



## Judicial Council of California

Advisory Committee on Providing  
Access & Fairness

[www.courts.ca.gov/accessfairnesscomm.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/accessfairnesscomm.htm)  
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### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

#### MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

February 15, 2024

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Zoom

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**Advisory Body Members Present:** Hon. Kevin Brazile (Cochair), Hon. Victor Rodriguez (Cochair), Hon. Jose S. Castillo, Hon. Thomas Delaney, Hon. Judith Dulcich, Hon. Rebekah Evenson, Ms. Ana Maria Garcia, Hon. Amy Guerra, Ms. Janet Hudec, Hon. Clare Keithley, Hon. Sunil Kulkarni, Hon. Cynthia Loo, Hon. Elizabeth Macias, Ms. Nina Magno, Hon. Lia Martin, Ms. Kemi Mustapha, Ms. Julie Paik, Ms. Andrea Pella, Mr. Michael Powell, Hon. Michael Rhoads, Ms. Fariba Soroosh, Hon. Laura Walton, Mr. Mitchell Wunsh.

**Advisory Body Members Absent:** Ms. Morgan Baxter, Hon. Victoria Kolakowski, Hon. Richard Lee, Ms. Shirley Luo, Mr. Lawrence Meyer, Hon. Terry Truong, Ms. Twila White.

**Others Present:** Ms. Irene Balajadia, Mr. Douglas Denton, Ms. Elizabeth Tam-Helmuth, Hon. Audra Ibarra, Hon. Jacqueline Jackson, Ms. Amanda Morris, Ms. Cristina Resendiz-Johnson, Ms. Kristine Custodio Suero, Mr. Gregory Tanaka.

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#### OPEN MEETING

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##### Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:15 and took roll call.

##### Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of the October 19, 2023, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness meeting.

Motion to approve by Judge Kevin Brazile, seconded by Judge Judith Dulcich. Justice Jose Casillo, Judge Thomas Delaney, and Ms. Ana Maria Garcia abstained from voting. The motion carries.

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#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-3)

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##### Item 1

##### 2024 Judicial Council Advisory Body and Education Committee Nominations Period Now Open

*Presenter: Ms. Cristina Resendiz-Johnson, Attorney, Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

Cristina Resendiz-Johnson briefed committee members on the 2024 committee nomination period and provided directions on how to submit nominations for consideration. Members whose terms expire this year will receive a reminder email after the meeting.

**Item 2**

**Update on New Pathway for Certifying American Sign Language Interpreters**

*Presenter: Mr. Douglas G. Denton, Principal Manager, Language Access Services*

Douglas Denton updated the committee on new Pathway for Certifying American Sign Language Interpreters. The proposal allows sign language interpreters who are certified for legal interpretation in Texas to offer services in California. This addresses an important access to justice issue for hard of hearing persons.

**Item 3**

**Addressing Implicit Bias in Jury Service**

*Presenter: Mr. Stephen Michael Tow, Senior Analyst, Jury Improvement Program Lead Staff*

The committee was presented with an overview of the Jury Improvement Program, specifically addressing the issue of implicit bias in jury service. With a timeline of recent action spanning from 2018 to present, lead staff Stephen Tow provided committee members with a summary of their research and data as well as links to all current and proposed anti-bias materials for jurors.

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**A D J O U R N M E N T**

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on **April 18, 2024.**