



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING
ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

www.courts.ca.gov/accessfairnesscomm.htm
accessfairnesscomm@jud.ca.gov

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

December 16, 2021

12:15-1:15 p.m.

By Conference Call

Advisory Body**Members Present:**

Hon. Luis Lavin, Hon. Kevin Brazile, Hon. Sue Alexander (Ret.), Morgan Baxter, Gina Cervantes, Hon. Manuel Covarrubias, Hon. Ana de Alba, Hon. Judith Dulcich, Ana Maria Garcia, Janet Hudec, Hon. Victoria Kolakowski, Hon. Richard Lee, David Levin, Hon. Elizabeth Macias, Hon. Lia Martin, Sasha Morgan, Julie Paik, Hon. Victor Rodriguez, Janice Schmidt, Fariba Soroosh, Hon. Terry Truong, Hon. Juan Ulloa, Twila White.

Advisory Body**Members Absent:**

Gurinder Aujla, Hon. Mark Cullers, Hon. Mary Greenwood, Mary Hale, Hon. Sunil Kulkarni, Michael Powell.

Others Present:

Lisa Chavez, Douglas Denton, Hon. Mark Juhas, Andi Liebenbaum, Hon. Louis R. Mauro, Amanda Morris, Catherine Ongiri, Elizabeth Tam.

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m. Quorum was achieved.

Approval of Minutes

The committee approved the Open meeting minutes from the October 21, 2021 meeting with the following corrections:

- Change the date on page one from “October 15, 2021” to “October 21, 2021”.
- Change the date in the header of page two from “October 21, 2020” to “October 21, 2021”.

Motion to approve by Judge Lia Martin and seconded by Judge Elizabeth Macias.

Judge Kevin Brazile, Judge Richard Lee, and Janice Schmidt abstained from voting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 2)

Item 1**2022 PAF Annual Agenda (No Action Required)**

Update on 2022 Annual Agenda Process

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

Judge Brazile reminded the committee that annual agenda items will prioritize projects that assist courts, justice partners and parties with access to justice during and following the COVID-19 pandemic, address otherwise urgent needs or are mandated by legislation. Additionally, he provided committee members with background on the P3 Workgroup established in March 2021.

It is charged with identifying, refining, and enhancing the successful court practices that emerged during the COVID-19 Pandemic in order to increase access to justice, modernize services, and promote uniformity in practices going forward. PAF's work this year will focus on projects that assist some of the most vulnerable court populations including limited English proficient users and self-represented litigants.

Item 2

Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program (No Action Required)

Language Access Subcommittee Update.

Presenter: Justice Victor Rodriguez

Before Justice Rodriguez provided an update on current language access projects, he provided a brief update on the Court Interpreter Employee Incentive Grant. Senate Bill 170 amended the 2021 Budget Act and provided \$30 million in one-time General Fund for a new Court Interpreter Employee Incentive Grant that is intended to increase the number of new interpreters in trial courts, and to increase language access services for court users inside courthouses. An overview, including eligibility, of the Court Interpreter Employee Incentive Grant was provided by staff at the Language Access Representatives webinar last month. Judicial Council staff anticipates that grant applications will commence this month and conclude in early 2022. Once applications for grants are evaluated, a report with recommendations will then be developed for the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee, Budget Committee, and Judicial Council approval by Spring 2022.

Justice Rodriguez provided the following updates on current language access projects:

1. For the Language Access Signage and Technology Grants, the Cycle 3 (FY 2021-22) recommendations and proposed allocations were approved by the Judicial Council last month. The 22 approved courts have been notified and staff is working with Contracts staff on executing the Intra-Branch Agreements (IBAs) to the courts by early January.
2. For Support on the Implementation of Rule 1.300, staff is currently working with the National Center for State Courts to complete a report with recommendations and strategies for consideration to support ongoing implementation of Rule 1.300. When the report from NCSC is complete, it will be shared with the Language Access Subcommittee and PAF early next year.
3. The Model Translation Guidelines document is currently in the review stage but is on track for completion by the end of the year or early 2022. The guidelines will be shared with the Language Access Subcommittee and PAF.
4. For the Annual Language Access Survey, staff is working to complete the survey report from last year (FY 2019-20). Staff plans to work on a shorter survey instrument for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and will review the survey instrument with the Language Access Subcommittee in March 2022 prior to issuing the survey to the courts next Spring (April/May) and conclude the survey by July 2022.

The Language Access Subcommittee plans to hold its first meeting in early Spring. Justice Rodriguez also shared the Language Access Metrics Report (Fall 2021) is posted to the Judicial Council's language access web page. The metrics report captures valuable metrics and information on court interpreters and statewide efforts to provide language access during the pandemic.

