

Judicial Council of California

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND
FAIRNESS LANGUAGE ACCESS SUBCOMMITTEE
NOTICE AND AGENDA OF OPEN ELECTRONIC MEETING**

August 5, 2026

12:15 – 1:15 p.m.

Public Access: <https://jcc.granicus.com/player/event/5727>

Open to the public (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.75(c) and (e)(1)).

Meeting materials for open portions of the meeting will be posted on the [Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness](#) webpage on the California Courts website at least three business days before the meeting.

Request for ADA accommodations should be made at least three business days before the meeting and directed to: JCCAccessCoordinator@jud.ca.gov.

Members of the public seeking to make an audio recording of the open meeting portion of the meeting must submit a written request at least two business days before the meeting. Requests can be emailed to lap@jud.ca.gov.

Agenda items are numbered for identification purposes only and will not necessarily be considered in the indicated order.

I. OPEN MEETING (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(C)(1))

Call to Order and Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Approve minutes of February 2, 2026, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness Language Access Subcommittee meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(K))

This meeting will be conducted by electronic means. As such, the public may make comments in writing, in person, or remotely.

Written Comment

In accordance with California Rules of Court, rule 10.75(k)(1), written comments pertaining to any agenda item of a regularly noticed open meeting can be submitted up to one complete business day before the meeting. For this specific meeting, comments should be emailed to lap@jud.ca.gov. Only written comments received by August 4,

2026, 12:15 p.m., will be provided to advisory body members prior to the start of the meeting.

Remote Public Comment

Members of the public requesting to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting must provide the speaker's name, the name of the organization that the speaker represents if any, and the agenda item that the public comment will address. Requests to make a remote public comment must be received by 12:15 p.m., August 4, 2026, via email to lap@jud.ca.gov. The chair will establish speaking limits at the beginning of the public comment session. While the advisory body welcomes and encourages public comment, time may not permit all persons requesting to speak to be heard at this meeting.

III. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

Info 1

Update from Language Access Subcommittee Chair

Presenter: Hon. Victor A. Rodriguez, Chair; Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division Three

Info 2

Review Potential 2027 and 2026 Language Access Projects

The subcommittee will discuss potential language access projects for the 2027 Annual Agenda and review the status of its 2026 Annual Agenda projects of the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness.

Presenters: Ms. Eunice Lee, Supervising Analyst, Language Access Implementation (LAI)
Mr. Russell McGregor, Senior Analyst, LAI
Ms. Rose Lane, Senior Analyst, LAI

Info 3

Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program, Cycles 3 – 5

Staff will provide an overview of language access initiatives from grant-funded courts.

Presenter: Ms. Rose Lane, Senior Analyst, LAI

Info 4

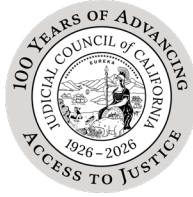
Review 2025 Language Access Data Tool Results

Staff will provide highlights of results from the 2025 Language Access Data Tool.

Presenter: Ms. Aggie Wong, Senior Analyst, LAI

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn Open Meeting.



Judicial Council of California

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS
LANGUAGE ACCESS SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING**

February 2, 2026

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Members Present: Hon. Victor A. Rodriguez, Chair, Ms. Shirley Luo, Ms. Julie Paik, Ms. Katy Van Sant, and Hon. Julie Weng-Gutierrez

Members Absent: Ms. Fariba Soroosh

Others Present: Ms. Angela De Leon, Mr. Douglas Denton, Ms. Diana Glick, Ms. Tatjana Gruner, Ms. Eunice Lee, Mr. Russell McGregor, Ms. Elizabeth Tam-Helmuth, Ms. Aggie Wong, Ms. Charina Zalzos

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Approval of Minute

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of October 7, 2025, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness Language Access Subcommittee meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (ITEMS 1-3)

Info 1

Update from Language Access Subcommittee Chair

Justice Victor Rodriguez provided several language access updates, including his participation in the 2025 Beyond the Bench Conference in Los Angeles on November 18, 2025, where he and Ms. Lorena Pike presented “Coming Together for Language Justice: A Spanish Court Interpreter’s Perspective on Serving Indigenous Families in California Courts.” He shared on December 8, 2025, he and Judge Kevin Brazile provided a presentation to the Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal Bias Prevention Committee on PAF’s role and access initiatives. They had an opportunity to hear from the committee about challenges that are unique to the appellate courts. At its December 12, 2025, meeting, the Judicial Council approved the *California Court Interpreter Workforce Study* for submission to the Legislature. The Workforce Study complies with Government Code section 71900, which requires the Judicial Council to conduct a workforce study and provide recommendations to the Legislature regarding court interpreter availability and the future court interpreter workforce by January 1, 2026. The Workforce Study

is available on the Language Access Services website, under “Studies and Reports.” Justice Rodriguez shared Language Access Services continues to work with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to develop video remote interpreting (VRI) resources and training to support courts in their ongoing efforts to leverage technology solutions to help meet their interpretation needs. One of the recent training sessions took place on January 21, 2026, and the session helped prepare court staff deliver VRI training to peers in their own courts.

Info 2

Review 2026 Language Access Projects

Ms. Elizabeth Tam-Helmuth provided a status update on the 2026 Language Access projects:

1. Develop a directory of Video Remote Interpreting interpreters in high-demand emerging languages that can assist court staff and litigants: Language Access Services staff met with Ms. Lorena Pike to discuss Indigenous led organizations and her perspective and experience with securing and working with court interpreters for Indigenous languages and other OTS (other than Spanish) languages. Staff is compiling a list of Indigenous-led, community focused organizations that work closely with Indigenous communities and interpreters. Staff plans to conduct research and collect court input to identify organizations and interpreter contacts to incorporate into the directory.

