

Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee
Annual Agenda¹—2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

CoChairs:	Hon. Tari L. Cody, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division Six Hon. Stephanie E. Hulseley, Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Monterey
Lead Staff:	Ms. Stephanie Lacambra and Ms. Sarah Jacobvitz, Co-lead Staff; Amanda Morris, Administrative Coordinator, Center for Families, Children & the Courts
<p>Committee’s Charge/Membership: Rule 10.43(a) of the California Rules of Court states the area of focus for the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for improving the administration of justice in all cases involving marriage, family, or children.</p> <p>Rule 10.43(b) sets forth the membership positions of the committee, which currently has 34 voting members and 2 advisory members. The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee web page provides the composition of the committee.</p>	
<p>Subgroups of the Advisory Committee²:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protective Order Working Group (POWG) 2. Violence Against Women Education Program (VAWEP) 	
<p>Meetings Planned for 2025³ (Advisory body and all subcommittees and working groups listed above.) Date/Time/Remote or Location if in person: The committee meets by teleconference or videoconference on Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., unless a meeting is not required. VAWEP meets at least once a year. The next meeting is projected for Fall 2025. In recent years, the meeting has been held remotely by videoconference. However, should it be held in-person, staff will seek the necessary approvals. POWG meets as needed to work on rules and forms revisions.</p>	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

² For the definition of “subcommittee” see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); “working group” see rule 10.70, “workstream,” see rule 10.53(c); and “education curriculum committee,” see rule 10.50(c)(6).

³ Refer to section IV. 2. of the [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is suspending advisory body in-person meetings for the 2024–2025 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek final approval from the advisory body’s internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated July 1, 2024, for additional details.

Check here if in-person meeting is approved by Executive Office or rule of court.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
1.	<i>Project Title: Legislative Changes from the 2024 Legislative Session (New Project)</i>	<i>Priority 1a⁵</i>
<p data-bbox="170 318 1978 467"><i>Project Summary:</i> As directed by the Judicial Council, review legislation identified by Governmental Affairs that may have an impact on family and juvenile law issues within the advisory committee’s purview. The committee will review the legislation below, and any other identified legislation, and propose rules and forms as may be appropriate for the council’s consideration and will act only where necessary to allow courts to implement the legislation efficiently.</p> <p data-bbox="170 505 436 537">Domestic Violence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="226 578 1978 727">a. AB 2024 (Pacheco) Domestic violence: restraining orders (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 648) Prohibits an ex parte request for a protective order from being rejected for filing by the court clerk if it is submitted on mandatory Judicial Council forms, includes all of the forms required to issue an order, and identifies the party submitting the request and the party who is the subject of the requested order. <li data-bbox="226 760 1978 909">b. AB 2759 (Petrie-Norris) Domestic violence protective orders: possession of a firearm (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 535) Revises the exemption in existing law pertaining to the issuance of a protective order or restraining order and the relinquishment of a firearm to clarify and expand the standard considered by the court in making determinations as to sworn peace officers carrying a firearm either on or off duty, as a condition of employment. <li data-bbox="226 1015 1304 1047">c. AB 3072 (Petrie-Norris) Child custody: ex parte orders (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 317) 		

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California’s Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

New or One-Time Projects⁴

Clarifies that a court, when determining whether there is a showing of immediate harm to the child warranting an ex parte custody order, should consider a parent’s illegal access to firearms and ammunition, as defined; and clarifies that a court, when making an ex parte custody order, should consider whether the best interests of the child warrant suspending visitation or ordering supervised or virtual visitation with the parent whose conduct gave rise to the need for the ex parte order.

- d. [AB 3083](#) (Lackey) Domestic violence: protective orders: background checks (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 541)
Requires a court to conduct a search of available databases to determine whether a person subject to a proposed domestic violence restraining order owns a firearm, regardless of whether the Judicial Council has determined they have the resources necessary to do so; and regardless of whether an appropriation has been made for that purpose. Provides that if a court does not have electronic or other access to the California Department of Justice's Automated Firearms System and if there is no preexisting agreement between the court and a law enforcement agency that the law enforcement agency will conduct a search of the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System in order to report to the court whether the subject of the proposed order owns or possesses a firearm, upon the request of the court, the sheriff shall access the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System in order to search the California Department of Justice’s Automated Firearms System for the purpose of determining whether the subject of the order owns or possesses any firearms. The sheriff shall then report the results of the search to the court.
- e. [SB 554](#) (Cortese) Restraining Orders (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 652)
Clarifies that a party may seek a temporary restraining order or protective order under the Code of Civil Procedure civil harassment protective order statute or the Domestic Violence Prevention Act in any superior court within the state where jurisdiction is appropriate, even if the party is not a resident of the state.

Family Law:

- f. [AB 1974](#) (Petrie-Norris) Family conciliation courts: evaluator training. (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 303)
Requires the risks associated with access to firearms and ways to reduce those risks to be included as an issue in a family and psychological assessment in a domestic violence case for purposes of family conciliation court evaluator training.
- g. [AB 2397](#) (Maienschein) Child support: special needs trust (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 25)
Clarifies that a family court may order a support payment for a child of any age who is incapacitated and unable to earn a living and without sufficient means to be paid into a special needs fund defined as a trust that meets the requirements of section 1396p(d)(4)(A) or (C) of Title 42 of the United States Code and paragraphs (3) or (4) of subdivision (a) of section 50489.9 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.
- h. [AB 3281](#) (Committee on Judiciary) Judiciary omnibus (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 853)

New or One-Time Projects⁴

Judiciary Committee omnibus bill. Contains numerous provisions, including authorizing a court to transfer jurisdiction of any proceeding under the Family Code, other than a proceeding involving the local child support agency subject to specified venue requirements, to another county when it appears that both the petitioner and the respondent have moved from the county that entered the original order. Updates the definition of “absence of conflicting information relative to parentage” to mean the absence of conflicting information relative to the existence or nonexistence of a parent and child relationship, as specified, and includes entries such as “unknown,” “not given,” “refused to state,” or “obviously fictitious names.” Provides that whenever the facts are not correctly stated in any certificate of birth, death, fetal death, or marriage already registered, the person asserting that the error exists may make an affidavit under oath stating the changes necessary to make the record correct, that must be supported by the affidavit of one other credible person having knowledge of the facts, and file it with the state or local registrar, and that these facts include, but are not limited to, the correction of typographical, spelling, or statistical errors. Clarifies that the party intending to move for a new trial must file with the clerk and serve upon each adverse party a notice of their intention to move for a new trial, designating the grounds upon which the motion will be made and whether the same will be made upon affidavits or the minutes of the court, or both, either: after the decision is rendered and before the entry of judgment; or 15 days after the date of serving notice of entry of judgment by the clerk of the court.

- i. [SB 1427](#) (Allen) Marriage: joint petition for dissolution of marriage (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 190)
Effective January 1, 2026, establishes a process by which parties to a marriage that does not meet the requirements for summary dissolution may file a joint petition for dissolution or legal separation on forms to be adopted by the Judicial Council. Requires a joint petition for dissolution of marriage or legal separation to set forth all of the following, as nearly as can be ascertained: the date of the marriage, if there are children of the marriage, and if so the number of children and the age and birth date of each child; and a list of issues that the parties intend to resolve by agreement. Provides a joint petition and a joint summons, in a form and content approved by the Judicial Council, shall be deemed to be served on both parties upon the filing of the joint petition with the court, and both parties shall be determined to have appeared in the matter. Provides that the filing of a joint petition shall be accompanied by the filing fees required for the filing of petitions and responses in standard dissolution or legal separation matters, unless both parties have been granted a fee waiver.

Juvenile Dependency:

- j. [AB 81](#) (Ramos) Indian children: child custody proceedings (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 656)
Provides that the sections of the Family Code, the Probate Code, and the Welfare and Institutions Code that apply to proceedings involving an Indian child shall be collectively known as the California Indian Child Welfare Act. Codifies in section 224.1 the definitions from the federal Indian Child Welfare Act. Clarifies requirements around inquiry concerning possible eligibility for tribal membership and requires that inquiry about possible tribal membership eligibility be conducted of any party or interested person at their first appearance in court, and that the inquiry occur on the record. Additionally requires the court to instruct the parties and persons present to inform the court if they subsequently receive information that provides reason to know the child is, or may be, an Indian child.

New or One-Time Projects⁴

- k. [AB 2108](#) (Ramos) Foster care: missing children and nonminor dependents (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 660)
Requires social workers or probation officers, when they receive information that a child receiving child welfare services is absent from foster care, to immediately, but no later than 24 hours from receipt of that information, to notify local law enforcement agencies and the individual's parents or guardians, attorney, and court-appointed special advocate. Defines "absent from foster care" to mean when the whereabouts of a child receiving child welfare services is unknown to the county child welfare agency or probation department or when the county child welfare agency or probation department has located the child receiving child welfare services in a location not approved by the court that may pose a risk to the child.
- l. [AB 2224](#) (Santiago) Human services: special immigrant juvenile status: court orders and guardianship (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 955)
Requires a court that grants a request to make the findings necessary for a person to seek Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) to provide the petitioner a certified copy of the order within three court days of the hearing, provided the person who requested the determinations has submitted a request for expedited processing accompanied by a properly conformed proposed order, and clarifies that a parent may be appointed the guardian of a person between 18 and 21 years of age in connection with a SIJS application.
- m. [AB 2484](#) (Bryan) Courts: juveniles: remote proceedings (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 965)
Permits a parent, child, nonminor dependent, or Indian tribe, as defined, in a juvenile dependency case to utilize remote technology for the appearance of an expert witness without the consent of all parties.
- n. [AB 2496](#) (Pellerin) Foster family agencies and noncustodial adoption agencies. (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 403)
Provides that effective October 1, 2024, the rate paid on behalf of a child or nonminor dependent to an approved resource family approved by a licensed foster family agency or county child welfare agency that has applied to transfer their approval to a licensed foster family agency shall be the rate most recently established for the child or nonminor dependent. Provides that the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) shall report to the Legislature in conjunction with the 2025 May Revision information about these transfers as reported by county welfare departments. Provides that CDSS, in coordination with any other relevant state departments or agencies, counties, and stakeholders, shall examine available options to make insurance available to foster family agencies. CDSS shall update the Legislature on these efforts in conjunction with the 2025-26 fiscal year budget process.
- o. [AB 2664](#) (Bryan) Foster youth (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 412)
Clarifies that when a child is returned to the home of the parent or guardian at the dispositional hearing and subsequently removed through a petition, the child shall be deemed to have been originally removed from the physical custody of their parent or guardian on the date they were taken into custody by the social worker via the subsequent petition.
- p. [AB 2929](#) (Carillo, Juan) Dependents: family finding (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 845)

New or One-Time Projects⁴

Requires a social worker's supplemental report filed in connection with a status review hearing to include, for a nonminor dependent who does not reside with relatives, kin, or an Indian custodian, the social worker's continued efforts to locate relatives or kin who could provide family support or a placement; and requires the juvenile court to determine, at the status review hearing, whether the social worker has continued to make those efforts.

- q. [AB 3145](#) (Bryan) Family preservation services: standards. (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 976)

Establishes the Foster Care Justice through Meaningful Help for Parents Act to require providers of family preservation services to demonstrate the outcomes of their services. Requires, commencing January 1, 2026, the California Department of Social Services to post an annual report from a county containing specified data regarding whether the providers' services were deemed successful, within 30 business days of receipt.