I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on **enter date**.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
2022 Advisory Body Nomination Form

Please complete both sides of this form.

Candidate Information

Hon. Mr. Ms. Mx.

Candidate's name: _____ Title: _____

Court/entity/business name: _____

Official court/entity/business mailing address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Check here if nominee is an incumbent.

Candidate's previous Judicial Council, advisory body, and task force memberships:

Particular areas of expertise in the field of law or court administration (for lawyer applicants, include specific areas of practice and level of experience):

Nominator Information (IF APPLICABLE)

Self-Nomination Hon. Mr. Ms. Mx.

Nominator's name: _____ Title: _____

Court/entity/business name: _____

Official court/entity/business mailing address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please check here to confirm that the nominee has been contacted and has indicated a willingness to serve if appointed.

Candidate's biography or curriculum vitae is attached (**nomination will be considered incomplete without it**).

PLEASE RETURN POSTMARKED OR BY E-MAIL NO LATER THAN MARCH 25, 2022.

Judicial Council of California

Judicial Council Support

Attention: Maria Kwan

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Telephone: 415-865-4543 jcsupport@jud.ca.gov

2022 ADVISORY BODY MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

(All the membership categories listed represent vacancies for which nominations are being solicited in this cycle.)

Check one box for each position in which you are interested or for which you are nominating a candidate.

Audits and Financial Accountability for the Judicial Branch

- Appellate court justice

Appellate

- Supreme court justice
- Appellate court justice
- Trial court judicial administrator
- Civil appellate lawyer
- Criminal defense appellate lawyer
- Member, Attorney General's appellate group

Center for Judicial Education and Research

- Appellate court justice
- Sitting judicial officer
- Judicial administrator

Civil Jury Instructions

- Appellate court justice
- Trial court judge
- Lawyer whose primary area of practice is civil law
- Lawyer whose primary area of practice is civil law
- Law professor whose primary area of expertise is civil law

Civil and Small Claims

- Trial court judicial officer
- Lawyer whose primary area of practice is civil law
- Legal secretary
- Person knowledgeable about small claims law and procedure

Collaborative Justice Courts

- Judicial officer
- Judicial administrator
- Probation officer
- Court-treatment coordinator
- Treatment court graduate
- Public member

Court Facilities

- Superior court judge
- Court executive officer
- Lawyer

Court Interpreters Advisory Panel

- Appellate court justice
- Trial court judge
- Court interpreter, other than Spanish, independent contractor
- Court interpreter (Region 3 employee)
- Advisor

Court Security

- Trial court judge

Criminal Jury Instructions

- Trial court judge
- Law professor whose primary area of expertise is criminal law

Criminal Law

- Trial court judicial officer
- Prosecutor
- Probation officer
- Mental health professional with experience in criminal law issues

Executive Committee of the Court Executives

- Court executive officer (2-5 judge court)
- Court executive officer (16-47 judge court)

Family and Juvenile Law

- Trial court judicial officer
- Trial court judicial officer with mental health expertise
- Judicial administrator
- Lawyer whose primary practice area is family law
- Child welfare director
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) director
- Domestic violence prevention advocate
- Lawyer specializing in governmental child support
- Mental health professional with experience with family and children's issues

Information Technology

- Trial court judicial officer
- Trial court judicial administrator
- Trial court information officer

Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program

- Trial courts and state judicial branch entities knowledgeable about workers' compensation matters
- Court executive officer
- Human resources professional

Legal Services Trust Fund Commission

- Appellate court justice
- Trial court judge
- Attorney

Probate and Mental Health

- Judicial officer with experience in probate
- Lawyer whose primary practice involves decedents' estates, trusts, guardianships, conservatorships, or elder abuse law
- Lawyer or examiner who works for the court on probate or mental health matters
- Person knowledgeable in mental health or developmental disability law
- Person knowledgeable in private management of probate matters in a fiduciary capacity
- Lawyer working for a public interest organization or court self-help center whose practice focuses on guardianships or conservatorships

Providing Access and Fairness

- Appellate justice
- Trial court judicial officer
- Lawyer with expertise or interest in disability issues
- Lawyer with expertise or interest in additional access, fairness, and diversity issues addressed by the committee
- County law librarian or other related professional
- Public member

Traffic

- Trial court judicial officer
- Judicial administrator

Trial Court Budget

- Trial court presiding judge
- Court executive officer

Trial Court Facility Modifications

- Trial court judge
- Court executive officer

Tribal Court-State Court Forum

- Appellate justice
- Trial court judges from counties in which a tribal court is located

Workload Assessment

- Superior court judicial officer
- Court executive officer