2. Language Access Signage & Technology Grant Program, Cycle 8: Cycle 8 of the S&T Grants, Fiscal Year 2026-2027, launched on January 14, 2026. On January 20, council’s Information Technology staff conducted a webinar to discuss judicial branch technology grants, including our S&T Grants, Cycle 8, funding priorities and program requirements. The deadline for applications is February 6, 2026. Following the 2/6 deadline, staff will review and process all applications submitted and will bring the draft report with recommendations and allocations for Cycle 8 to the three advisory committees for approval, prior to council approval in July 2026.

Info 3

Closing the Gap: Practical Steps to Improve Indigenous Language Access in California Courts

Spanish Court Interpreter Ms. Lorena Pike discussed the unique language access challenges Indigenous families face in legal settings and how courts can better support Indigenous language speakers.

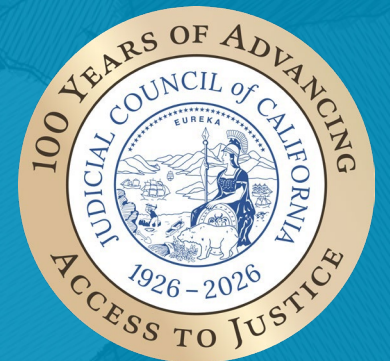
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50.

Approved by the advisory body on enter date.

Language Access Signage and Technology Grants Project Highlights: Cycles 3 to 5

August 5, 2026



Signage and Technology Grant Overview



2018 Budget Act: \$2.35 million per year



Language access signage and technology needs for the trial courts



Funding maximums: Signage \$200K, Technology \$270K

Signage and Technology Grant Cycles 3 to 5

Cycle 3 – 22 trial courts
\$1 million for signage
\$1.35 million for technology

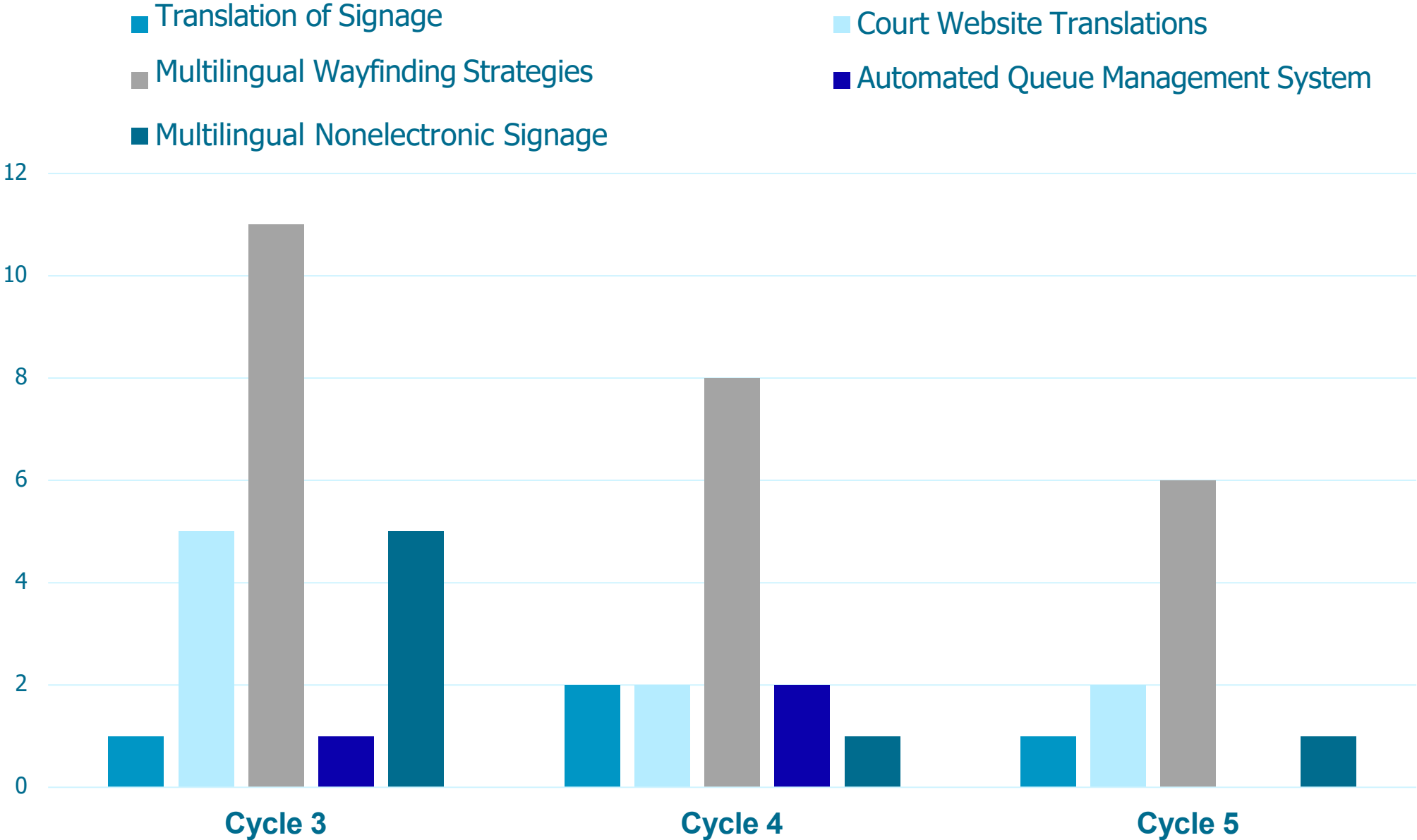
Cycle 4 – 26 trial courts
\$606,865 for signage
\$1.7 million for technology