Juvenile Justice:

- r. [AB 1186](#) (Bonta) Restitution fines (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 805)

Removes the requirement that a minor adjudged to be a ward of the court pay a restitution fine and makes the outstanding balance of any restitution fines unenforceable and uncollectible 10 years after the fine imposition date. Requires minors to be held severally liable for victim restitution purposes and prohibits a minor from being held jointly and severally liable as a co-offender and provides that total liability may not exceed 100 percent.

- s. [AB 1877](#) (Jackson) Juveniles: sealing records (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 811)

Requires county probation officers to petition the court for sealing of certain records once a person who was the subject of a petition or cited to appear before a probation officer has reached 18 years of age, has not been convicted of a felony or of any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, and who has attained rehabilitation to the satisfaction of the court. Requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to provide a list of arrests eligible for sealing to all agencies associated with the record of arrest. Requires the arresting agency to review the list of arrests and seal eligible arrest records on a monthly basis. Requires arresting agencies to electronically report to DOJ the records that will be sealed within six months of receiving the list of arrests identified by DOJ as eligible for record sealing. Requires DOJ to seal arrest records within 90 days of being notified by an arresting agency that a record will be sealed. Provides that the provisions of the bill applicable to the DOJ become operative on July 1, 2027, subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act.

- t. [SB 1005](#) (Ashby) Juveniles (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 179)

Authorizes a probation officer, with the consent of the minor and the minor's parent, to refer an offense to youth court that implements restorative justice practices, in lieu of filing a petition to declare a minor a dependent child of the court or a ward of the court.

- u. [SB 1161](#) (Becker) Juveniles (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 782)

New or One-Time Projects⁴

Requires sealing of criminal court records when a person who was improperly charged in adult criminal court has been certified to a juvenile court and the person’s juvenile court records are sealed; prohibits defense counsel for a minor from being ordered to seal their records when the minor’s juvenile record is sealed; allows a person with a conviction for a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or a felony to petition for juvenile record sealing if the felony or misdemeanor conviction was dismissed, vacated, or pardoned, or the felony was reduced to a misdemeanor that does not involve moral turpitude; allows a minor’s felony arrest record to be sealed when proceedings were not commenced, the proceedings were dismissed, or the minor was acquitted; adds citation records to the type of records that must be sealed when a juvenile satisfactorily completes a program of diversion or informal supervision; requires various entities to seal citation, arrest, and other records in cases where the prosecutor has declined to initiate proceedings or the probation department has elected not to refer the juvenile to a program of diversion or supervision; provides that a minor be given equal consideration for informal probation regardless of whether the minor lives in the county where the offense occurred; clarifies that the jurisdiction of the appellate court is not affected by a juvenile record sealing; and modifies the definition of “juvenile case file” to include electronic records.

- v. [SB 1484](#) (Smallwood-Cuevas) Jurisdiction of juvenile court (Stats. of 2024, Ch. 193)
Modifies the ages that a person must be to fall under the jurisdiction of the Informal Juvenile and Traffic Court and Expedited Youth Accountability Program from under 18 years of age to between 12 and 17 years of age, inclusive.

Status/Timeline: Proposals required by the foregoing legislative mandates are anticipated to circulate in the Spring 2025 cycle with an expected effective date of January 1, 2026.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff, in consultation with staff from Legal Services will prepare revised rules and forms as needed. The Joint Rules Subcommittee of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee (TCPJAC/CEAC JRS) will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.

This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.

Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate for public comment to a list of family and juvenile law related stakeholders as well as all court executives and presiding judges.

AC Collaboration: For proposals that impact family and civil courts, the committee will collaborate with the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee. For proposals impacting guardianship and adult mental health, the committee will collaborate with the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee. For proposals impacting tribal courts, the committee will collaborate with the Tribal Court–State Court Forum. For proposals impacting the Courts of Appeal, the committee will collaborate with the Appellate Advisory Committee.

