended by legal services organizations under the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Project. This supplemental funding was provided to the programs from fees collected under Assembly Bill 590 (Stats. 2009, ch. 457). These projects provide legal representation to low-income parties on critical legal issues affecting basic human needs and are operated by legal services nonprofit corporations working in collaboration with their local trial courts.

#### **Self-Help Centers**

\$5 million was expended by the trial courts for public self-help center programs and operations that increase the efficiency of other court operations.

#### Statewide Multidisciplinary Education

\$67,000 was expended for statewide multidisciplinary education. Of this amount, \$47,000 was to support the 2024 Virtual Child and Family Focused Education (CAFFE) conference and \$20,000 was for the 2024 Youth Court Summit.

The 2024 Virtual CAFFE conference provided mandated training for court-connected mediators, child custody recommending counselors, evaluators, and their leadership. The Family Court Services Statewide Educational Institute included an open discussion between family law judges and institute leadership held in conjunction with the Family Law Institute. These programs, attended by approximately 280 participants, fulfilled the mandated education requirements as

stated in rule 10.491 of the California Rules of Court and provided continuing education units for attorneys, psychologists, and licensed mental health professionals.

The theme of the in-person 2024 Youth Court Summit conference was "Building Bridges Through Restorative Justice" and included education on civic engagement; the effects of adverse childhood experiences and trauma; substance use disorder, including fentanyl awareness; and promising practices for youth courts. There were 172 registrants reflecting youth and adult participants from 15 California youth courts, including attendees from the states of Florida and Washington who were interested in learning more about California's youth court models.

#### **Statewide Support for Self-Help Programs**

\$62,000 was expended to support statewide services available to court self-help centers in the 58 trial courts. The allocation supported updates to instructional materials and forms used by self-help centers and the public, a web platform for education for self-help center staff, and self-help center webinars. It also paid for legal updates and new content for the online Self-Help Guide to the California Courts and the new statewide Self-Help Portal.

#### Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER)

\$1.5 million was expended for faculty education, education for essential court personnel, judicial education for experienced judges, and new judges' education.

#### **CJER Faculty—Trial Court Faculty Costs—Statewide Education Programs**

\$23,000 was expended for faculty development programs and course design workshops. These programs and workshops are foundational for new faculty and are designed to support specific courses or programs including the new judge orientation and judicial college programs.

#### **Essential Court Management Education**

\$7,000 was expended for remote and in-person court manager and supervisor education.

- Core leadership courses. The core leadership series of courses are multiple-day programs
  that provide an intensive experience for new and experienced trial court supervisors and
  managers.
- Institute for Court Management courses. These courses lead to certification by the National Center for State Courts in many national curriculum areas related to court management. The courses provide relevant education for court leaders based on the core competencies identified by the National Association for Court Management.

#### **Essential Court Personnel Education**

\$240,000 was expended for participant and faculty costs associated with court personnel education. This instruction included video, regional, and local education offerings as well as the Trial Court Judicial Attorney Institute and the Court Clerk Training Institute.

• Regional and local court staff education courses. In-person and remote courses covered a wide array of topics including but not limited to human resources, courtroom clerk responsibilities, and case processing in the major court assignments of appellate case processing, civil, criminal, probate, family, juvenile, and traffic. Other courses included broad topics relevant to all court staff, such as leadership skills and identifying and preventing workplace sexual harassment. The CJER Advisory Committee's curriculum committee identified a need for these courses, which were taught by experienced court personnel and CJER faculty.

#### **Experienced Judge Education**

\$165,000 was expended for primary assignment and continuing education courses for experienced judges.

- *Primary Assignment Orientation*. In addition to the primary assignment courses for new judges, CJER offers assignment courses for experienced judges who are moving into new assignments that are substantively more complex and nuanced than their former assignments (e.g., felony sentencing, homicide trials, and capital cases). These programs are also designed to fulfill other statutory or case law–based education requirements.
  - Domestic violence issues. These courses are funded by the IMF and grant funding. By completing the domestic violence courses, judges and subordinate judicial officers also meet the specified education requirements and expectations of California Rules of Court, rule 10.464.
- Continuing Judicial Education for Experienced Judges
  - o Advanced judicial education courses for experienced judges. CJER develops and provides advanced courses for experienced judges. These continuing education courses were designed to address advanced judging issues and include such courses such as "Complex Civil Litigation," "Civil and Criminal Evidence," and "Experienced Probate Law" as well as specialized courses in handling domestic violence and sexual assault cases. These statewide programs provide judges and subordinate judicial officers with the opportunity to work with and learn from their colleagues and exchange techniques and strategies.
  - Judicial institutes. In fiscal year 2023–24, the Cow County Institute was held in person, while the other substantive law institutes (Criminal Law, Civil Law, Family Law, Juvenile Law, and Probate Law Institutes) were offered remotely. CJER offers these judicial institutes as well as specific programs for appellate justices, rural court judges, appellate court attorneys, and trial court attorneys.
  - o *Leadership training*. In fiscal year 2023–24, the Presiding Judge/Court Executive Officer Management Institute and the Supervising Judge Institute were held in