Cycle 5 – 17 trial courts
\$423,567 for signage
\$1.9 million for technology



Signage Project Highlights

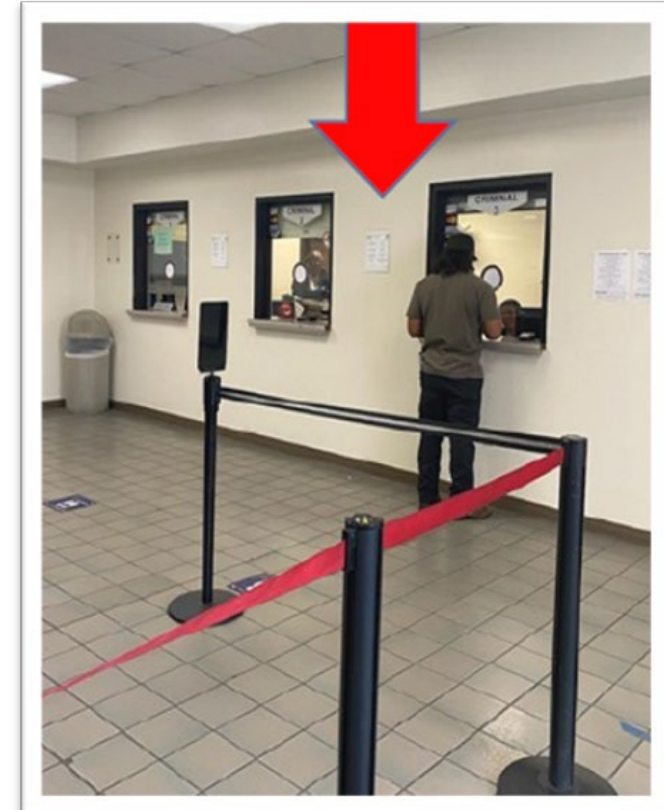
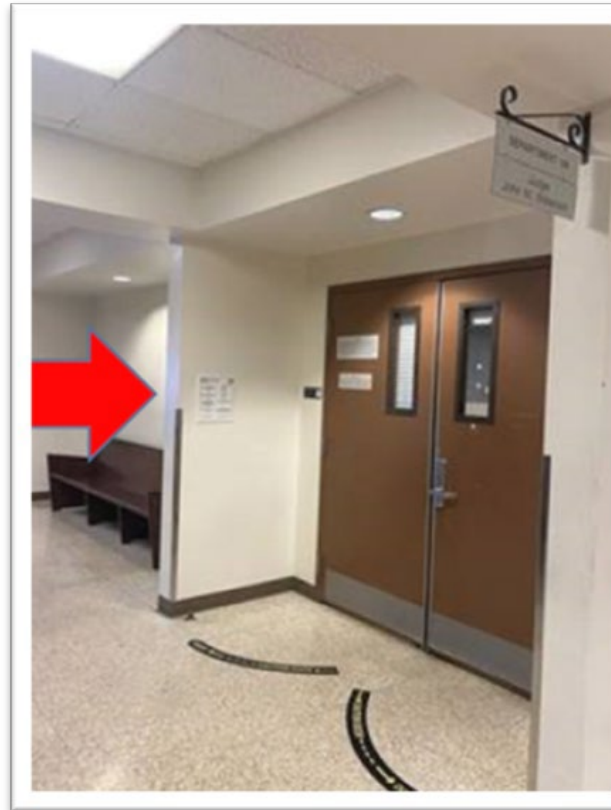
Signage Category Project Types



Project Highlights – Signage (1 of 5)

Superior Court of San Bernardino County Multilingual Nonelectronic Signage Project

 Interpreters are available at no cost. Ask court staff. Superior Court of California County of San Bernardino Interpreter Services www.sb-courts.org	
Spanish Se ofrecen servicios de intérprete gratis. Pregúntele al personal de la corte.	Traditional Chinese 免費提供口譯員。 請詢問法院工作人員。
Korean 통역을 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 법원 직원에게 문의해 주세요.	Simplified Chinese 免費提供口譯員。 請詢問法院工作人員。
Russian Услуги переводчика предоставляются бесплатно. Информацию можно получить у работников суда.	Vietnamese Hãy hỏi nhân viên tòa án để nhận dịch vụ thông dịch miễn phí.
Punjabi ਦੁਬਾਰੀਏ ਮੁਫਤ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਕਰਵਾਏ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ। ਕੋਰਟ ਦੇ ਸਟਾਫ਼ ਤੋਂ ਪੁੱਛੋ।	Tagalog Makakakuha ng serbisyo ng interpreter nang walang bayad. Itanong sa mga tauhan ng hukuman.
Arabic المترجمون التوحيين متاحون بدون أي تكلفة. اسأل موظفي المحكمة.	Farsi خدمات ترجمه همزمان، به صورت رایگان ارائه می شود. با کارکنان دادگاه تماس بگیرید.



Project Highlights – Signage (2 of 5)

Superior Court of Santa Barbara County Electronic Signage: Court Rebrand and Design Upgrade Project

Before:



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

NOTICE

If you are unable to pay fees and costs, you may ask the court to permit you to proceed without paying them. Ask the clerk for the *Information Sheet on Waiver of Superior Court Fees and Costs* or *Information Sheet on Waiver of Court Fees and Costs for Appeal or Writ Proceedings* and the *Request to Waive Court Fees*.

AVISO

Si usted no puede pagar las cuotas y los gastos, puede perdirlle al juez que le permita proceder sin pagarlos. Pida al secretario de la corte la *Hoja de información sobre la exención de cuotas y gastos de la corte superior* o la *Hoja de información sobre la exención de cuotas y gastos para apelaciones y procesos sobre mandamientos* y la *Petición para la exención de cuotas y gastos de la corte*.

After:

Can't afford to pay?

Talk to court clerk for help and information about fee waivers.

¿No puedes pagar?