#	New or One-Time Projects	
2.	Project Title: Implementation of the Racial Justice Act (AB 2542 (Kalra) Criminal procedure: discrimination (Stats. of 2020, Ch. 317) and AB 256 (Kalra) Criminal procedure: discrimination (Stats. of 2022, Ch. 739)) (One-Time Project)	Priority 1a⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, IV⁶
<p>Project Summary: Develop a proposal to implement the Racial Justice Act (RJA), Penal Code section 745 and 1473(f), in juvenile delinquency matters. To implement the RJA in criminal and appellate matters, a joint proposal drafted by the Criminal Law Advisory Committee and the Appellate Advisory Committee was approved, effective September 1, 2024. A proposal to implement the RJA in juvenile court circulated for public comment in Spring 2024. Based on comments received, the proposal is being revised and is expected to circulate for public comment in Spring 2025.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipate circulating for comment in the Spring 2025 cycle with an effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, justice system partners.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: The earlier proposal by the Criminal Law Advisory Committee and the Appellate Advisory Committee will provide guidance.</p>		
3.	Project Title: Retention of Juvenile Jurisdiction and Clarifying Rules for Petitions Requesting Juvenile Case Files of Deceased Children AB 1756 (Committee on Judiciary) Committee on Judiciary: judiciary omnibus (Stats. of 2023, Ch. 478) (One-Time Project)	Priority 1a⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, IV⁶
<p>Project Summary: Allows a juvenile court to retain jurisdiction of a case when a minor or dependent adult in foster care dies in order to receive documents and information related to the death. Differentiate rules and forms for requesting disclosure of the juvenile case file of a living versus a deceased child.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This project was included in last year’s annual agenda and a proposal was circulated for public comment in the Spring of 2024. After substantive revisions and committee discussion in response to public comment, the proposal was deferred to a later cycle to allow for further discussion of and public comment on additional proposed changes. Anticipate proposed new and/or revised rules and forms to be circulated for public comment in the Spring 2025 cycle with an effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC Staff</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The draft proposal will circulate for public comment to a list of family and juvenile law related stakeholders as well as all court executives and presiding judges.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>	
4.	Project Title: Improving Compliance with Court-Ordered Firearm Prohibitions (One-Time Project)	Priority 1⁵
	<p>Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶</p> <p>Project Summary: The Budget Act of 2022 (AB 178 (Ting) Stats. of 2022, Ch. 45) allocates \$40 million to the judicial branch to improve compliance with court-ordered firearm prohibitions. Of this amount, \$36 million is for grants to the courts, and \$4 million is for oversight, data collection, and a required evaluation. In 2022, the Rules Committee approved this item on the committee’s annual agenda, authorizing its work to implement this program.</p> <p>The committee will continue to take a role in developing recommendations to the Judicial Council to distribute the remaining funds. It will also provide annual reports to the council concerning legislatively mandated reporting requirements and evaluation of the program.</p> <p>In addition, AB 28 (Gabriel) Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Act (Stats. of 2023, Ch. 231) may provide up to \$15 million per year, on an ongoing basis, to support court-based firearm relinquishment programs. It is anticipated that the committee will have a role in developing recommendations to the Judicial Council for implementation and coordinating with the Department of Justice.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Funds must be spent by December 31, 2026. The committee will prepare reports and an evaluation of the program as required.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff will work with Budget Services regarding agreements with the courts for allocation of funds over the remaining two years.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Law enforcement agencies; evaluator (budget language specifies University of California Firearm Violence Research Center at the University of California, Davis).</p>	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<i>AC Collaboration:</i> Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee and Criminal Law Advisory Committee; Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee	
5.	Project Title: Virtual Visitation in Family and Juvenile Law Matters (One-Time Project)	Priority 1b⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, IV⁶
<p>Project Summary: As directed by the Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post-Pandemic Initiatives (P3), develop materials to ensure that court-ordered virtual visitation works effectively when in-person visitation is not feasible. As P3 has noted:</p> <p>Virtual visitation can promote relationships between parents and children and between children and their siblings. Virtual visitation can also help improve (1) co-parenting relationships between foster caregivers and parents working to reunify with their children in the dependency system, (2) co-parenting relationships between parents who have children involved in the juvenile justice system, and (3) co-parenting relationships with parents involved in family court matters.</p> <p>In addition, Senate Bill 599 (Stats. of 2023, Ch.493) requires the council to develop standards for supervised visitation providers. The committee will develop a proposal responsive to the P3 directive and SB 599.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This project was included in last year’s annual agenda and two proposals circulated for public comment in Spring 2024. Based on comments that would require substantive changes, the proposals were deferred. They will be consolidated into one proposal for new and/or revised forms that is expected to circulate for public comment in the Spring 2025 cycle with an effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff, in consultation with staff from Legal Services will prepare the proposed form. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The draft proposal will circulate for public comment to a list of family and juvenile law related stakeholders as well as all court executives and presiding judges.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: The committee will work with the Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post-Pandemic Initiatives to ensure that the proposal is consistent with their expectations and the feedback that they received from court users and stakeholders.</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
6.	Project Title: Family Law: Rules and Forms to Determine a Parental Relationship Based on a Gestational Carrier Agreement (One-Time Project)	Priority 2b⁵ Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶
<p>Project Summary: California has become a hub for surrogacy arrangements because of its abundance of fertility clinics, favorable court rulings, and clear-cut legislation for establishing parentage for the intended parents. Each court in California has had the burden of figuring out how to handle surrogacy parentage cases with little to no guidance or precedent, resulting in inconsistent approaches to the documents filed by the parties’ attorneys and the documents required by court. This lack of uniform procedure has resulted in significant variations in processing time and created burdens on court staff and judges when reviewing the applications for a parentage judgment. A uniform statewide procedure in a rule of court and implementing forms could ease these burdens and prevent forum shopping.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: The committee initially anticipated that the proposal would circulate for comment in the Spring 2024 cycle, with an effective date for rules and forms of January 1, 2025. The proposal is now anticipated to circulate for comment in the Winter 2025 cycle, with a recommendation to defer implementation of new rules and forms to January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff, in consultation with staff from Legal Services, will prepare revised rules and forms.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The draft proposal will circulate for public comment to a list of family and juvenile law related stakeholders as well as all court executives and presiding judges in the Winter of 2024.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>		
7.	Project Title: ICWA Inquiry: Recent Supreme Court Decisions (New Project)	Priority 1a⁵ Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶
<p>Project Summary: Consider amendments to rules and revisions to forms based on recent opinions from the California Supreme Court in <i>In Re Dezi C.</i>, S275578, and <i>In re Kenneth D.</i>, S276649, and the pending decision <i>In re Ja.O.</i>, S280572, and legislative changes in Assembly Bill 81 Indian Children: Child Custody Proceedings. The opinions address significant issues regarding inquiry in Indian Child Welfare Act cases. Also, revise form JV-101A, <i>Additional Children Attachment Juvenile Dependency Petition</i>, to add Indian Child Welfare Act inquiry content for each child.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Any necessary rules and forms revisions would be anticipated to circulate for comment in the Spring 2025 cycle, to take effect on January 1, 2026.</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: To be accomplished with existing CFCC staff resources.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Tribal Advocates and other child welfare professionals.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Tribal Court-State Court Forum</p>	
8.	<p>Project Title: Judicial Council Sponsored Legislation: Amend Notice of Mediation Requirements (New Project)</p>	<p>Priority 1b⁵</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal III⁶</p>
	<p>Project Summary: As requested by Family Court Services Directors across the state, propose that the Legislature amend Family Code section 3176 by deleting the requirement that the court must give notice of child custody mediation by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, to the last known address of the parties. Section 3176(b) would be amended to allow courts to give notice of child custody mediation by more efficient methods, including in-person notification and electronic service.</p> <p>Section 3176 was last amended, effective 2002. Since that time, the Legislature amended Code of Civil Procedure section 1010.6 to permit parties to file and serve papers electronically and courts to serve documents (such as notices and judgments) electronically. Further, effective January 1, 2011, the Judicial Council adopted rules regarding filing and service by electronic means (rules 2.250 to 2.261).</p> <p>Permitting family courts to give notice of child custody mediation to the parties by more modern forms of service would allow courts to comply with their responsibility more efficiently, and by less costly methods. For example, proposed legislation could allow courts to give notice of mediation in these ways: (1) in writing or on the record when all parties are present in court, (2) by electronic service to parties who are represented by counsel, or (3) by express written consent of parties who are self-represented. This supports Goal III to “improve operations through innovation, technology, and the sharing of effective practices” and “...the efficient processing and resolution of all cases.”</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipate proposed amended legislation would circulate for comment in Spring 2025 cycle.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff, in consultation with staff from Legal Services and Governmental Affairs will prepare the proposed draft legislation and seek an author in the Senate or Assembly.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project will result in cost reductions to the court, as mailing a notice by certified mail, return receipt requested can cost a court \$8.00 per mailing to one party. We will coordinate with Budget Services to endure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The draft proposal will circulate for public comment to a list of family law related stakeholders as well as all court executives and presiding judges.</p>	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<i>AC Collaboration:</i> None	
9.	<i>Project Title:</i> Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR) Process (New Project)	<i>Priority 1b</i> ⁵ <i>Strategic Plan Goal I, VI</i> ⁶
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The Court Improvement Plan (CIP) is a federal grant from the Administration of Children and Families, Children’s Bureau, to a state’s highest court to continuously improve court processes and legal representation in child welfare proceedings. California’s CIP, in part, provides funding to juvenile courts. The Children’s Bureau conducts periodic onsite reviews of the state’s child welfare system. Round 4 of this review, known as a Child and Family Services Review (CFSR), began in 2022 with a letter from the Children’s Bureau to the Chief Justice requiring judicial branch participation, including the provision of a Legal-Judicial Specialist on the CFSR team and implementation of Program Improvement Plan (PIP) strategies. At that time, the Chief Justice designated the cochairs of the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee to be her representatives in the CFSR.</p> <p>Under the CFSR, the federal government determines whether the state child welfare system is in substantial conformity with required safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for foster children under federal law (45 CFR §§ 1355.33(c), 1355.34, 1355.35(a)). To achieve substantial conformity, California is developing a PIP for implementation by October 15, 2024. The PIP will set targets for the progress the state must make in meeting benchmark measures and will require California to specify the methods and outcomes the state uses to evaluate its progress. To avoid losing funding, California must make sufficient progress to reach substantial conformity under its PIP within 18-months (approximately April 2026).</p> <p>The committee will develop and monitor implementation of judicial branch components of California’s PIP for its CFSR. In addition, the committee has been asked by the Children’s Bureau and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to help CDSS develop and implement legal and judicial strategies to address areas in the child welfare services system that need improvement.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> CFCC staff, TCPJAC/CEAC JRS will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> California Department of Social Services, Chief Probation Officers of California, Child Welfare Directors Association</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> None</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
10.	Project Title: Protective Orders: Consider Revisions to Form CLETS-001 (New Project)	Priority 2b⁵
	Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶	
<p>Project Summary: The committee will consider revision to form CLETS-001, to include the date of birth for protected persons, as suggested by a stakeholder, to ensure entry of protected person information into the federal restraining order database. The committee will also seek public comment on recent changes to the form to allow the protected person to list any body armor that the proposed restrained person might have or own.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: A proposal to revise form CLETS-001 is anticipated to circulate in the Spring 2025 cycle with an expected effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project will result in cost reductions to the court, as mailing a notice by certified mail, return receipt requested can cost a court \$8.00 per mailing to one party. We will coordinate with Budget Services to endure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: California Department of Justice</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1.	Project Title: Family First Prevention Services Act Implementation	Priority 1a⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, II, IV, VII⁶
<p>Project Summary: Monitor implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), which reforms federal child welfare financing streams, title IV-E, and title IV-B of the Social Security Act, to provide services to families who are at risk of entering the child welfare system. California’s title IV-E program will be audited by the federal government in 2025 and will have implementations for the state’s child welfare financing.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services and Governmental Affairs; TCPJAC/CEAC JRS will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: California Department of Social Services, Chief Probation Officers of California, Child Welfare Directors Association</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>		
2.	Project Title: Indian Child Welfare Act Legal Updates	Priority 1a⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, VI⁶
<p>Project Summary: Maintain rule and form compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act and its requirements as needed.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing. Anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026, for any required rules and forms proposals this year. TCPJAC/CEAC JRS will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<i>AC Collaboration:</i> Tribal Court–State Court Forum	
3.	Project Title: Assembly Bill 1058 Child Support Program Funding	Priority 2⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, VII⁶
<p>Project Summary: Continue to monitor the implementation of the current workload-based funding methodology for the AB 1058 Child Support Commissioner Program and population-based funding methodology for the Family Law Facilitator Program, including its impact on smaller courts and the overall performance of the program as federally mandated.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff will work with Budget Services staff to coordinate work with TCBAC, if any changes to the methodology are suggested.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Department of Child Support Services</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>		
4.	Project Title: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Grants Program Funding and Program Oversight (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 100 et seq.)	Priority 1⁵ Strategic Plan Goal IV, VII⁶
<p>Project Summary: (1) Oversee recommendations to the Judicial Council for allocation of \$2.713 million, which includes the \$500,000 augmentation received beginning fiscal year 18-19 and any other needed changes to support CASA programs; (2) Oversee recommendations to the Judicial Council to award a total of \$60 million in general funds to the California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association over a 3-year period for support of local CASA programs, to be allocated as \$20 million in FY 2022–23, \$20 million in FY 2023–24, and \$20 million in FY 2024–25; (3) Oversee Judicial Council legislative reporting requirements.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing. The Budget Act of 2024 specifies that \$20 million be appropriated to the California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association for FY 2024–25. A report to the Legislature by the Judicial Council is due by July 1, 2025. Program is to be completed by the end of FY 24-25.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Budget Services</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association AC Collaboration: None	
5.	Project Title: Domestic Violence	Priority 1⁵
Strategic Plan Goal IV, V⁶ Project Summary: Provide recommendations to the council on statewide judicial branch domestic violence issues in the area of family and juvenile law, including projects referred from the work of the Domestic Violence Practice and Procedure Task Force and the Violence Against Women Education Program (VAWEP). Serve as lead committee for Protective Orders Working Group (POWG). Status/Timeline: Ongoing Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Criminal Justice Services, Legal Services <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: None AC Collaboration: Civil Small Claims Advisory Committee, Criminal Law Advisory Committee, Tribal Court–State Court Forum		
6.	Project Title: Legislation	Priority 1⁵
Strategic Plan Goal II, IV⁶ Project Summary: As requested by the Legislation Committee, review and recommend positions on legislation related to family and juvenile law matters. Status/Timeline: Ongoing Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Governmental Affairs		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: None AC Collaboration: None	
7.	Project Title: Education	Priority 2⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal V⁶
	Project Summary: Contribute to planning efforts in support of family and juvenile law judicial branch education. Status/Timeline: Ongoing Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CJER <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: None AC Collaboration: CJER Governing Committee	
8.	Project Title: Review Approval of Training Providers under Rules 5.210, 5.225, 5.230, and 5.518	Priority 1⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal V⁶
	Project Summary: Training providers/courses are reviewed for compliance with these rules by Judicial Council staff, in consultation with the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee. As directed by the Judicial Council, result of review of delegations. Status/Timeline: Ongoing Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Support Services, Legal Services <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> None</p>	
9.	<p>Project Title: Advise on Distribution of Federal Title IV-E Reimbursement for Dependency Counsel</p>	<p>Priority 2⁵</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal I, VII⁶</p>
<p>Project Summary: Beginning in 2019, a change in the federal Child Welfare Policy Manual permits attorneys who provide dependency representation to claim reimbursement for specified legal activities. The Budget Act of 2024 includes \$66 million to support this federal reimbursement. The ongoing funding to support federal reimbursement was first included in the Budget Act of 2019. In July 2019, the Council authorized distribution of these funds to court appointed dependency counsel statewide.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services, BAP</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: CEAC Subcommittee, California Department of Social Services, Child Welfare Directors Association, Court Appointed Counsel in Dependency Providers</p> <p>AC Collaboration: TCPJAC/CEAC</p>		
10.	<p>Project Title: Serve as Subject Matter Resource</p>	<p>Priority 2⁵</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal IV, V⁶</p>
<p>Project Summary: The committee serves as a subject matter resource on family and juvenile law for other advisory groups to avoid duplication of effort and contribute to the development of recommendations for the Judicial Council. Such efforts may include providing family and juvenile law expertise and review to working groups, advisory committees, and subcommittees as needed.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: None AC Collaboration: Respective advisory bodies	
11.	Project Title: Judicial Council Forms Within the Committee’s Purview that Have a Gender Identity Question or Term	Priority 1b⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, IV⁶
	Project Summary: Revise forms containing gendered terms or gender identity questions to remove gendered language and conform to legislative changes providing for nonbinary gender identity as the forms are being revised for other reasons. Status/Timeline: Ongoing with each Rules Committee cycle Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: None AC Collaboration: None	
12.	Project Title: Form FL-800 Joint Petition for Summary Dissolution	Priority 1a⁵ Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶
	Project Summary: Update form FL-800 to reflect change in cost of living per Family Code section 2400(b), as a technical change. Status/Timeline: Ongoing requirement to adjust dollar amounts every other year; next adjustment to be effective September 1, 2026. Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> None</p>	
13.	<p>Project Title: Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes</p>	<p>Priority 1a⁵</p>
		<p>Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Develop rule and form changes as necessary to correct errors meeting the criteria of rule 10.22(d)(2): “a nonsubstantive technical change or correction or a minor substantive change that is unlikely to create controversy....”</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>	
14.	<p>Project Title: Juvenile Law: Intercounty Transfers</p>	<p>Priority 1⁵</p>
		<p>Strategic Plan Goal III⁶</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Review requests under rule 5.610(h) to approve local collaborative agreements for alternative juvenile court transfer forms in lieu of using form JV-550. This project originated from the Judicial Council Delegations to the Administrative Director of the Courts (October 25, 2013, Item 99), who then delegated the project to the committee. The committee will review any such requests that are presented during the upcoming year.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> None</p>	
15.	<p>Project Title: Protective Order Forms: Self-Represented Litigants</p>	<p><i>Priority 1a and c⁵</i></p>
		<p><i>Strategic Plan Goal I, IV⁶</i></p>
	<p>Project Summary: As lead committee for Protective Orders Working Group (POWG), work with Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to revise the protective order forms used in domestic violence and civil matters to ensure they are written in language that is comprehensible to non-attorneys while maintaining legal accuracy.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: CFCC staff, in consultation with staff from the Legal Services, will prepare revised forms.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: California Department of Justice; any draft proposal would circulate for public comment to a list of family and juvenile law related stakeholders as well as all court executives and presiding judges.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee; Criminal Law Advisory Committee as needed</p>	
16.	<p>Project Title: Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care (BRC) Recommendations</p>	<p><i>Priority 2⁵</i></p>
		<p><i>Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶</i></p>
	<p>Project Summary: As requested by Judicial Council members, provide input on council accepted recommendations from the BRC. And consider ongoing process to monitor issues raised in the August 2014 Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care Final Report.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> None</p>	
17.	Project Title: Family Law: Elkins Family Law Task Force Recommendations	Priority 2⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶
	<p>Project Summary: As requested by Judicial Council members, provide input on council accepted recommendations from the Elkins Family Law Task Force. And consider ongoing process to monitor issues raised in the December 2013 Elkins Family Law Implementation Task Force Final Report.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>	
18.	Project Title: Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force Referrals	Priority 2⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal I, IV⁶
	<p>Project Summary: As requested by Judicial Council members, provide input on council accepted recommendations and consider ongoing process to monitor issues raised in the December 2015 Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force Final Report. Coordinate with Judicial Council staff and other advisory committees on developing and implementing recommendations to improve access and procedures in mental health proceedings, including review and consideration of implementation of select recommendations referred by the Judicial Council following the task force’s final report to the council.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services, Criminal Justice Services</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: None AC Collaboration: Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee, Criminal Law Advisory Committee, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee	
19.	Project Title: Court Coordination and Efficiencies	Priority 2⁵ Strategic Plan Goal IV, VI, VII⁶
	Project Summary: Review promising practices that enhance coordination and increase efficient use of resources across case types involving families and children including review of unified court implementation possibilities, court coordination protocols, and methods for addressing legal mandates for domestic violence coordination to provide recommendations for education content and related policy efforts. Status/Timeline: Ongoing, as needed. Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: None AC Collaboration: None	
20.	Project Title: Court Coordination and Allegations of Child Abuse and Neglect	Priority 2⁵ Strategic Plan Goal I, IV⁶
	Project Summary: Work collaboratively with Probate and Mental Health as well as the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness on issues related to court coordination and allegations of child abuse and neglect in guardianship cases. Status/Timeline: Ongoing, as needed.	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee, Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness</p>	
21.	<p>Project Title: Protective Orders: Access to the California Courts Protective Order Registry</p>	<p>Priority 2⁵</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal I, IV, VI⁶</p>
	<p>Project Summary: As lead committee for Protective Orders Working Group (POWG), work with Civil Small Claims Advisory Committee to examine the need for statewide guidance and policies on access to the California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR).</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: California Department of Justice</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee</p>	