person. These programs offer participants a chance to learn management techniques, strategies, and best practices designed for the unique environment of the courts. They enable judges to fulfill continuing education hours and expectations under California Rules of Court, rule 10.462(c)(2).

#### **New Judge Education**

\$1.1 million was expended for new judge education. California Rules of Court, rule 10.462(c)(1) requires all newly elected and appointed judges and subordinate judicial officers to attend the New Judge Orientation program within six months of taking the oath of office, to take an orientation course in their primary assignment within one year of taking the oath of office, and to attend the B. E. Witkin Judicial College within two years of taking the oath of office. By rule of court, the Judicial Council's CJER is the sole provider for these education programs.

- *New Judge Orientation*. Twenty in-person sessions were delivered in fiscal year 2023–24 with an overall capacity of 280 participants. The specific number of courses required in any given year depends on the number of judicial officers appointed, elected, or hired (in the case of subordinate judicial officers) in that year. In fiscal year 2023–24, there were a significantly higher number of judicial appointments than in previous years.
- *Primary Assignment Orientation*. Fifteen in-person courses were delivered in fiscal year 2023–24. These courses provide new judges and subordinate judicial officers with an intense immersion into their primary assignment (civil, criminal, probate, family, juvenile, or traffic), with a strong emphasis on detailed procedures, protocols, and classroom exercises designed to test skills in the assignment.
- **B. E. Witkin Judicial College.** The two-week judicial college was offered during fiscal year 2023–24.

These educational courses provide staggered opportunities for new judges and subordinate judicial officers to develop relationships that can support them throughout their careers.

#### **Human Resources**

#### **Trial Court Labor Relations Training**

\$13,000 was expended for participants and faculty of the Trial Court Labor Relations training. The training is provided to prepare court management teams to meet legal requirements, anticipate and recognize potential problems, and know when to seek professional support on specific labor relations and employment law topics. There were 82 participants from 45 trial courts in attendance for the fiscal year 2023–24 training program.

#### Information Technology

#### **California Courts Protective Order Registry**

\$958,000 was expended to fund a statewide protective order registry that provides complete, accessible information on restraining and protective orders, including images of those orders, to the 47 participating counties, as well as limited read-only access to 14 tribal courts. The allocation covered the hosting costs of the California Courts Protective Order Registry application at the California Courts Technology Center, application maintenance and enhancements, updates required by legislative changes, and daily operational support to the courts and their local law enforcement agency partners that are users of the system.

#### **Data Center & Cloud Service**

\$5.8 million was expended for the Data Center & Cloud Service to provide ongoing technology center hosting for participating courts, shared services to the trial courts, and a full disaster-recovery program. Many courts leverage the contract with the vendor to receive information technology (IT) services for their courts, including Microsoft Office migration assistance, help desk services, file server management, cloud migration assistance, and other services as needed.

#### **Data Integration**

\$1.5 million was expended to continue work with trial courts to provide system interfaces among the Judicial Council and the courts and justice system partners, including law enforcement agencies and the California Department of Justice. The allocation covered the hosting costs of the Integration Services Backbone applications for Data Center & Cloud Service, infrastructure support, application maintenance and upgrades, and daily operational support to the courts for all environments, including testing, staging, and production.

Data integration supports the California Courts Protective Order Registry, e-filing for the appellate courts, and the California Disposition Reporting Exchange, which allows for electronic submission of disposition records to the Department of Justice. Currently, seven trial courts (Inyo, Lassen, Mono, Orange, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, and Tulare) are live with the exchange; the technology team is working to onboard additional courts.

#### **Digitizing Court Records**

\$722,000 was expended to fund the Superior Court of Madera County's efforts to digitize court records. This funding allowed the court to onboard a new vendor, complete their project activities, and to support their efforts to digitize over 13.4 million pages of court records and transform a court that relies on paper files into a digital court.