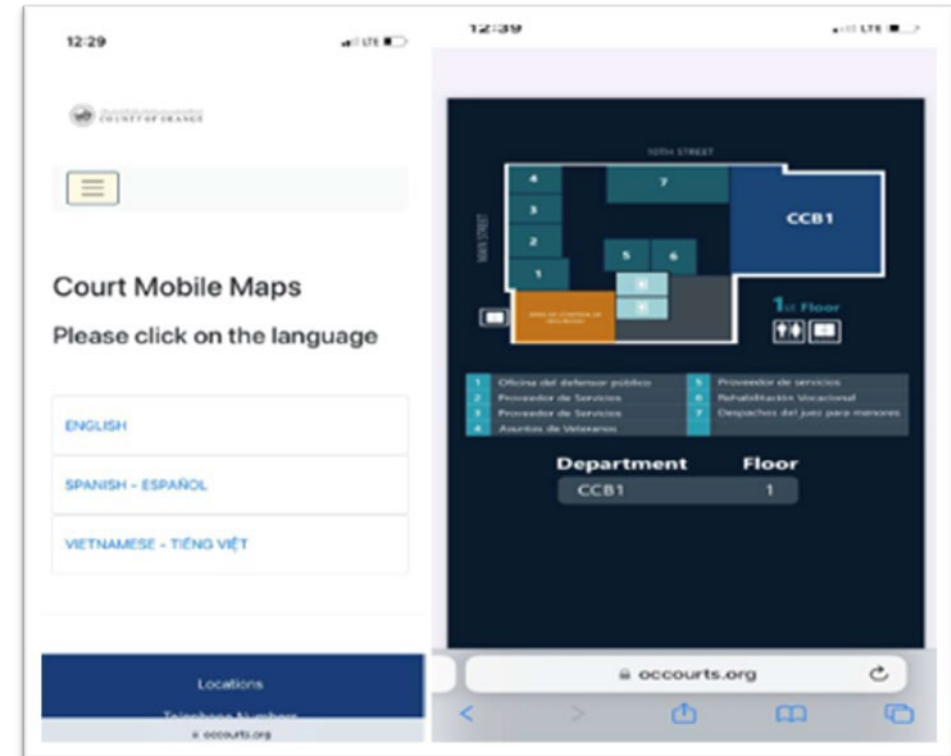
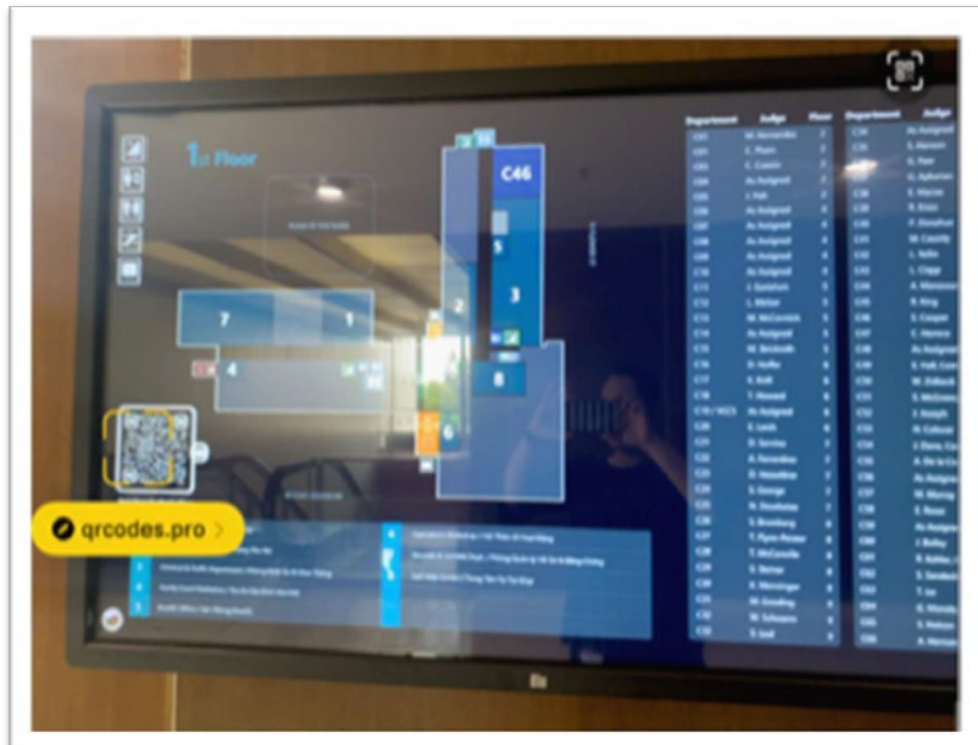
Hable con el secretario de la corte para obtener ayuda e información sobre las exencaiones de cuotas.



Project Highlights – Signage (3 of 5)

