



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING
ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING WITH CLOSED SESSION

April 16, 2020

12:15-1:15 p.m.

By Conference Call

Advisory Body**Members Present:**

Hon. Luis Lavin, Hon. Kevin Brazile, Hon. Sue Alexander (Ret.), Gurinder Aujla, Gina Cervantes, Hon. Manuel Covarrubias, Hon. Mark Cullers, Ana Maria Garcia, Janet Hudec, Hon. Victoria Kolakowski, David Levin, Hon. Elizabeth Macias, Hon. Lia Martin, Hon. Louis R. Mauro, Sasha Morgan, Hon. William Murray, Jr., Julie Paik, Michael Planet, Michael Powell, Hon. Mickie Reed, Hon. Victor Rodriguez, Janice Schmidt, Hon. Sergio Tapia, Hon. Bobbi Tillmon, Hon. Terry Truong, Twila White, Hon. Erica Yew

Advisory Body**Members Absent:**

Hon. Craig Arthur, Kim Bartleson, Hon. Jason Clay, Hon. Mary Greenwood, Mary Hale, Hon. Maria Hernandez, Hon. Juan Ulloa, Hon. Kimberly Gaab

Others Present:

Hon. Mark Juhas, Jenie Chang, Douglas Denton, Diana Glick, Andi Liebenbaum, Linda McCulloh, Catherine Ongiri, Elizabeth Tam, Greg Tanaka, Amanda Morris

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m. Quorum achieved

Approval of Minutes

No meeting minutes to approve.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-4)

Item 1

COVID-19 Discussion: Trial Court operations perspective, now and moving forward.

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Hon Kevin Brazile

Judge Brazile gave the committee an update on court operations at the Los Angeles County Superior Court during the COVID-19 pandemic utilizing new emergency rules. The general public is not allowed into the courthouse. The self-help center was closed at the beginning of the stay-at-home orders and phone centers were set up to provide assistance. There are concerns that the delayed court actions will inundate the court once operations resume. There have been requests to make remote video access to self-help centers and clerks offices. The Los Angeles court would like to reopen around June 22, 2020. Majority of court staff are working remotely. Progress is being made in the video remote interpreting.

Item 2

Self-Represented Litigants

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Hon Kevin Brazile

Judge Brazile discussed the additional assistance that Self-Represented litigants will need once courts reopen across the state. Bonnie Hough added that the experience for self-represented litigants has varied throughout the state. Part of the challenge for many courts is how quickly things moved and the delay due to restructuring for remote services. Emergency orders approved by the Chief Justice were immediately posted to the self-help website in plain language and translated into four languages. Also, the Judicial Council is having weekly calls with self-help centers.

Item 3

Language Access Subcommittee Update

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Hon Victor Rodriguez

Judge Rodriguez provided the committee with an update from the Language Access Subcommittee. The Signage and Technology Grant Program proposed awards and allocations for FY 2019-20 are awaiting approval from the Judicial Council and next year's grant funding cycle will be opened early. The Language Access Request for Proposal (RFP) is now posted on the Judicial Council website. The RFP will support several projects under Providing Access and Fairness Advisory Committee, including: dissemination of existing multilingual public outreach materials to reach LEP stakeholders through ethnic media outlets and community engagement meetings; and development of Rule 1.300 implementation strategies including recommendations for courts to share provider information and technological solutions. The deadline to submit proposals is May 4, 2020.

Item 4

PAF Committee nominations update, future meetings, etc.

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Judicial Council Staff

The nominations period for all Judicial Council Advisory Committees was extended to June 5, 2020. PAF currently has 8 vacancies and 12 nominations which includes current members whose terms are expiring this year. PAF committee meetings will remain at the same time spot of 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. on the third Thursday of every other month. The committee thanks Jenie Chang as interim lead staff and welcomes Catherine Ongiri as lead staff to the committee.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to Closed Session

II. CLOSED SESSION

Item 1

Legislative Working Group Update

Cal. Rules of Court, Rule 10.75 (D)(10)

III. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on June 19, 2020.