#### **Jury Management Systems**

\$665,000 was expended in jury grants awarded to eight courts for eight different jury projects. The types of jury projects that received funding included four projects for juror self-check-in solutions, three projects to upgrade courts' jury management systems, and one project to implement a phone/text reminder service for jurors.

#### **Statewide Planning and Development Support**

\$2.8 million was expended to provide enterprise products and services for use by the trial courts and to support the Judicial Council in providing tools and applications to manage projects and programs at an enterprise level.

This program provides the trial courts with access to a variety of products from Oracle and Gartner. The trial courts have access to products such as Oracle's Database Enterprise Edition, Real Application Clusters, Advanced Security, Diagnostics Pack, and WebLogic Server. Funding is provided to continue ongoing software maintenance for Adobe Forms and for access to educational resources that offer technical research and knowledge libraries, security and risk management best practices, and consultation with subject-matter experts.

The program also funded enterprise architect support services for several branchwide initiatives that will help improve and advance infrastructure services for the trial courts. The branchwide initiatives include oversight and support of the enterprise identity management system, the data warehouse/data share-house, the electronic Courts of Appeal Records and Transcripts (eCART) program, and technology to improve access for the public.

The enterprise identity management system enables the trial courts to have a standardized means to allow public access to court digital services. The data share-house initiative is a modern method for the trial courts to manage and share data with the branch and with other justice partners. The eCART program enables the trial courts to automate the assembly of transcripts and deliver them to the Courts of Appeal. The access technology initiative includes the application of intelligent chat technology, video remote access technology, and voice-to-text translation services, which are supported by data integration. In addition to the initiatives, the enterprise architect support services provided architectural oversight and guidance to existing branchwide trial court systems and programs, plus architectural and technical guidance to the trial courts, as needed.

#### **Telecommunications Support**

\$19.6 million was invested in the development, maintenance, and support of a standardized local- and wide-area network infrastructure for the trial courts. This robust infrastructure serves as the bedrock for the efficient deployment and operation of both local court and enterprise-level IT services and applications. Notably, it underpins critical functions such as those associated with the Data Center & Cloud Service.

Forty-four trial court locations were upgraded with state-of-the-art network components
to replace aging infrastructure that has reached the end of its operational lifespan. These
new network resources will enable seamless remote access to essential court services,
including hearings, data analytics, and cloud-based applications such as email and case
management.

- Fifty-five portable cellular routers were implemented at 20 court facilities to establish a cost-effective wireless broadband network. This wireless capability will serve the daily operational needs of the court while also ensuring robust disaster recovery capabilities.
- A comprehensive suite of network security services was established, which includes managed firewall services, intrusion detection and prevention mechanisms, vulnerability scanning, and web browser security enhancements. This holistic approach to security safeguards court data and operations from potential threats.
- Essential maintenance and support coverage for all networking equipment was provided, ensuring that the courts have uninterrupted vendor support for their entire network and security infrastructure. This coverage is crucial for maintaining the reliability and security of our court systems.
- Cisco Digital Network Architecture Enterprise licenses were offered to the trial courts to combine network licensing to offer a flexible and scalable approach to managing their network infrastructure. With this licensing model, trial courts' access to Cisco's advanced technologies and software features can be streamlined, ensuring they have the tools needed to optimize their network performance. This approach reduces cost, simplifies license management, supports growth, and provides the ability to quickly adapt to new technology requirements, ultimately enhancing the efficiency and agility of network operations.
- Cisco training credits were available to all the trial courts to access a wide range of Cisco's training courses and certifications. These trainings enhanced skills and ensured that court IT teams remained proficient in the latest networking and cybersecurity solutions. By using these credits, court IT leaders can invest in their team's professional development while maximizing the return on the Cisco investments.

#### Leadership Support Services

#### **Judicial Performance Defense Insurance**

\$1.7 million was expended to pay for the portion of the Commission on Judicial Performance defense master insurance policy that covers claims by trial court judges and subordinate judicial officers. The program covers defense costs in proceedings related to judicial performance complaints, protects judicial officers from exposure to excessive financial risk for acts committed within the scope of their judicial duties, and lowers the risk of conduct that could lead to complaints through required ethics training for judicial officers.

#### Legal Services

#### **Jury System Improvement Projects**

\$13,000 was expended for printing, subscriptions, and meeting and travel expenses such as lodging and transportation for the Civil Jury Instructions Advisory Committee.

#### **Litigation Management Program**

\$1.3 million was expended for the defense and indemnity of trial courts in support of the Litigation Management Program for attorney's fees and costs and litigation-related settlements.