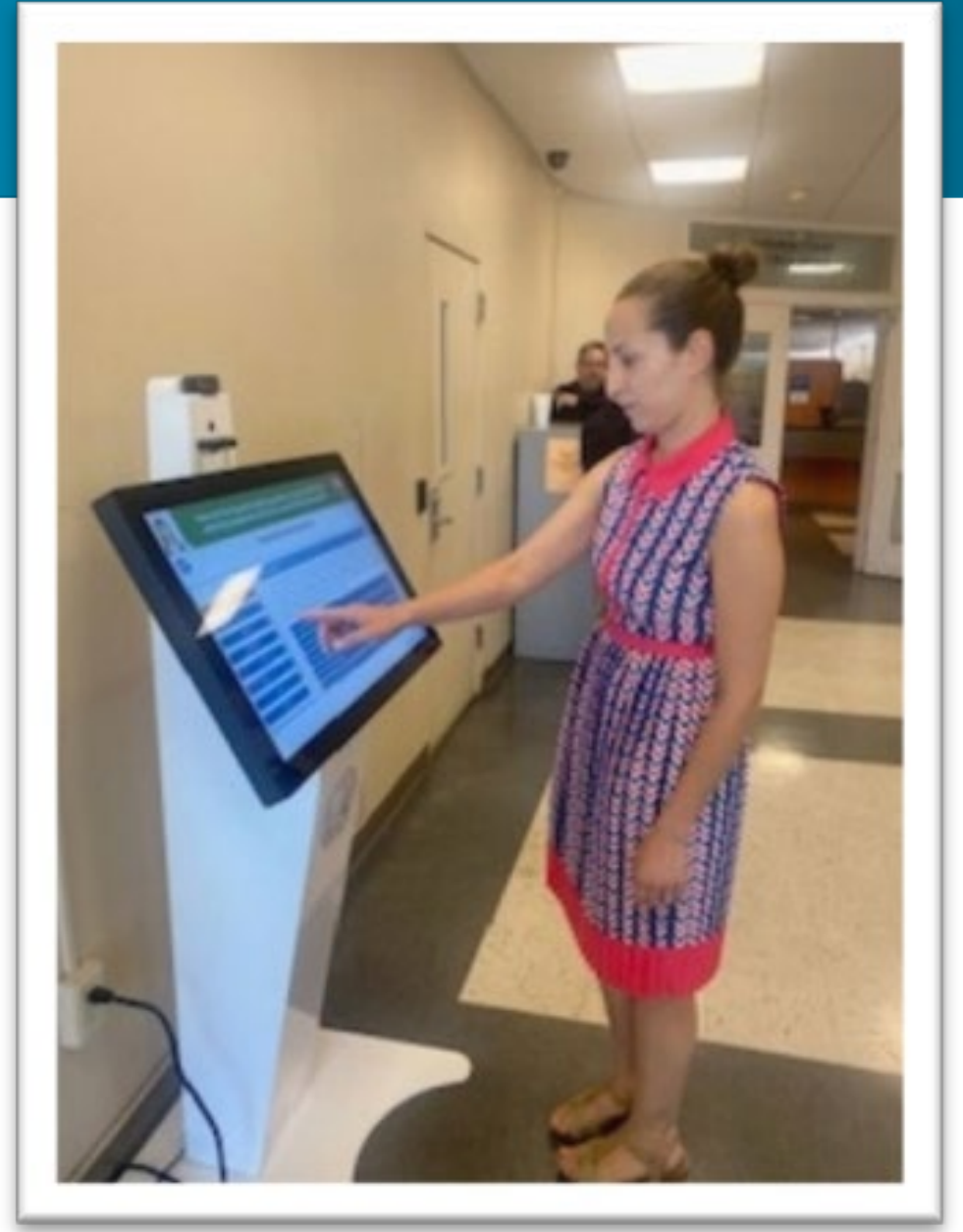
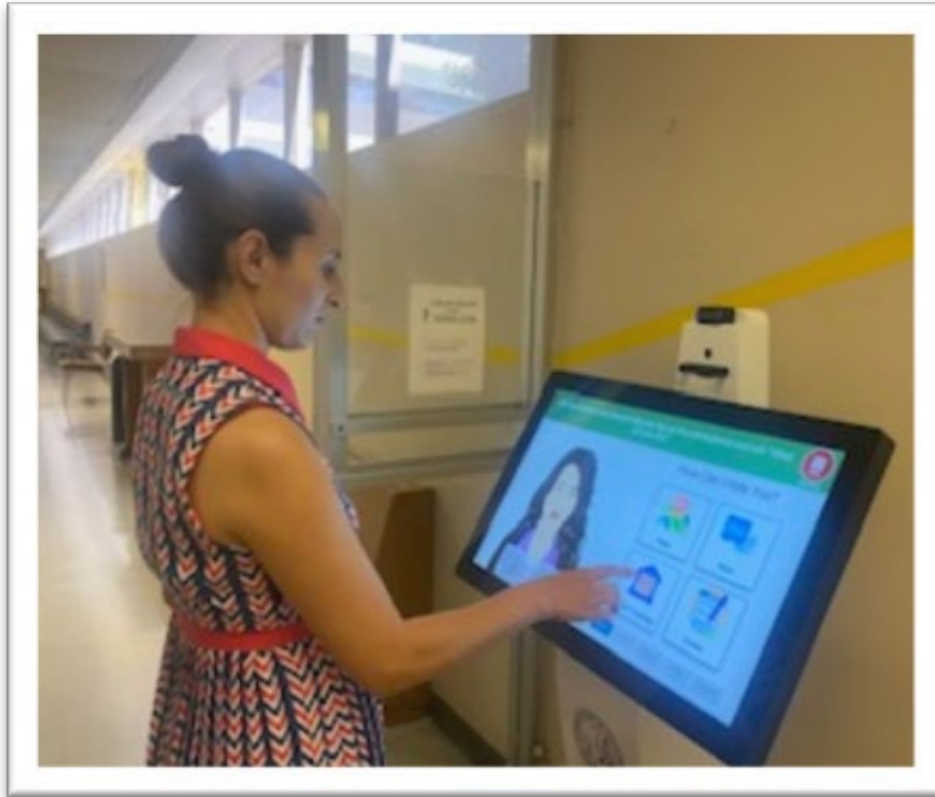
Superior Court of Orange County

Multilingual Electronic Wayfinding Directory Displays Project



Project Highlights – Signage (4 of 5)

