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LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF OPEN IN-PERSON MEETING WITH CLOSED SESSION

Open to the Public Unless Indicated as Closed (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.75(c)(1), (d), and (e)(1))

Date: September 19, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102,

3rd Floor, Sequoia Room

Meeting materials for open portions of the meeting will be posted on the Legislation Committee web page on the California Courts website at least three business days before the meeting.

Members of the public seeking to make an audio recording of the open meeting portion of the meeting must submit a written request at least two business days before the meeting. Requests can be e-mailed to LegislationCommittee@jud.ca.gov.

Agenda items are numbered for identification purposes only and will not necessarily be considered in the indicated order.

I. OPEN MEETING (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(c)(1))

Call to Order and Roll Call

II. PUBLIC COMMENT (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE $10.75(\kappa)(1)-(2)$)

In-Person Public Comment

Members of the public requesting to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting must place the speaker's name, the name of the organization that the speaker represents if any, and the agenda item that the public comment will address, on the public comment sign-up sheet. The sign-up sheet will be available at the meeting location at least one hour prior to the meeting start time. The Chair will establish speaking limits at the beginning of the public comment session. While the committee welcomes and encourages public comment, time may not permit all persons requesting to speak to be heard at this meeting.

Written Comment

In accordance with California Rules of Court, rule 10.75(k)(1), written comments pertaining to any agenda item of a regularly noticed open meeting can be submitted up to one complete business day before the meeting. For this specific meeting, comments should be e-mailed to LegislationCommittee@jud.ca.gov or mailed or delivered to Judicial Council, 520 Capitol Mall, Suite 600, Sacramento, CA 95814, attention: Alona Daniliuk. Only written comments received by 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 18, 2024, will be provided to committee members prior to the start of the meeting.

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-2)

Item 1 Proposal for Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation (Action Required)

Juror and Prospective Juror Oaths Using Plain Language

The proposal would amend the language for juror and prospective juror oaths in Cal. CCP § 232, subdivisions (a) and (b). The proposal would replace them with new plain language oaths developed by Judicial Council staff and subject matter experts. As noted above, while all other jury instructions use plain language, these oaths do not and there has been no update to them since 1989. This proposal would increase access to justice by ensuring jurors and prospective jurors are able to fully understand the oaths they take during jury selection and before commencing with a jury trial.

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Mureed Rasool

Item 2 <u>Judicial Council 2025 Legislative Priorities (Action Required)</u>

Each year, the Judicial Council adopts legislative priorities to further key council objectives in the upcoming legislative year. Last year, the council's legislative priorities focused on stable and reliable funding to address increased costs and plan for the future, sufficient resources to improve access to the courts that includes remote access, adequate judgeships, and judicial officers in counties with the greatest need, availability of verbatim records of court proceedings, and operational efficiencies in the courts.

The Legislation Committee recommends a similar approach for consideration by the Judicial Council for the 2025 legislative year, including continued stable and reliable funding to address increased costs, continuing to advance remote access to the courts while balancing due process, funding for judgeships and judicial officers in counties with the greatest need, ensuring the availability of verbatim records of court proceedings, and operational efficiencies in the courts.

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Cory Jasperson

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to Closed Session

V. CLOSED SESSION (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(D))

Approval of Minutes

Approve minute(s) of the following Legislation Committee meeting(s):

August 22, 2024

Item 1

New Member Orientation

Adjourn Closed Session