**Regional Office Assistance Group & Trial Court Transactional Assistance Program** \$837,000 was expended to pay for four attorney positions at 80 percent time providing services to trial courts in the areas of labor and employment.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Attachment 1: State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund: Resources FY 2023–24
- 2. Attachment 2: State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund: Expenditures and Encumbrances by Program and Project FY 2023–24
- 3. Attachment 3: State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund: Fund Condition Statement FY 2023–24

## **State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund:**

## Resources

## FY 2023-24

Description	Amount
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 38,128,109
Prior-Year Adjustments	(284,477)
Adjusted Beginning Fund Balance	 37,843,632
Revenues and Transfers	
Revenues	
50-50 Excess Fees, Fines, and Forfeitures Split	2,862,000
2 Percent Automation Fund	7,419,361
Interest from Surplus Money Investment Fund	3,133,621
Royalties from Publication of Jury Instructions	453,482
Escheat—Unclaimed Checks, Warrants, Bonds, and Coupons	
	3,088
Miscellaneous Revenue and Adjustments	84,495
Class Action Residue	118,425
Transfers	
Transfer from State General Fund	44,394,000
Transfer to Trial Court Trust Fund (Gov. Code, § 77209(j))	(13,397,000)
Transfer to Trial Court Trust Fund (2015 Budget Act)	 (594,000)
Subtotal Dayonuce and Transfore	<i>11</i> 177 179
Total Resources	\$ 82,321,104

## **State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund:**

## **Expenditures and Encumbrances by Program and Project**

#### FY 2023-24

Description	Total
Audit Services	\$ 360,884
Audit Services*	360,884
Branch Accounting and Procurement	\$ 231,854
Treasury Services—Cash Management*	91,048
Trial Court Procurement	140,806
Budget Services	\$ 258,112
Budget-Focused Training and Meetings	1,481
Centralized Rent for All IMF-Funded Positions	256,631
Business Management Services	\$ 6,958
Data Analytics Advisory Committee (DAAC)	6,958
Center for Families, Children & the Courts	\$ 5,544,200
Court Interpreter Program—Testing, Development, Recruitment, and Education	143,000
Interactive Software—Electronic Forms for Self-Represented Litigants	60,000
Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Project	212,172
Self-Help Centers	5,000,000
Statewide Multidisciplinary Education	66,967
Statewide Support for Self-Help Programs	62,061
Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER)	\$ 1,534,580
CJER Faculty—Trial Court Faculty Costs—Statewide Education Programs	23,095
Essential Court Management Education	6,665
Essential Court Personnel Education	240,225
Experienced Judge Education	165,147
New Judge Education	1,099,448
Human Resources	\$ 12,663
Trial Court Labor Relations Training	12,663

## **State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund:**

## **Expenditures and Encumbrances by Program and Project**

#### FY 2023-24

Description	Total
Information Technology	\$ 32,023,869
California Courts Protective Order Registry <sup>†</sup>	958,058
Data Center & Cloud Service	5,767,215
Data Integration <sup>†</sup>	1,502,938
Digitizing Court Records	721,490
Jury Management Systems	665,000
Statewide Planning and Development Support	2,761,975
Telecommunications Support	19,647,193
Leadership Support Services	\$ 1,721,160
Judicial Performance Defense Insurance	1,721,160
Legal Services	\$ 2,138,214
Jury System Improvement Projects	12,616
Litigation Management Program	1,288,877
Regional Office Assistance Group & Trial Court Transactional Assistance Program*	836,721
Total Expenditures and Encumbrances	\$ 43,832,494
Pro rata, Statewide General Administrative Services	116,148
Total Expenditures, Encumbrances, and Pro Rata	\$ 43,948,642

<sup>\*</sup> Expenditures are for administrative support services provided by Judicial Council staff.

<sup>†</sup> Expenditures include the costs for local assistance and administrative support services provided by Judicial Council staff.

# State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund: Fund Condition Statement FY 2023–24

Description	Amount
Total Resources	\$ 82,321,104
Program/Project Area	
Audit Services	360,884
Branch Accounting and Procurement	231,854
Budget Services	258,112
Business Management Services	6,958
Center for Families, Children & the Courts	5,544,200
Center for Judicial Education and Research	1,534,580
Human Resources	12,663
Information Technology	32,023,869
Leadership Support Services	1,721,160
Legal Services	2,138,214
Subtotal—Expenditures and Encumbrances	\$ 43,832,494
Pro rata, Statewide General Administrative Services	 116,148
Total Expenditures—Encumbrances and Pro Rata	\$ 43,948,642
Fund Balance	\$ 38,372,461