Superior Court of Stanislaus County Multilingual Wayfinding Kiosks



Superior Court of Alameda County

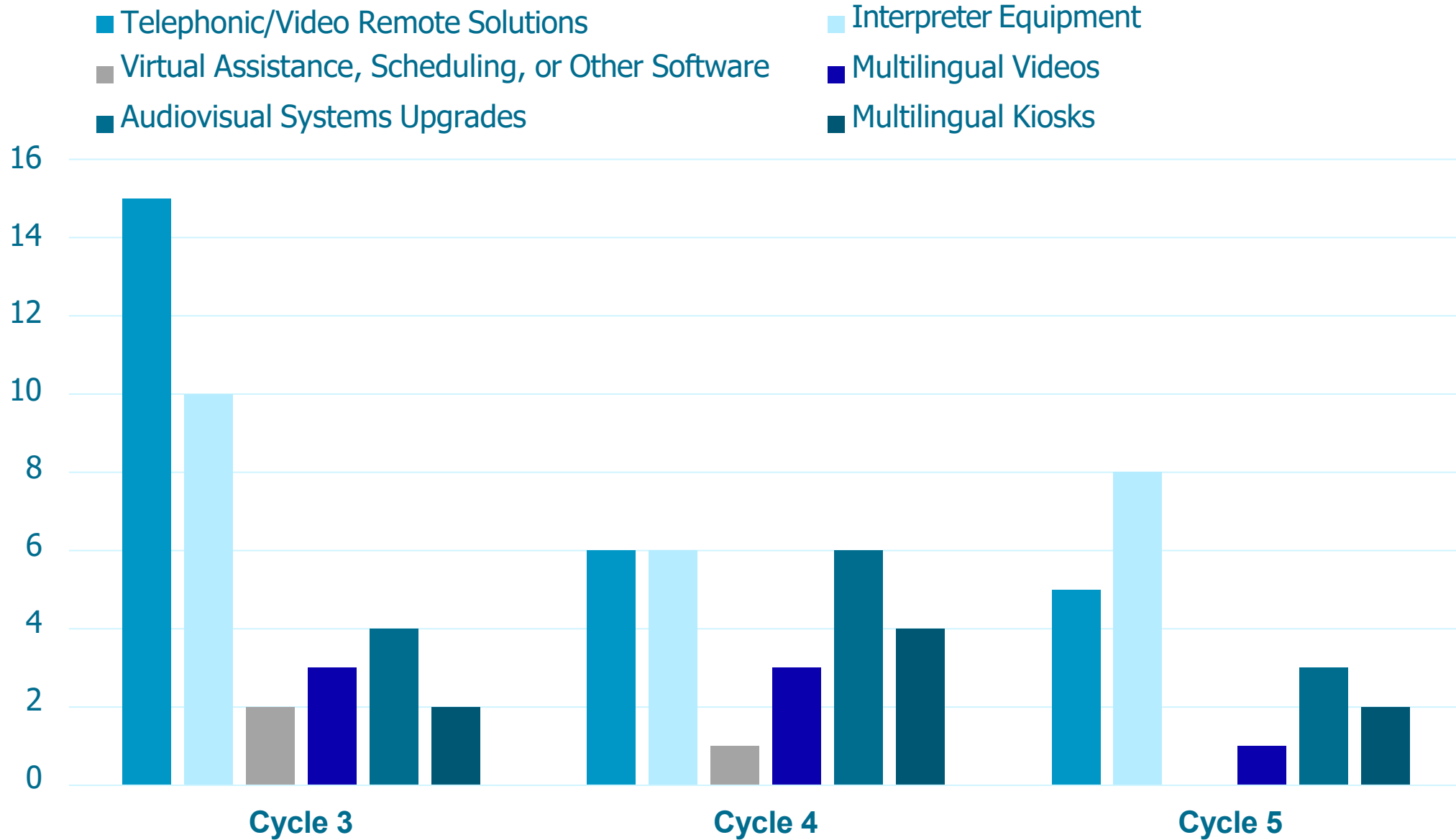
Translation of Local Forms

Punjabi / ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	ਇਸ ਸਮੇਂ ਕੋਈ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਆ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ। ☐ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਸੁਣਵਾਈ ਇਸ ਤੱਕ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੈ: (ਮਿਤੀ): _____ (ਸਮਾਂ): _____ (DATE) (TIME) (ਵਿਭਾਗ): _____ (DEPARTMENT) ☐ ਇਸ ਸਮੇਂ ਕੋਈ ਭਵਿੱਖੀ ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਮਿਤੀ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਤ ਨਹੀਂ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।	
Vietnamese / Tiếng Việt	Hiện không có sẵn Thông Dịch Viên. ☐ Phiên điều trần được tiếp tục đến: (NGÀY): _____ (GIỜ): _____ (DATE) (TIME) (PHÒNG): _____ (DEPARTMENT) ☐ Hiện không có ngày hầu tòa nào được ấn định trong tương lai.	
	لا يتوفر مترجم فوري في الوقت الحالي. ☐ تمتد جلسة الاستماع حتى: (التاريخ): _____ (التوقيت): _____ (DATE) (TIME) (الإدارة): _____ (DEPARTMENT) ☐ لم يُحدد موعد لاحق لجلسة المحكمة في الوقت الحالي.	/ Arab فئة العربية
Tagalog / Tagalog	Walang available na interpreter sa ngayon. ☐ Ipagpapatuloy ang pagdinig sa: (PETA): _____ (ORAS): _____ (DATE) (TIME) (DEPARTAMENTO): _____ (DEPARTMENT) ☐ Wala pang naitatakdang susunod na petsa sa hukuman sa ngayon.	
	مترجم شفاهي درحال حاضر در دسترس نیست. ☐ جلسه دادرسی شما جلسه در تاریخ ذیل ادامه می یابد: (تاریخ): _____ (زمان): _____ (DATE) (TIME) (اداره): _____ (DEPARTMENT) ☐ درحال حاضر هیچ دادگاهی برای آینده مقرر نشده است.	/ Far سی