III. LIST OF 2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements <i>[Provide brief, broad outcome(s) and completed date.]</i>
1.	<p>Implementation of Legislative Changes from the 2023 Legislative Session (completed by January 1, 2025) requiring rule or form changes. As directed by the Judicial Council, reviewed legislation identified by Governmental Affairs that may have an impact on family and juvenile law issues within the advisory committee’s purview. The committee reviewed legislation and proposed rules and forms as appropriate for the council’s consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Child Support: Implementing Amendments to the Family Code Effective September 1, 2024, the council adopted two new forms, revised 20 forms, and revoked three forms related to child support to implement recent changes to the Family Code that bring California into compliance with federal regulations. These changes implemented Assembly Bill 207 (Stats. 2022, ch. 573) and Senate Bill 343 (Stats. 2023, ch. 213). b. Family Law: Adoptions Effective January 1, 2025, the council adopted one new form and revised six forms to simplify, clarify, and provide additional guidance necessary during the adoption process for all adopting parents, and their counsel if represented. The council also revised the adoption request form to conform to Assembly Bill 1650 (Patterson; Stats. 2023, ch.76), which requires that the petitioner inform the court, in writing, whether the petitioner has entered, or has agreed to enter, into a postadoption contact agreement. c. Family and Juvenile Law: Changes to Child Support Forms Under SB 343 Effective September 1, 2024, the council approved this proposal on July 12, 2024, revoking 3 forms; amending 4 forms and adding 2 new forms; and effective January 1, 2026, amending 18 forms and adding 3 more new forms to implement Senate Bill 343, Assembly Bill 2960, and Assembly Bill 1148 (Bonta; Stats. 2023, ch. 565), in order to (1) bring California into compliance with federal regulations regarding child support orders, (2) implement the mandate that LCSA’s provide notice to parents and the court when they begin and cease enforcement services, and (3) implement the increased time period before child support resumes after being suspended due to the obligor’s incarceration. d. Family Law: Changes to form MIL-100 Under SB 1182 Effective January 1, 2025, the council approved this proposal on September 20, 2024, amending form MIL-100 to conform with recent statutory changes enacted by Senate Bill 1182 (Eggman) (Stats. of 2022, Ch. 385), which amended Family Code section 211.5 to provide veterans navigating family law cases with the same access to resources and care through the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) that are available to veterans who have a criminal case. The revised form was also updated and reformatted to improve readability.

#	Project Highlights and Achievements <i>[Provide brief, broad outcome(s) and completed date.]</i>
	<p>e. Family and Juvenile Law: Recognition and Enforcement of Tribal Court Child Custody Orders Effective January 1, 2025, the council approved this joint proposal with the Tribal Court-State Court Forum on September 20, 2024, approving two new forms and revising four existing forms to clarify that the requirement to recognize and enforce child custody orders under the provisions of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (found in sections 3400–3465 of the Family Code) applies to custody orders issued by a tribal court.</p> <p>f. Juvenile Law: Harm of Removal Effective January 1, 2025, the council approved this proposal on September 20, 2024, amending three rules of court and revising one form to conform with recent statutory changes enacted by Senate Bill 578 (Ashby; Stats. 2023, ch. 618), which amended Welfare and Institutions Code section 319 to require the court to consider additional new factors, like the impact on the child when being separated from their parent or guardian, at a detention hearing. The rules amendments and form revision address the new reporting requirements and clarify the court’s role in mitigating harm to the child related to removal from their home.</p> <p>g. Protective Orders: Proposals to implement Legislative Changes to Juvenile Restraining Order Forms Based on the recommendations from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2025, amended several California Rules of Court, and revised several forms on September 20, 2024, to conform to recent statutory changes that impact juvenile restraining orders. These changes implemented Assembly Bill 1621 (Gipson; Stats. 2022, ch. 76) redefines “firearm precursor parts” and Assembly Bill 92 (Connolly; Stats. 2023, ch. 232) specifies that a person who is prohibited from possessing firearms is also prohibited from possessing, owning, or buying body armor. The council also adopted a new notice of hearing form and a new rule clarifying the requirement that the juvenile court that has jurisdiction of a child or youth must hear requests for restraining orders initiated by or brought against the child.</p> <p>h. Protective Orders and other Forms: Proposals to implement Assembly Bill 92 (Body Armor) Effective January 1, 2025, this proposal revised 10 existing forms used in protective order cases. This proposal circulated for comment in the spring of 2024 and was approved by the Judicial Council on September 20, 2024.</p> <p>i. Rules and Forms: Service Form to Implement Assembly Bill 2791 Effective January 1, 2024, this joint proposal with the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to implement Assembly Bill 2791 adopted two new forms (SER-001 and SER-001A) to be used by civil litigants to request service by a sheriff or marshal. This proposal has circulated twice for public comment and was approved by the Judicial Council at its November 2023 convening.</p>
2.	<p>Technical Changes to Income and Expense Declaration (form FL-150) Effective September 1, 2024, the committee revised form FL-150 to include an attorney signature block and included this change in the general technical report submitted by Legal Services. The Judicial Council approved this change at its July 2024 convening.</p>
3.	<p>Provided oversight to implementation of new program to expand funding for court appointed counsel in dependency proceedings.</p>

#	Project Highlights and Achievements <i>[Provide brief, broad outcome(s) and completed date.]</i>
4.	Provided technical assistance and position recommendations on family and juvenile related proposed legislation via numerous legislative review meetings.
5.	Approved list of training providers for court connected child custody mediators, recommending counselors, and evaluators as directed by the Judicial Council.
6.	AB 1058 Funding related activities: the committee continued to make recommendations to the council for ongoing funding allocations based on the approved funding methodologies for the program.
7.	<p>Allocations and Reimbursements to Trial Courts: Access to Visitation Grant: Program Funding Allocation for Federal Grant Fiscal Years 2024-25 and 2026-27</p> <p>Provided recommendations to the Judicial Council for allocation of funding for the Access to Visitation Grant Program. The committee approved 8 of the 9 applications received for Access to Visitation Grants for funding to the JC and TCBC Committees for the following counties: Humboldt, Orange, San Bernardino, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Shasta, Tulare, and Yuba. The committee decided to deny the grant application of San Joaquin County because the proposed grant-related services were outside the state and federal scope of services and goals of the Access to Visitation grant program.</p>
8.	Developed recommendations for an ongoing funding methodology for the \$500,000 augmentation that was approved by the council at its July 2024 meeting and provided recommendations to the Judicial Council for allocation of the \$2.713 million in funding for CASA programs based on the approved methodology. Submitted and published a legislatively-mandated report entitled <i>Report on California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association Funding Allocations and Program Development.</i>
9.	Provided support for the activities and meetings of the Violence Against Women Education Program (VAWEP).

Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions
Annual Agenda¹—2024–2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Adrienne M. Grover, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District
Lead Staff:	Eric Long, Attorney, Legal Services
Committee’s Charge/Membership: <p>Rule 10.58 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions, which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for updating, amending, and adding topics to the <i>Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions</i> (CACI).</p> <p>Rule 10.58 sets forth the membership position of the committee. The Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions currently has 23 members (a majority of which must be judges). Under rule 10.58, the Committee must include at least 1 member from each of the following categories: (1) appellate court justice; (2) trial court judge; (3) lawyer whose primary area of practice is civil law; and (4) law professor whose primary area of expertise is civil law. The current committee roster is available on the committee’s web page.</p>	
Subgroups of the Advisory Committee²: <p>The advisory committee has three subcommittees (referred to internally as working groups). Each working group is made up exclusively of committee members. Each working group reviews approximately one third of the proposed meeting agenda before the full committee meeting and makes recommendations to the committee regarding each proposal. The three working groups are (and are so numbered because the committee’s original six working groups were consolidated into three):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Working Group 122. Working Group 343. Working Group 56	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

²For the definition of “subcommittee” see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); “working group” see rule 10.70, “workstream,” see rule 10.53(c); and “education curriculum committee,” see rule 10.50(c)(6).

Meetings Planned for 2024–2025³ (Advisory body and all subgroups listed above.)

Three working group meetings: during the first two weeks of December 2024, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., videoconference

Advisory committee meeting: on or about January 23, 2025, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., San Francisco with hybrid videoconference option

Three working group meetings: during the first two weeks of June 2025, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., videoconference

Advisory committee meeting: on or about July 24, 2025, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., San Francisco with hybrid videoconference option

Due to the nature of the advisory committee’s work and the detailed drafting that is required to write civil jury instructions that are legally accurate and understandable to the average juror, two in-person meetings have been authorized. To fulfill its charge to maintain CACI, to add instructions in new areas of the law, and to augment existing subject matter areas, the advisory committee will have two in-person meetings with a hybrid videoconference option for members who are unable to attend in person.

Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.

³ Refer to section IV. 2. of the [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is suspending advisory body in-person meetings for the 2024–2025 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek final approval from the advisory body’s internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated July 1, 2024, for additional details.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴
1.	None
	<div style="text-align: right;"><i>Priority n/a⁵</i></div>
	<div style="text-align: right;"><i>Strategic Plan Goal n/a⁶</i></div>
	<p><i>Project Summary:</i> n/a</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> n/a</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> n/a</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> n/a</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> n/a</p>

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1.	Maintenance—Case Law	Priority 1
Strategic Plan Goal IV		
<p>Project Summary: Review new case law affecting jury instructions to determine whether changes to any civil jury instructions are required. Draft and present proposed changes for council approval.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; delivery of any changes requiring only Rules Committee approval to Rules Committee as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.</p>		
2.	Maintenance—Legislation	Priority 1
Strategic Plan Goal IV		
<p>Project Summary: Review new legislation affecting jury instructions to determine whether changes to any civil jury instructions are required. Draft and present proposed changes for council approval. Make any necessary citation revisions to statutes cited under Sources and Authority.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; delivery of any changes requiring only Rules Committee approval to Rules Committee as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: None.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
3.	<i>New Instructions and Expansion into New Subject Matter Areas</i>	<i>Priority 1</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Review new legislation, case law, and suggestions received from jury instruction users; draft and propose new civil jury instructions, including new series of instructions in an entirely new subject area, as appropriate.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</i> None.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None.</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.</p>		
4.	<i>Maintenance—Comments from Users</i>	<i>Priority 1</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Review suggestions received from jury instruction users, including the bench and bar; draft and propose changes and refinements, as appropriate, based on user suggestions.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; delivery of any changes requiring only Rules Committee approval to Rules Committee as needed.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</i> None.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None.</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
5.	<i>Maintenance—Sources and Authority</i>	<i>Priority 1</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p>Project Summary: Update Sources and Authority citations and case quotations as appropriate.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery to the Judicial Council at its July and December meetings; ongoing, with delivery of any changes that the Judicial Council has given the Rules Committee final authority to approve through a delegation of authority—for example, adding cases and statutes to and removing them from the Sources and Authority and editing the Sources and Authority—as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: None. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.</p>		
6.	<i>Maintenance—Secondary Sources</i>	<i>Priority 1</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p>Project Summary: Update Secondary Source citations to ensure that the secondary sources included in CACI are up to date.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery to the Judicial Council at its July and December meetings; ongoing, with delivery of any changes that the Judicial Council has given the Rules Committee final authority to approve through a delegation of authority—for example, adding, removing, and editing Secondary Sources—as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: None. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
7.	Technical Corrections	Priority 1 Strategic Plan Goal IV
<p>Project Summary: Make any necessary corrections or editing changes to the jury instructions.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery of any changes requiring Judicial Council approval to the council at its July and December meetings; ongoing, with delivery of any changes that the Judicial Council has given the Rules Committee final authority to approve through a delegation of authority—nonsubstantive grammatical and typographical corrections to the jury instructions, as well as minor substantive changes unlikely to create controversy—as needed.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: None.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Each Working Group reviews, considers, and makes recommendations to the AC regarding each proposal.</p>		

III. LIST OF 2023–2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements <i>[Provide brief, broad outcome(s) and completed date.]</i>
1.	Maintenance—Case Law, Legislation, and Comments from Users: Reviewed case law, new legislation affecting jury instructions, and comments from users to determine whether changes to the civil jury instructions are required. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval on May 17, 2024, and to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about November 15, 2024. Release 44 (approved by the council in November 2023) included revisions to 14 instructions and verdict forms to bring them up to date as well as to the user guide, and release 45 (approved by the council in May 2024) included revisions to 27 instructions and revocation of 1 instruction to bring them up to date.
2.	New Instructions and Expansion into New Subject Matter Areas: Reviewed new legislation, case law, and suggestions received from jury instruction users and proposed new civil jury instructions as appropriate. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval on May 17, 2024, and to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about November 15, 2024. Release 44 (approved by the council in November 2023) included 2 new instructions in the Fair Employment and Housing Act series concerning pregnancy discrimination and in 1 new instruction in the Concluding Instructions series concerning bias.
3.	Maintenance—Sources and Authority: Reviewed case law and new legislation and proposed inclusion of excerpts and citations from new sources and authority. Updates to the Sources and Authority presented to Judicial Council for approval on May 17, 2024, and to be presented to the Judicial Council on or about November 15, 2024, and through a delegation of authority to the council’s Rules Committee in October 2023 and April 2024.
4.	Maintenance—Secondary Sources: Updated citations in CACI’s Secondary Sources. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval on May 17, 2024, and to be presented to Judicial Council on or about November 15, 2024, and other secondary sources updated through a delegation of authority to the council’s Rules Committee in October 2023 and April 2024.
5.	Technical Corrections: Made necessary corrections or editing changes to the jury instruction publication. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval on May 17, 2024, and to be presented to Judicial Council on or about November 15, 2024, and other technical corrections made through a delegation of authority to the council’s Rules Committee in October 2023 and April 2024.

Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions
Annual Agenda¹— 2024–2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Jeffrey S. Ross, San Francisco County Superior Court
Lead Staff:	Kara Portnow, Supervising Attorney, Criminal Justice Services
<p>Committee’s Charge/Membership: Rule 10.59 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions (CALCRIM), which is to regularly review case law and statutes affecting jury instructions and to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for updating, amending, and adding topics to the council’s criminal jury instructions.</p> <p>Rule 10.59 also sets forth the membership position of the committee. The Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions currently has 13 members. The current committee roster is available on the committee’s web page.</p>	
<p>Subgroups of the Advisory Committee²: The committee has one subcommittee, the CALCRIM Workgroup, currently consisting of six members who meet to pre-vet all materials before they go to the full committee for review.</p>	
<p>Meetings Planned for 2024–2025³ (Advisory body and all subgroups listed above.) Date/Time/Remote or Location if in person (see footnote 3 for in-person meetings): Two full committee meetings in San Francisco: October 18, 2024 and May 2025 (date TBD). Two workgroup meetings: September 12, 2024 and April 2025 (date TBD) by videoconference.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.</p>	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

²For the definition of “subcommittee” see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); “working group” see rule 10.70, “workstream,” see rule 10.53(c); and “education curriculum committee,” see rule 10.50(c)(6).

³ Refer to section IV. 2. of the [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is suspending advisory body in-person meetings for the 2024–2025 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek final approval from the advisory body’s internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated July 1, 2024, for additional details.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
	No new projects planned at this time.	<i>Priority n/a⁵</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal n/a⁶</i>

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1	<i>Project Title: Maintenance—Case Law and Legislation</i>	<i>Priority 1(a)</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
	<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Review case law and new legislation affecting jury instructions to determine whether changes to the criminal jury instructions are required. Judicial Council direction: Draft and maintain jury instructions that accurately and understandably state the law.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing, with delivery to Judicial Council at February and October meetings.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> No implementation costs are associated with this project.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> Not applicable.</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> Not applicable.</p>	

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

# Ongoing Projects and Activities	
2	Project Title: Maintenance—Comments from Users
	<i>Priority 1(a), 1(c)</i>
<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>	
<p>Project Summary: Review comments received from jury instruction users and propose any necessary changes and improvements. Judicial Council Direction: Draft and maintain jury instructions that accurately and understandably state the law.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery to Judicial Council at February and October meetings.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: No implementation costs are associated with this project.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Not applicable. AC Collaboration: Not applicable.</p>	
3	Project Title: New Instructions and Expansion into New Areas.
	<i>Priority 1(a), 1(c)</i>
<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>	
<p>Project Summary: Review suggestions received from jury instruction users, new legislation, and case law and propose new criminal jury instructions as appropriate. Judicial Council Direction: Draft and maintain jury instructions that accurately and understandably state the law.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery to Judicial Council at February and October meetings.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: No implementation costs are associated with this project.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Not applicable. AC Collaboration: Not applicable.</p>	
4	Project Title: Technical Corrections
	<i>Priority 2(c)</i>
<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>	
<p>Project Summary: Make any necessary corrections or editing changes to the jury instructions. Judicial Council Direction: Draft and maintain jury instructions that accurately and understandably state the law.</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities
	<p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing, with delivery to Judicial Council at February and October meetings.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: No implementation costs are associated with this project.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Not applicable.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Not applicable.</p>

III. LIST OF 2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	Maintenance—Case Law and Legislation: Reviewed case law and new legislation affecting jury instructions to determine whether changes to the criminal jury instructions are required. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval in March 2024 and September 2024.
2.	Maintenance—Comments From Users: Reviewed comments received from jury instruction users and propose any necessary changes and improvements. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval in March 2024 and September 2024.
3.	New Instructions and Expansion into New Areas: Reviewed new legislation and case law and suggestions received from jury instruction users and proposed new criminal jury instructions as appropriate. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval in March 2024 and September 2024.
4.	Technical Corrections: Made necessary corrections or editing changes to the jury instructions. Releases presented to Judicial Council for approval in March 2024 and September 2024.

Appellate Advisory Committee
Annual Agenda¹—2024-2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Joan K. Irion, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Fourth District
Lead Staff:	Jeremy Varon, Attorney, Legal Services (acting)
Committee’s Charge/Membership: Rule 10.40 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Appellate Advisory Committee (AAC), which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for improving the administration of justice in appellate proceedings and to make proposals on training for justices and appellate support staff to the Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee. <u>Rule 10.34</u> sets forth additional duties of the committee. Rule 10.40 sets forth the membership positions of the committee. The AAC currently has 21 members. The current committee <u>roster</u> is available on the committee’s web page.	
Subgroups of the Advisory Committee²: 1. Rules Subcommittee 2. Appellate Division Subcommittee 3. Legislative Subcommittee 4. Appellate Efficiency Ad Hoc Subcommittee	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

² For the definition of “subcommittee” see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); “working group” see rule 10.70, “workstream,” see rule 10.53(c); and “education curriculum committee,” see rule 10.50(c)(6).

Meetings Planned for 2024-2025³ (Advisory body and all subgroups listed above.)

Full committee meetings:

- February/March 2025 (videoconference to make final recommendations on winter cycle proposals and to review spring cycle proposals)
- July 2025 (videoconference to make final recommendations on spring cycle proposals)
- September 2025 (videoconference to make recommendations on annual agenda)

Subcommittee meetings: one or more teleconference or videoconference meetings of each subcommittee before each full committee meeting, to work on rules and forms proposals. Appellate Efficiency Subcommittee to meet as needed to work on rules and forms proposals.

Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.

