



Judicial Council of California

Advisory Committee on Providing
Access & Fairness

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING WITH CLOSED SESSION

April 17, 2025
12:15 - 1:15 p.m.
Virtual

Advisory Body Members Present: Hon. Kevin Brazile (Cochair), Ms. Morgan Baxter, Hon. Jose Castillo, Hon. Monica Diaz, Hon. Rebekah Evenson, Hon. Clare Keithley, Hon. Victoria Kolakowski, Ms. Shirley Luo, Hon. Elizabeth Macias, Ms. Nina Magno, Hon. Lia Martin, Ms. S. Lynn Martinez, Mr. Lawrence Meyer, Ms. Julie Paik, Ms. Fariba Soroosh, Hon. Terry Truong, Ms. Katy Van Sant, Hon. Laura Walton, Hon. Julie Weng-Gutierrez, and Mr. Mitchell Wunsh.

Advisory Body Members Absent: Hon. Victor Rodriguez (Cochair), Hon. Thomas Delaney, Hon. Amy Guerra, Hon. Esther Kim, Hon. Cynthia Loo, Ms. Kemi Mustapha, Ms. Andrea Pella, Mr. Michael Powell, Hon. Michael Rhoads, and Ms. Twila White.

Others Present: Ms. Irene Baljadia, Mr. Douglas Denton, Ms. Eunice Lee, Hon. Martha Matthews, Ms. Anna Maves, Ms. Amanda Morris, Ms. Cristina Resendiz-Johnson, Ms. Elizabeth Tam-Helmuth, and Mr. Greg Tanaka.

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m. and took roll call.

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of the February 20, 2025, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness meeting. Justice Jose Castillo moved to approve and Judge Clare Keithley seconded that motion. Judges Victoria Kolakowski, Laura Walton, and Julie Weng-Gutierrez as well as Mr. Lawrence Meyer abstained from voting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-2)

Item 1

Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program

Presenter: Ms. Eunice Lee, Supervising Analyst, Language Access Services Program, Judicial Council

Ms. Eunice Lee provided committee members with an update on Cycle 7 of the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

17 courts applied for signage and technology projects that will benefit limited English proficient (LEP) and deaf and hard of hearing court users. The majority of the projects proposed by all 17 courts can be fully funded with some adjustments.

If the recommendation report and proposed allocations are approved, they will move forward to the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) meeting on April 28, 2025, and the Technology Committee meeting on May 5, 2025 for approval. The report will then go before the Judicial Council at their July 2025 meeting for review and approval.

Action: Judge Elizabeth Macias motioned to approve proposed allocations of \$707,792 for signage and \$1,643,208 for technology, totaling \$2.35 million for the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program for fiscal year (FY) 2025-26 and to direct staff to work with Branch Accounting and Procurement to draft and execute intra-branch agreements with each awarded court, Judge Lia Martin seconded. The motion carried with no objections.

Item 2

Latest Judicial Demographic Data Summary

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

Ms. Cristina Resendiz-Johnson presented an overview of current Judicial demographic information to committee members. Data provided in her presentation on California state justices and judges was gathered by the Judicial Council, collected as of December 31, 2024, and released on March 1, 2025. Highlighted was information on ethnicity/race, gender/gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, and disability diversity in California courts.

There are several ongoing efforts the Judicial Council and their justice partners are implementing to continue increasing judicial diversity in California. Concerns about a lack of accurate and adequate representation of the judicial LGBTQ community was voiced and noted as a subject Judicial Council staff will address. Judges and Justices are encouraged to spread the word to their colleagues to complete surveys sent by the Judicial Council via email as data is self-identified/reported.

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further open meeting business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

C L O S E D S E S S I O N

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the closed portion minutes of the February 20, 2025, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness meeting.

Adjourned closed session at 1:01 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on June 26, 2025.