Technology Project Highlights

Technology Category Project Types



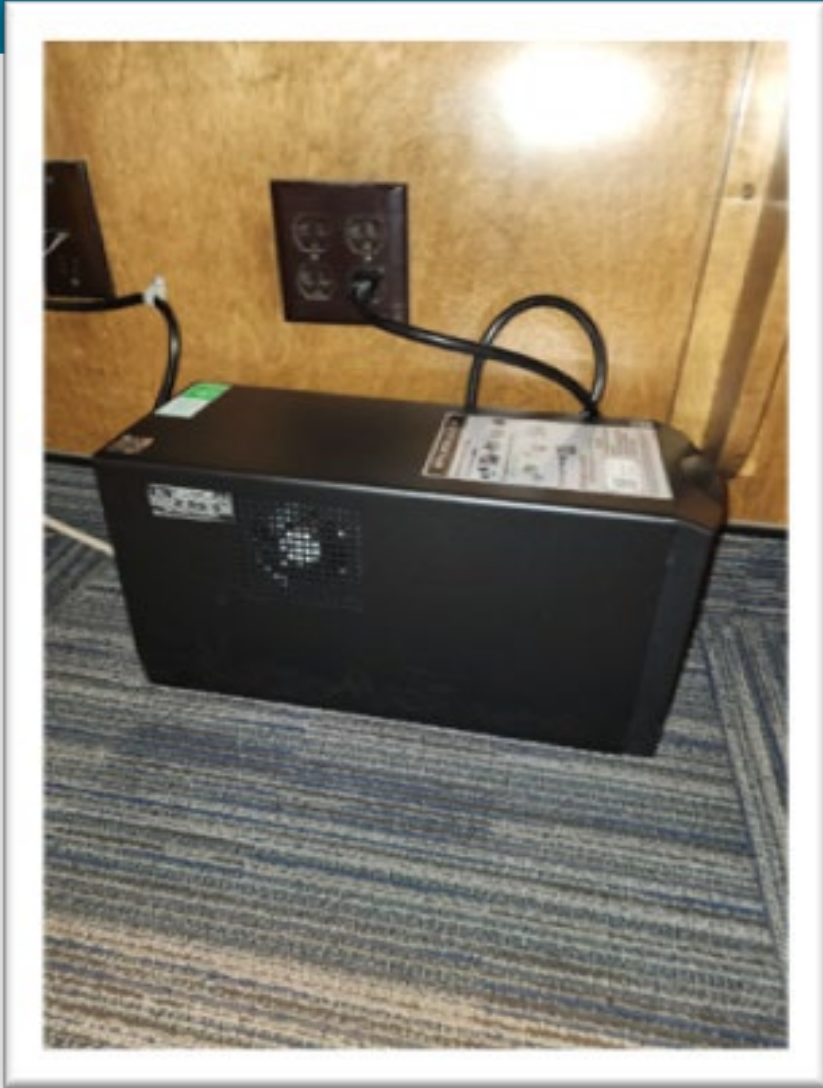
Project Highlights – Technology (1 of 4)

Superior Court of Los Angeles County

Video Remote Interpreting
Equipment Kits



Project Highlights – Technology (2 of 4)



Superior Court of Yuba County

Uninterruptible Power Supply System Project

Project Highlights – Technology (3 of 4)

Superior Court of Orange County

Multilingual Video Translation Project

"How Do I?" Videos

[How Do I...? Self-Help Video Series](#) (YouTube Video Channel)

- [How Do I Know Where to File My Case?](#)



The video thumbnail shows a map of Orange County, California, with several areas highlighted in red. These areas are labeled with icons and text: 'Mental Health' (brain icon), 'Dependent Adult Abuse' (person in wheelchair icon), 'Probate' (document icon), 'Civil' (scales of justice icon), 'Elder Abuse' (person with cane icon), and 'Family Law' (gavel icon). A red YouTube play button is overlaid on the map, with the text 'Justice Center Center Dr. West Santa Ana, CA 92701' next to it.