³ Refer to section IV. 2. of the [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is suspending advisory body in-person meetings for the 2024–2025 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek final approval from the advisory body’s internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated July 1, 2024, for additional details.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
1.	Project Title: CEQA Rules: Implementation of Legislation (new project)	Priority 1(a) ⁵ Strategic Plan Goals I, III ⁶
<p>Project Summary: Develop rules recommendations as appropriate. <u>AB 3265</u> and <u>SB 1342</u> include additional projects and types of projects that receive expedited CEQA judicial review. Specifically, AB 3265 establishes streamlined procedures for judicial review of approvals granted for an environmental leadership media campus project, as defined. SB 1342 includes two specific projects as infrastructure projects, as defined by statute and rules, thereby providing expedited CEQA review for the projects. Rules should be amended to include these new projects and project types.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Winter Cycle, with anticipated effective date of July 1, 2025.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Joint project with Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee.</p>		

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

<p>2. Project Title: Appellate Caseflow Workgroup Recommendations Regarding Record Preparation (one-time project)</p>	<p>Priority 1(b) Strategic Plan Goals III, IV</p>
<p>Project Summary: Consider changes to rules and forms relating to preparation of the record on appeal. The project proposals were recommended by the Appellate Caseflow Workgroup⁷ and referred to the Appellate Advisory Committee by direction from the Executive and Planning Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider amending the applicable rules of court to streamline or reduce the number of tasks required by superior court clerks in preparing the record on appeal and revising related forms as necessary. The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup noted that the burden of compiling the clerk’s transcript can cause delays in the early stages of appeals. It thus encouraged the council to consider ways to reduce the tasks superior court clerks are required to perform in the record preparation process. • Consider revising the record designation forms and, if necessary, amend the applicable rules of court to make the record designation process simpler, clearer, and more efficient. There are currently 10 forms (including one information sheet) that litigants use to designate/create the record in civil and criminal cases, with the precise forms to be used depending on the circumstances of the case. • Consider amending the rules of court to allow and encourage parties to elect to proceed by appendix on appeal. The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup determined that the parties’ use of appendixes can expedite the record preparation process. <p>Status/Timeline: These proposals were previously included as projects 5, 6, and 7 on the committee’s approved annual agenda for 2023-2024 with a proposed completion date of January 1, 2027.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Court Executives Advisory Committee.</p>	

⁷ The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup was appointed by Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye in June 2022, and made its report to her in December 2022. It may be viewed at https://newsroom.courts.ca.gov/sites/default/files/newsroom/2022-12/Appellate%20Caseflow%20Workgroup%20Report_Final.pdf.

3.	Project Title: Submission of Excerpts of Record on Appeal with Briefs (one-time project)	Priority 1(b) Strategic Plan Goals III, IV
<p>Project Summary: Consider amending the rules of court to encourage or require appellants to submit, along with their briefs, excerpts of the record containing those parts of the record that are relevant and useful to the court in deciding the appeal. The proposal was recommended by the Appellate Caseflow Workgroup and referred to the Appellate Advisory Committee by the Executive and Planning Committee. Submission of excerpts of record alongside a party’s brief may aid the judges’ or justices’ review of the party’s arguments on appeal by providing an easily accessible and clearly citable subset of the key parts of the record.</p> <p>This project would involve considering whether to encourage or require this practice, and if so, what to include in an excerpt.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This proposal was previously included as project 8 on the committee’s approved annual agenda for 2023-2024 with a proposed completion date of January 1, 2027.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
4.	Project Title: Update rules regarding remote proceedings in the appellate divisions (one-time project)	Priority 1(a) Strategic Plan Goals III, IV
<p>Project Summary: Consider amending rules 8.885 and 8.929 in light of Code of Civil Procedure section 367.75 and rules 3.672 and 10.635, and to facilitate remote appearances. It is the understanding of the committee that efforts to facilitate remote appearances remain a priority for the judicial branch.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This proposal was previously included on the committee’s approved 2022-2023 annual agenda and a proposal was circulated for public comment in Spring 2023. Action was subsequently deferred pending council rulemaking establishing standards for when a judicial officer may preside over a remote court proceeding from a location other than a courtroom (Code of Civ. Proc., § 367.10). New rule 3.672 regarding such proceedings was adopted by the council effective August 4, 2024. Anticipate invitation to comment in 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.</p>		

This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.

Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate for public comment.

AC Collaboration: Appellate Presiding Justices Advisory Committee

5. **Project Title: Application for Extensions of Time to File Briefs in Misdemeanor and Infraction Appeals (one-time project)**

Priority 1(b)

Strategic Plan Goals III, IV

Project Summary: Consider development of a new form to apply for an extension of time to file a brief in misdemeanor and infraction appeals. This proposal is part of the committee’s consideration of the following recommendation of the Appellate Caseflow Workgroup referred to the Appellate Advisory Committee by the Executive and Planning Committee:

Consider amending the rules of court to require litigants who request extensions of time without using the council’s optional forms to include in their request some or all of the information contained on the request forms, or making the request forms (forms APP-006, APP-106, CR-126, JV-816, and JV-817) mandatory. The workgroup encouraged the council to consider requiring litigants to provide certain information in extension of time requests to enable courts to better evaluate whether the moving party has demonstrated good cause.

Status/Timeline: In Spring 2024, in response to the above referral, the committee circulated for public comment a proposal that included, among several other things, a proposed new form to apply for an extension of time to file a brief in misdemeanor appeals. In response to a public comment, action on this form was deferred to allow the committee to consider whether it should be expanded for use in infraction appeals as well. Anticipate invitation to comment in 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026.

Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff.

This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.

Internal/External Stakeholders Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; any proposal will circulate for public comment.

AC Collaboration: N/A

6.	Publication and posting of appellate division opinions certified for publication	Priority 1 PLACEHOLDER Strategic Plan Goals I, III
<p>Project Summary: Currently, appellate division opinions certified for publication are posted on the California courts website after the time provided for the Court of Appeal to order transfer, and only if transfer is not ordered. The current procedures were developed in part based on provisions in the California Style Manual (CSM). The CSM is now under review. This project would consider possible changes to the rules for transfer and publication based on the subject matter expertise of the Supreme Court and the Reporter of Decisions. This is a priority 1 project because it will improve access to the development of the law in unlawful detainer, debt collection, and fee waiver cases, among others.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This item was previously approved by the Rules Committee as a placeholder. It is on hold pending action by the Supreme Court to revise the California Style Manual and consider changes to publication rules and procedures for posting opinions on the website.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The Supreme Court, Reporter of Decisions, JC Information Technology; all draft rules proposals will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
7.	Project Title: Amend the File Size Limit for Electronic Filings in the Court of Appeal (one-time project)	Priority 2(b) Strategic Plan Goals I, IV
<p>Project Summary: Currently, rule 8.74(a)(5) limits the size of an electronic filing in the Court of Appeal to 25 megabytes. This limitation was included when the Courts of Appeal accepted such filings via email. It has been suggested that with full implementation of e-filing in the Courts of Appeal, this limitation is no longer necessary. This change was suggested by the Executive Officer of one of the Courts of Appeal.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This priority 2 project is included on the annual agenda because allowing e-filing of larger files would reduce burdens on litigants and the courts, who must currently file/receive larger files in multiple pieces to comply with the 25 megabyte limitation. Anticipate invitation to comment in 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p>		

	<p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, appellate litigants; any proposal will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Information Technology Advisory Committee.</p>	
8.	<p>Project Title: Clarify that a Respondent Who Fails to Timely File a Record Designation Must Receive a Default Notice (one-time project)</p>	<p>Priority 2(b)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal III, IV</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Consider what action, if any, such as education or rule amendment relating to rule 8.140, is necessary to clarify that a court must give notice to either appellant or respondent who fails to timely file a record designation in a civil appeal. It has been reported that respondents are not receiving such notices in all cases. This change was suggested by the chair of a County Bar Association Appellate Law Section.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This priority 2 project is included on the annual agenda because it relates to the record designation process, and including this project with the other record designation proposals in project 1 above and 7 below would promote efficiency and reduce the burden of separate review and implementation of related proposals.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; any proposal will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	
9.	<p>Project Title: Respondent’s designation of reporters’ transcripts in Code of Civil Procedure section 1294.4 appeals (one-time project)</p>	<p>Priority 2(b)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goals I, IV</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Appeals under Code of Civil Procedure section 1294.4 from an order dismissing or denying a petition to compel arbitration must be decided within 100 days. Under rule 8.713, appellants must file a record designation with the notice of appeal and any reporter’s transcript must be filed within 10 days. However, the rule does not provide for respondent to designate any additional reporter’s transcript. This project would consider amending the rule to provide for respondent’s designation and to establish the time for doing so. The project was recommended by a committee member to close a gap in the rule that is reported to have been problematic.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: This priority 2 project was previously included as project 10 on the committee’s approved annual agenda for 2023-2024 with a completion date of January 1, 2026 to allow the committee to consider this project alongside other record-related projects. It is included on this annual agenda because it relates to the record designation process, and including this project with the other record</p>	

	<p>designation proposals in projects 1 and 6 above would promote efficiency and reduce the burden of separate review and implementation of related proposals.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>				
10.	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%; padding: 5px;">Project Title: Inclusion of Voir Dire and Opening Statements in Reporter’s Transcripts in Felony Appeals (one-time project)</td> <td style="width: 30%; padding: 5px;">Priority 2(b) DEFERRED</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Strategic Plan Goals III, IV</td> </tr> </table> <p>Project Summary: Consider amending rule 8.320(c)(3) to remove the provision that excludes voir dire examination of jurors and any opening statement from reporter’s transcripts in felony appeals. Under the Racial Justice Act these transcripts may be important to determine if a violation of the Act has occurred. It is suggested that it will improve efficiency to automatically include these in the reporter’s transcripts, rather than requiring that litigants request augmentation of the record under rule 8.324.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Deferred due to budget constraints impacting the judicial branch. This priority 2 project is included on the annual agenda with a recommendation that work be deferred until next year in recognition of budgetary pressure, to reduce burdens on the courts, and to allow development of information about augmentation requests for these transcripts in appeals under the Racial Justice Act.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; any proposal will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	Project Title: Inclusion of Voir Dire and Opening Statements in Reporter’s Transcripts in Felony Appeals (one-time project)	Priority 2(b) DEFERRED	Strategic Plan Goals III, IV	
Project Title: Inclusion of Voir Dire and Opening Statements in Reporter’s Transcripts in Felony Appeals (one-time project)	Priority 2(b) DEFERRED				
Strategic Plan Goals III, IV					

11.	Project Title: Clarify the Format Requirements that Apply to Both Paper and E-Filed Briefs (one-time project)	Priority 2(b) DEFERRED Strategic Plan Goals III, IV
<p>Project Summary: Consider amending rule 8.204(b) to clarify the formatting requirements that apply to both paper and e-filed briefs. This project was suggested by a member of the Appellate Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Deferred due to budget constraints impacting the judicial branch. This priority 2 project is included on the annual agenda with a recommendation that work be deferred until next year in recognition of budgetary pressure and to reduce burdens on the courts.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; any proposal will circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
12.	Project Title: Application of Rule 8.416 to dependency appeals statewide (one-time project)	Priority 2(c) DEFERRED Strategic Plan Goals I, III, IV
<p>Project Summary: Rule 8.416 provides fast track procedures in appeals from (1) all terminations of parental rights, regardless of county of origin, and (2) all judgments or appealable orders in juvenile dependency cases originating out of the Superior Courts of Orange, Imperial, and San Diego Counties (or other superior courts where both the superior court and District Court of Appeal have agreed to have Rule 8.416 govern). This project would consider whether to amend the rules of court (and revise forms as necessary) to expand these fast-track procedures to all dependency appeals in the state. This project was suggested by an Administrative Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeal.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Deferred due to budget constraints impacting the judicial branch. This priority 2 project to improve access and quality of justice and service to the public was previously included as project 12 on the committee’s approved annual agenda for 2023-2024 but action on the project was deferred. This project is included on the annual agenda with a recommendation that work be deferred until next year in recognition of budgetary pressure and to reduce burdens on the courts.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p>		

Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, litigants in dependency proceedings; all draft proposals will circulate for public comment.

