



## 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 WITH CLOSED SESSION

August 21, 2025

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Virtual

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<b>Advisory Body Members Present:</b>	Hon. Victor Rodriguez (Cochair), Hon. Jose Castillo, Hon. Thomas Delaney, Hon. Monica Diaz, Hon. Rebekah Evenson, Hon. Amy Guerra, Hon. Esther Kim, Hon. Victoria Kolakowski, Ms. Shirley Luo, Ms. S. Lynn Martinez, Mr. Lawrence Meyer, Ms. Kemi Mustapha, Ms. Julie Paik, Mr. Michael Powell, Hon. Michael Rhoads, Ms. Fariba Soroosh, and Hon. Terry Truong.
<b>Advisory Body Members Absent:</b>	Hon. Kevin Brazile (Cochair), Ms. Morgan Baxter, Hon. Clare Keithley, Hon. Cynthia Loo, Hon. Elizabeth Macias, Ms. Nina Magno, Hon. Lia Martin, Ms. Andrea Pella, Ms. Katy Van Sant, Hon. Laura Walton, Hon. Julie Weng-Gutierrez, Ms. Twila White, and Mr. Mitchell Wunsch.
<b>Others Present:</b>	Ms. Kristin Burford, Ms. Angela De Leon, Mr. Douglas Denton, Ms. Diana Glick, Mr. Cyrus Ip, Hon. Jacqueline Jackson, Ms. Youn Kim, Ms. Eunice Lee, Ms. Anna Maves, Ms. Amanda Morris, Ms. Tsedal Netserab, Hon. Julie Palafox, Ms. Cristina Resendiz-Johnson, Ms. Heather Resetarits, Ms. Melanie Snider, Ms. Elizabeth Tam-Helmuth, Mr. Greg Tanaka, and Mr. Rodney Trevino.

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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 p.m. and took roll call.

##### Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the open portion minutes of the June 26, 2025, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness meeting. Judge Victoria Kolakowski moved to approve the minutes and Ms. S. Lynn Martinez seconded that motion. Justice Thomas Delaney and Mr. Lawrence Meyer abstained from voting. With no oppositions, the motion carried.

Justice Rodriguez provided committee members a brief update on the Language Access Subcommittee. Members will meet on August 28, 2025 to review current and potential 2026 language access projects on the PAF Annual Agenda. The Language Access Signage and Technology Grants, Cycle 7 recommendations and proposed allocations were approved by the Judicial Council at their July 18, 2025 meeting. Also, training resources developed for court staff on the appropriate use of the California Courts Voice-to-Text Translator application have been completed and made available to pilot courts.

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**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEM 1)**

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**Item 1**

**Equal Access Fund: 2025-26 Distribution of Funds to the Access to Justice Commission**

Presenter: *Ms. Melanie Snider, Supervising Attorney, Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

The committee reviewed distribution of up to \$5 million to the California Access to Justice Commission for grants to civil legal aid nonprofits and \$250,000 for administration of a tax-advantaged student Loan Repayment Assistance Program.

**Action: Mr. Lawrence Meyer moved to approve the draft report and distribution of funds to the Access to Justice Commission and administration of tax-advantaged student Loan Repayment Assistance program. Justice Thomas Delaney seconded that motion. With no opposition or abstentions, the motion carried.**

Before closing the open portion of the meeting, Justice Rodriguez recognized members whose terms are expiring and thanked them for their service on the committee.

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

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There being no further open meeting business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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

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**Approval of Minutes**

The advisory body reviewed and approved the closed session minutes of the June 26, 2025, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness meeting.

**Item 1**

**Gender Inclusivity of Juror Identification and Juror Questionnaires**

***Cal. Rules of Court, Rules 10.75(d)(10)***

Presenter: *Ms. Kristin Burford, Attorney, Legal Services*

The committee considered a rules and forms proposal to implement Assembly Bill 1899 (Stats. 2024, Ch. 812). This legislation requires the Judicial Council to adopt a standard of judicial administration to ensure the inclusivity of juror identification and juror questionnaires. The proposal will include a new standard, as well as revisions to existing Judicial Council materials to replace gender-based terminology related to jurors.

Adjourned closed session at 1:03 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on February 19, 2026.