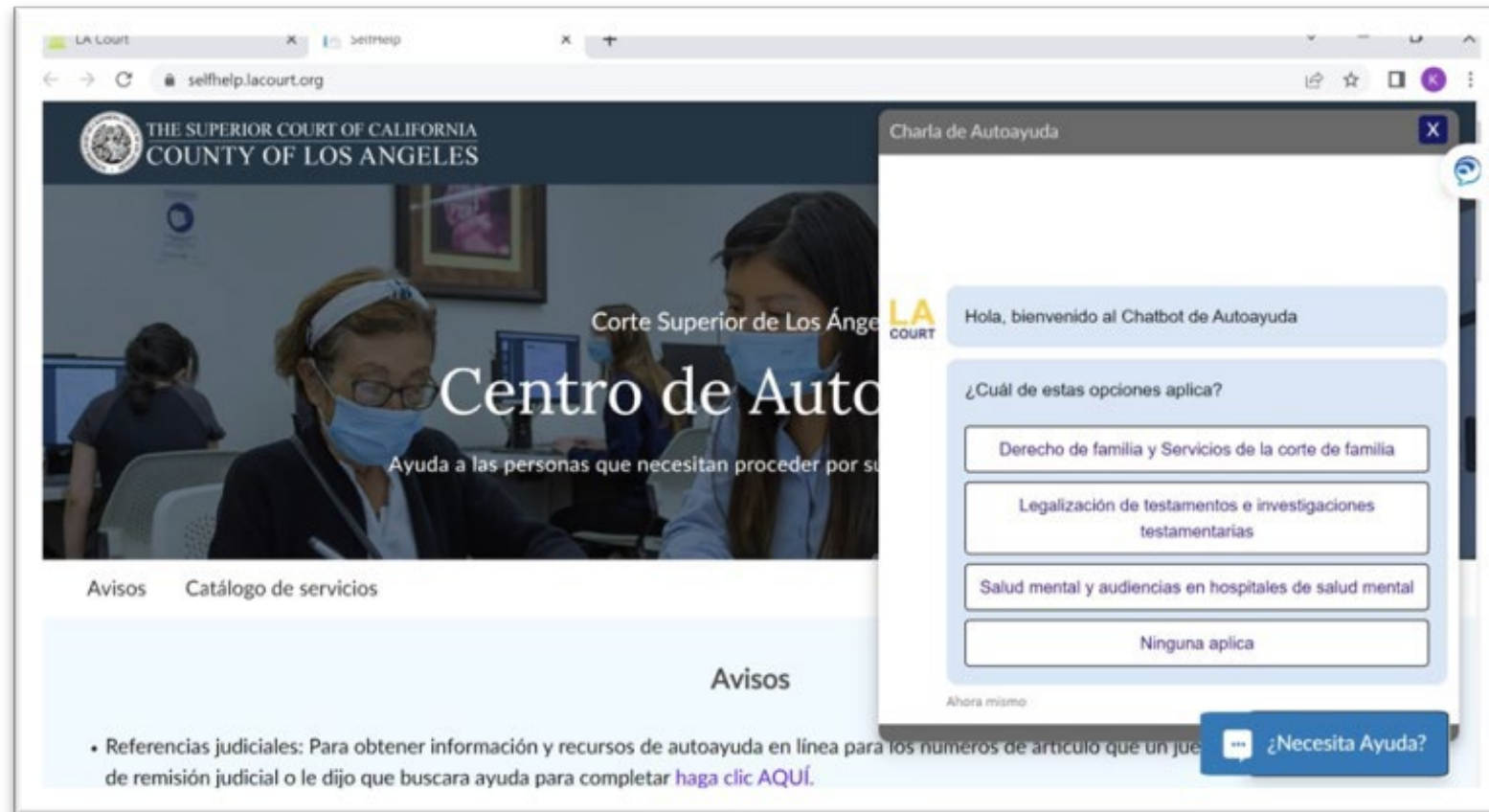
Watch on  YouTube

- [How Do I Get a Restraining Order?](#) (Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Vietnamese)
- [How Do I eFile?](#) (Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Vietnamese)
- [How Do I Modify a Child Support Order?](#) (Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Vietnamese)
- [How Do I Serve My Family Law Summons When I Cannot Find The Other Party?](#)
- [How Do I Give Notice on a Probate Guardianship Case?](#)
- [How Do I Settle My Debt Collection Lawsuit?](#)
- [How Do I Start a Child Support Case?](#) (Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Vietnamese)
- [How Do I Handle My Traffic Citation?](#) (Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Vietnamese)

Project Highlights – Technology (4 of 4)

Superior Court of Los Angeles County

Translation of Chatbot Automation



Awarded Counties: Cycles 3, 4, and 5

- 37 out of 58 trial courts have participated in the grant program, representing northern, southern, and central regions of the state.



Grant Awards for Cycles 3, 4, and 5 (FY 2021–22 Through FY 2023–24)

Signage –
\$2,030,432
awarded

Technology –
\$5,019,568
awarded

Resources



Judicial Resources Network (JRN) – [Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program](#) (This includes: Program fact sheet, vendor list, historical grant award reports, and webinar recordings, etc.)



For questions regarding the Signage and Technology Grant Program, please email Rose Lane at Rosemary.Lane@jud.ca.gov

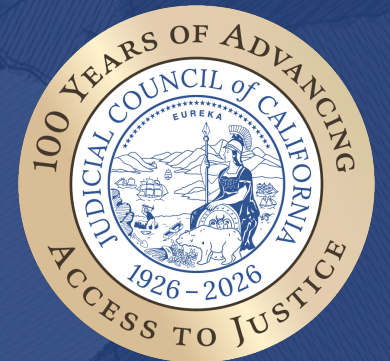


Questions?

Highlights of Results

2025 Language Access Data Tool

August 5, 2026



Data Tool Survey

Short annual survey to obtain data from Language Access Representatives (LARs) on:

- Language access services complaints
- Interpreter hiring and recruitment
- Interpreter compensation
- Language Access Signage & Technology (S&T) Grants
- Remote interpreting
- Training needs

Data Tool

- Helps with resource development and funding requests
- LARs were asked to provide information regarding activity completed in FY 2024-25
- The survey was completed by 54 courts

Key Findings (1 of 5)

- The number of complaints regarding language access remains extremely low on a statewide basis (less than 10)
- The type of complaints have dropped significantly on the availability of interpreters, indicating positive recruitment efforts for more court interpreters
- Courts are receiving complaints on struggles with video remote interpreting (VRI) implementation, as well as market rate pressures and quality of interpreter services

Key Findings (2 of 5)

- Of the 31 courts actively recruiting interpreters, 97% (30 courts) report an active vacancy in Spanish, highlighting a statewide recruitment challenge
- 29 courts are able to pay at the federal rates for Spanish interpreters
- Mandarin interpreters command the highest premium pricing for spoken languages

Key Findings (3 of 5)

Top languages which courts pay above federal rates include:

- American Sign Language (ASL)
- Mandarin
- Punjabi
- Cantonese
- Tagalog

Key Findings (4 of 5)

- About half of responding courts planned to apply for the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program in 2026 (Cycle 8: 24 courts to receive grants)
- Courts are primarily seeking funding for courtroom VRI hardware and acoustic interpretation tools to strengthen remote interpreting capabilities
- While most non-applicants report no current need, 8 courts cited a lack of grant information, highlighting an opportunity for increased outreach and education

Key Findings (5 of 5)

- Remote interpreting from county to county remains underutilized, as only 16 courts report providing a court employee interpreter remotely for another county
- Zoom is the most frequently used platform for courts for remote interpreting
- Major challenges to expanding remote interpreting include technology constraints, securing support from judges, and staff or funding limitations

Summary (1 of 2)

The Data Tool confirms several language access trends and challenges for courts:

- Securing enough interpreters, including in Spanish
- Higher rates being charged for contractors, including rates over the current rates paid to federally certified interpreters
- The need for financial incentives to attract more interpreters to the profession
- The need for interpreter equipment, software, and translation

Summary (2 of 2)

Several initiatives underway:

- **Interpreter Workforce Pilot Program:** Launching additional cohorts to build a long-term employee pipeline
- **Spoken & ASL Exam Preparation:** Expanding specialized training and support to improve candidate pass rates
- **Judicial & Staff VRI Education:** Developing and deploying curriculum to increase judicial buy-in and manage remote courtroom flow
- **Signage and Technology Grants:** Ongoing grant funding available for interpretation and translation needs
- **Standardized Reporting Resources:** To support trial courts with accurate interpreter usage data reporting to inform language access efforts