AC Collaboration: Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee; Administrative Presiding Justices Advisory Committee.

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# Ongoing Projects and Activities ⁴	
1. <i>Improve Rules and Forms</i>	<i>Priority 1</i>
	<i>Strategic Plan Goals I, III, IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Working through the Rules Subcommittee and the Appellate Division Subcommittee, review case law changes that impact appellate courts and appellate procedure and suggestions from committee members, judicial officers, court staff, the bar, and the public concerning appellate rules and forms and appellate administration. Make recommendations to the Judicial Council for necessary changes to appellate rules, standards, and forms (rule 10.21).</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</i> Committee staff; potentially others depending on the project.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> Depends on the project; all draft proposals circulate for public comment.</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> As appropriate, depending on the project.</p>	
2. <i>Review Pending Legislation</i>	<i>Priority 1</i>
	<i>Strategic Plan Goals III, IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Working through the Legislative Subcommittee, review pending legislation affecting appellate procedure and court administration and make recommendations to the Legislation Committee as to whether the Judicial Council should support or oppose the legislation (rule 10.34).</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</i> Committee staff, Governmental Affairs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>The project includes allocations or distributions of funds to the courts, which have been reviewed and approved by Budget Service.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> California Legislature.</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> N/A</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities⁴	
3.	<i>Review Enacted Legislation</i>	<i>Priority 1</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goals III, IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Review all enacted legislation referred to the committee by the Judicial Council’s Governmental Affairs office that may have an impact on appellate procedure and court administration, and, where appropriate, propose to the Judicial Council rules and forms to implement the legislation or to bring rules and forms into conformity with it.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</i> Committee staff, Governmental Affairs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> N/A</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> As appropriate, depending on the legislation.</p>		
4.	<i>Provide Subject Matter Expertise</i>	<i>Priority 2(b)</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal III</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Serve as subject matter resource for other advisory groups to avoid duplication of efforts and contribute to the development of recommendations for council action. Such efforts may include providing appellate procedural expertise and review to working groups, advisory committees, and subcommittees as needed.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</i> Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> N/A</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> As appropriate, depending on the project for which advice or consultation was requested.</p>		

# Ongoing Projects and Activities ⁴	
5.	Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes
	Priority 2(a) Strategic Plan Goals III, IV
<p>Project Summary: Develop rule and form changes as necessary to correct technical errors meeting the criteria of rule 10.22(d)(2): “a nonsubstantive technical change or correction or a minor substantive change that is unlikely to create controversy”</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>The project includes allocations or distributions of funds to the courts, which have been reviewed and approved by Budget Service.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	

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LIST OF 2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	<i>Civil Case Information Statement.</i> The committee recommended amending California Rules of Court, rule 8.100 to require appellants to file the <i>Civil Case Information Statement</i> (APP-004) within 15 days after the reviewing court assigns the appeal a case number and revising form APP-004 to allow the appellant to provide a nonstatutory reason why the appeal is eligible for calendar preference. The committee also recommended revising the forms used by parties to request extensions of time to file briefs to make slight substantive and formatting improvements.
2.	<i>Expanded Clerk’s Transcripts in Felony Appeals.</i> The committee recommended amending California Rules of Court, rule 8.320 to authorize the Courts of Appeal to require, by local rule, that the clerk’s transcript in felony appeals include additional court records from the superior court file beyond those currently required in rule 8.320(b) or (d)(1).
3.	<i>Deadline for Amicus Curiae Briefs.</i> The committee recommended amending California Rules of Court, rule 8.200 to provide a deadline for filing an application to file an amicus curiae brief when no respondent’s brief has been filed.
4.	<i>Form Briefs for Use in Limited Civil Appeals.</i> The committee recommended the approval of three optional form briefs that parties can use in limited civil appeals, as well as related information sheets that explain how to use each form brief. Additionally, the committee recommends amending one rule of court and revising one information sheet to address these new forms.
5.	<i>Appellate Caseflow Workgroup Recommendations Regarding Record Preparation.</i> The committee began work on amending rules and revising forms relating to preparation of the record on appeal.
6.	<i>Application of Rule 8.416 to Dependency Appeals Statewide.</i> The committee began work on amending California Rules of Court, rule 8.416.

Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee
Annual Agenda¹—2024–2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Donald J. Proietti, Superior Court of Merced County
Lead Staff:	James Barolo, Attorney, Legal Services
Committee’s Charge/Membership: Rule 10.41 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee (C&SCAC), which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for improving the administration of justice in civil and small claims proceedings. Rule 10.41 also sets forth the membership categories for the committee, which currently has 28 voting members and 1 advisory member. The current committee roster is available on the committee’s web page.	
Subgroups of the Advisory Committee²: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Alternative Dispute Resolution Subcommittee2. Case Management and Environmental Law Subcommittee (<i>previously the Rules Subcommittee</i>)3. Forms Subcommittee4. Legislative Subcommittee5. Protective Orders Subcommittee	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

²For the definition of “subcommittee” see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); “working group” see rule 10.70, “workstream,” see rule 10.53(c); and “education curriculum committee,” see rule 10.50(c)(6).

Meetings Planned for 2024–2025³ (Advisory body and all subgroups listed above.)

Full committee meetings:

- October 2024 (videoconference to review Annual Agenda and winter cycle proposals)
- February 2025 (videoconference to review spring cycle proposals and to make final recommendations on winter cycle proposals)
- June 2025 (videoconference to make final recommendations on spring cycle proposals)

Subcommittee Meetings:

- Legislative Subcommittee. Videoconference meetings several times a month as needed from February through July to review proposed legislation.
- Other subcommittees. Multiple telephonic or videoconference meetings of each before each of the full committee meetings.

Other meetings as needed to address proposals implementing new legislation and other urgent matters.

Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.

³ Refer to section IV. 2. of the [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is suspending advisory body in-person meetings for the 2024–2025 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek final approval from the advisory body’s internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated July 1, 2024, for additional details.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
1.	Protective Order Forms: Implementation of SB 899 (new project)	<p><i>Priority 1(a)</i>⁵</p> <p><i>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</i>⁶</p>
<p>Project Summary: Develop rule and form recommendations as appropriate. SB 899 requires courts to inquire whether a person subject to a civil restraining order has complied with the firearm relinquishment requirement and order the clerk to notify law enforcement if a receipt is not filed within 48 hours of receiving the restraining order. Similar legislation for domestic violence restraining orders was enacted a few years ago SB 320 (Stats. 2021, ch. 685). The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee adopted forms to implement the legislation. Similar forms are needed for the other protective types.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff, potentially Center for Families, Children & the Courts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Potentially Joint Protective Order Working Group, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee</p>		

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

#	New or One-Time Projects	
2.	Protective Order Forms: Implementation of AB 3209 (new project)	Priority 1(a) Strategic Plan Goals I and III
<p>Project Summary: Develop form recommendations as appropriate. AB 3209 creates two new protective orders. The bill authorizes a court, when sentencing a person for an offense involving retail theft from an establishment, to issue a criminal protective order prohibiting a person from entering the retail establishment. The bill also authorizes a prosecuting attorney representing a retail establishment and specified individuals to file a petition for the issuance of a civil protective order against a person who has been arrested two or more times at the same retail establishment. Existing criminal protective orders forms should be revised, and additional forms may need to be created for the new protective order types.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Winter Cycle, with anticipated effective date of July 1, 2025.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff, Criminal Justice Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Joint project with Criminal Law Advisory Committee, potential collaboration with Joint Protective Order Working Group</p>		
3.	Protective Order Forms: Implementation of AB 2096 (new project)	Priority 1(a) Strategic Plan Goals I and III
<p>Project Summary: Develop form recommendations as appropriate. AB 2096 expands the definition of postsecondary educational institutions in school violence restraining orders to include public institutions, broadens the criteria for seeking restraining orders to include any form of unlawful violence, and removes the condition that the violent conduct must occur off-campus or be construed to occur on campus. The current forms should be revised to reflect the expanded definition and criteria for school violence restraining orders.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff, potentially Center for Families, Children & the Courts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Potentially Joint Protective Order Working Group, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee</p>	
4.	Protective Order Forms: Implementation of SB 554 (new project)	<p>Priority 1(a)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Develop form recommendations as appropriate. SB 554 permits petitioners to file civil harassment restraining orders in the county where the petitioner resides. The civil harassment restraining order petition (form CH-100) should be revised to reflect this new possible venue.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff, potentially Center for Families, Children & the Courts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Potentially Joint Protective Order Working Group, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee</p>	
5.	Unlawful Detainer and Small Claims Forms: Repeal of the Statutes and Implementation of Legislation (new project)	<p>Priority 1(a)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Develop form recommendations as appropriate. Code of Civil Procedure sections 116.223 and 1179.01 through 1179.15 are repealed as of September 30, 2024, or October 1, 2025, by their own terms. Those sections permit recovery of COVID-19 rental debt in small claims courts, require a cover sheet for unlawful detainer filings, and provide other procedures for unlawful detainer filings during a specified period. The council adopted several forms, including forms SC-500 and UD-101 to implement those sections when they were enacted. Because the forms’ statutory authorization sunsets, they should be revoked and any forms referring to the forms, including plaintiff’s claim form for small claims and the unlawful detainer answer form, need to be revised. The committee will also consider revising</p>	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>the unlawful detainer complaint and answer forms to use plain language. and whether other revisions should be made in response to AB 2347, which extends the time in which a defendant must file a response from 5 to 10 days after the complaint is served.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: The committee anticipates this to be a two-year project. An invitation to comment for the revocation and revision of forms related to the sunset of the Code of Civil Procedure sections 116.223 and 1179.01 through 1179.07 is planned for Spring Cycle, with an anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026. Other updates which do not reflect statutory changes would take place the following year.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	
6.	<p>CEQA Rules: Implementation of Legislation (new project)</p>	<p>Priority 1(a)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Develop rules recommendations as appropriate. AB 3265 and SB 1342 include additional projects and types of projects that receive expedited CEQA judicial review. Specifically, AB 3265 establishes streamlined procedures for judicial review of approvals granted for an environmental leadership media campus project, as defined. SB 1342 includes two specific projects as infrastructure projects, as defined by statute and rules, thereby providing expedited CEQA review for the projects. Rules should be amended to include these new projects and project types.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Winter Cycle, with anticipated effective date of July 1, 2025.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p>	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<i>AC Collaboration:</i> Appellate Advisory Committee	
7.	Confidential Information Forms: Implementation of AB 1979 (new project)	<i>Priority 1(a)</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</i>
<p>Project Summary: Develop forms recommendations as appropriate. AB 1979 creates a private cause of action against a person who doxes (publishes private information about an individual on the internet) another person. A plaintiff in such a case may use a pseudonym by filing a confidential information form. Courts are required to keep the plaintiff's name and certain characteristics confidential, and, upon request, limit access to court records.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
8.	Enforcement of Judgment Forms: Implementation of AB 2837 and AB 1119 (new project)	<i>Priority 1(a)</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</i>
<p>Project Summary: Develop forms recommendations as appropriate. AB 2837 expands the types of retirement plans exempt from money judgments and exempts such property to the extent necessary to provide support for the judgment debtor. The bill also revises the enforcement provisions by requiring a judgment creditor to take additional steps to verify a judgment debtor's address and provide notice of enforcement to a judgment debtor. This legislation may require revisions to certain enforcement of judgment forms. At the same time, it may be prudent to create a new form for the judgment creditor declarations required in amended Code of Civil Procedure section 684.130.</p> <p>The committee will also consider whether changes are needed to forms and rules of court related to debtor's examinations to further implement AB 1119 regarding the judgment debtor's rights when the judgment concerns consumer debt, and whether more education or training is needed in this area.</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026, for required revisions. Other updates which do not reflect statutory changes would take place as time and resources permit.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state. The committee will consult with the Center for Judicial Education and Research as appropriate.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	
9.	<p>Small Claims Forms: Include Information Required Under Code of Civil Procedure section 116.540 (new project)</p>	<p>Priority 1(a)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Develop forms recommendations as appropriate. A member of the committee pointed out that <i>Authorization to Appear</i> (form SC-109) may need to be revised to more fully comply with the required statements by individuals authorized to appear on behalf of parties in small claims court under Code of Civil Procedure section 116.540.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	

10.	Certifying or Decertifying a Class: Move Deadline to File Reply Briefs (new project)	Priority 1(c) Strategic Plan Goals I, III and IV
<p>Project Summary: Develop rules recommendations as appropriate. A member of the committee notes that under California Rules of Court, rule 3.764(c) a reply brief on a motion to certify or decertify a class must be served 5 <i>calendar</i> days before the hearing. If such filing occurs before a long weekend due to a court holiday or holidays the court has virtually no time to review the brief before the hearing. The committee should consider changing this deadline, and possible other deadlines, in the rule.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
11.	Complex Coordinated Actions: Amend rule 3.545 to simplify court requirements upon termination (previously approved one-time project)	Priority 2(b) Strategic Plan Goals I, III and IV
<p>Project Summary: Develop rule recommendations as appropriate. A member of the committee recommends revising rule 3.545 because it places onerous and unnecessary burdens on the court upon the termination of a coordinated action. Specifically, the court must promptly enter any judgment in each underlying coordinated case with the title and case number assigned to the action at the time it was filed included and serve notice of entry of the judgment via certified copy on all parties to the action and on the Chair of the Judicial Council and on the appropriate clerks of each transferor court for filing in each pending coordinated action. Some of those requirements may be superfluous and may strain court resources.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: The committee is currently working on a proposal to address this agenda item. Invitation to comment planned for Winter Cycle, with anticipated effective date of July 1, 2025.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p>		

	<p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	
12.	<p>Jurisdictional Amounts: Amend rule 3.740 (previously approved one-time project)</p>	<p>Priority 2(b)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</p>
<p>Project Summary: Develop rule recommendations as appropriate. SB 71 raised the amount in controversy for limited civil and small claims court cases. Prior to the enactment of SB 71, the monetary threshold in rule 3.740, which provides alternative procedures for certain collection cases, matched the jurisdictional limit for limited civil cases. The committee should consider amending this rule to use the current jurisdictional limit.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: The committee is currently working on a proposal to address this agenda item. Invitation to comment planned for Spring Cycle, with anticipated effective date of January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
13.	<p>Groundwater Adjudication: Assignment of judges (previously approved one-time project)</p>	<p>Priority 2(b)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goals I and III</p>
<p>Project Summary: Develop rule and form recommendations as appropriate. Code of Civil Procedure section 838 requires the Chair of the Judicial Council to assign a judge in a comprehensive adjudication of a groundwater basin. Rule amendments to rule 3.400 and form revisions to form CM-010 to implement the statute may be beneficial.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipated January 1, 2026 effective date of any proposed legislation or California Rule of Court.</p>		

	<p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>				
14.	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Military Forms: Implementation of SB 1311 (previously approved one-time project)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Priority 2(a) DEFERRED</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Strategic Plan Goals I and III</td> </tr> </table> <p>Project Summary: Develop form recommendations as appropriate. SB 1311 clarified that servicemembers in activity duty may not be charged interest on certain financial obligations during their deployment. This project is included as it has been requested repeatedly by the California Department of Justice organizations over the past several years. In preparing the proposal, staff and the committee identified items on form MIL-020 and other forms that would benefit from revision and circulation for public comment in order to best reflect the law. Deferred in light of budget constraints.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Deferred due to budget constraints impacting the judicial branch.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	Military Forms: Implementation of SB 1311 (previously approved one-time project)	Priority 2(a) DEFERRED	Strategic Plan Goals I and III	
Military Forms: Implementation of SB 1311 (previously approved one-time project)	Priority 2(a) DEFERRED				
Strategic Plan Goals I and III					
15.	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Civil Practice and Procedure: Revise Civil Summons Form (previously approved one-time project)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Priority 2(b) DEFERRED</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Strategic Plan Goals I and III</td> </tr> </table> <p>Project Summary: Develop form recommendations as appropriate. The civil Summons (form SUM-100) contains numerous checkboxes for the filer to designate the type of organization the summons has been issued on behalf of. These checkboxes may not best reflect the</p>	Civil Practice and Procedure: Revise Civil Summons Form (previously approved one-time project)	Priority 2(b) DEFERRED	Strategic Plan Goals I and III	
Civil Practice and Procedure: Revise Civil Summons Form (previously approved one-time project)	Priority 2(b) DEFERRED				
Strategic Plan Goals I and III					

most common organization types used. Additionally, minor formatting changes may also improve the form’s useability for litigants and courts.

Status/Timeline: Deferred due to budget constraints impacting the judicial branch.

Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff

This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.

Internal/External Stakeholders: draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.

AC Collaboration: N/A

16. **Statements of Decision: Streamline Rule 3.1590 (new one-time project)**

Priority 2(b) DEFERRED

Strategic Plan Goals I, III and IV

Project Summary: Develop rule recommendations as appropriate. California Rules of Court, rule 3.1590 provides a complex set of procedures for courts and parties to follow in requesting and issuing tentative decisions and statements of decisions. The rule may benefit from amendment and simplification.

Status/Timeline: Deferred due to budget constraints impacting the judicial branch.

Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff

This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.

Internal/External Stakeholders: draft proposals will circulate to seek comments from legal service groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.

AC Collaboration: N/A

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1.	Review Suggestions for Rules and Forms	Priority 1 Strategic Plan Goals III and IV
<p>Project Summary: As mandated by rule 10.21(c), review suggestions from members of the judicial branch and the public for improving civil practice and procedure, court-connected ADR, and case management and recommend actions by the council or one of its committees.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing; will only take further action upon approval of Rules Committee.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: As appropriate based on proposal received.</p>		
2.	Review Enacted Legislation	Priority 1 Strategic Plan Goals II and III
<p>Project Summary: Review all enacted legislation referred to the committee by the Judicial Council’s Governmental Affairs office that may have an impact on issues within the advisory committee’s purview and, where appropriate, propose to the council rules and forms to implement the legislation or to bring rules and forms into conformity with it.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing; will only take further action upon approval of Rules Committee.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: As appropriate based on the specific legislation.</p>		

3.	Review Pending Legislation	Priority 1
		Strategic Plan Goals III and IV
<p>Project Summary: Working through the Legislative Subcommittee, review pending legislation affecting civil procedure and court administration, and make recommendations to the Legislation Committee as to whether the Judicial Council should support or oppose the legislation.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff, Governmental Affairs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: California Legislature</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
4.	Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes	Priority 1
		Strategic Plan Goal III
<p>Project Summary: Develop rule and form changes as necessary to make corrections and adjustments meeting the criteria of rule 10.22(d)(2): “a nonsubstantive technical change or correction or a minor substantive change that is unlikely to create controversy....” These include revisions to forms that contain dollar figures based on statutory criteria that the Judicial Council is mandated to adjust on a regular basis.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		

5. Protective Orders Working Group	Priority 1
	Strategic Plan Goals I and III
<p>Project Summary: As a member committee for the Protective Orders Working Group (POWG), work with Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee and Criminal Law Advisory Committee to revise civil and domestic violence protective order forms to ensure they are written in consistent language that is comprehensible to non-attorneys, while maintaining legal accuracy. POWG will work collaboratively on the protective order projects identified in this agenda and the agendas of the other committees that make up the working group.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff, Center for Families, Children & the Courts, Criminal Justice Services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee and Criminal Law Advisory Committee</p>	
6. Provide Subject Matter Expertise	Priority 2
	Strategic Plan Goals III
<p>Project Summary: Serve as subject matter resource for other advisory groups to avoid duplication of efforts and contribute to the development of recommendations for council action. Such efforts may include providing civil and small claims procedural expertise and review to working groups, advisory committees, and subcommittees as requested, on projects that have been approved on their annual agendas.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: As appropriate for project on which advice or consultation requested.</p>	

7.	Deskbook on the Management of Complex Civil Litigation	Priority 2 DEFERRED Strategic Plan Goal III
<p>Project Summary: Implementation project that the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee will work on as time permits; charge for work was made for CSCAC by the council at the October 22, 1999 meeting in which the council received the report of the Complex Civil Litigation Task Force and voted to adopt the Task Force’s recommendations.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Deferred due to budget constraints impacting the judicial branch.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: CJER</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>		
8.	Revision of Judicial Council Forms with a Gender Identity Question or Term	Priority 2(b) Strategic Plan Goals III and IV
<p>Project Summary: The forms within this committee’s purview that include a gendered term or gender identity question are being revised to eliminate or revise those terms where possible.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: The vast majority of forms have been updated to eliminate such terms. Any time a form is revised for legislatively mandated reasons or other reasons approved by the Rules Committee, gendered terms are reviewed and revised as appropriate.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposal will circulate to seek comments from legal services groups, bar organizations, and court executives and presiding judges throughout the state.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: As appropriate for project on which advice or consultation requested.</p>		

III. LIST OF 2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	<i>Protective Order Forms.</i> The committee recommended revising dozens of protective order forms to implement four new laws. The recommended changes included: (1) adding an advisement about a prohibition on possessing body armor if a person is prohibited from possessing firearms; (2) restructuring the Gun Violence Restraining Order petition to more clearly ask for fact supporting an order, including the newly permissible evidence of acquisition of body armor; and (3) reflecting the new basis for a Workplace Violence Restraining Order—harassment—that collective bargaining representatives may now petition for such orders, and that the employee who suffered the harassment, violence, or threat of violence may opt out of being named in such orders.
2.	<i>Judgment Debtor Exams.</i> The committee recommended revising numerous forms and one rule to implement AB 1119, which created a separate set of requirements and a new procedure for judgment creditors to examine judgment debtors with consumer debt. The form revisions included different notices for debtors with consumer debt and the creation of a financial affidavit form for the judgment debtor to serve on the judgment creditor in lieu of appearing for an examination.
3.	<i>Dismissals.</i> Following amendments to the Code of Civil Procedure permitting parties to dismiss cases with retained jurisdiction by the courts to enforce settlement agreements, the committee recommended revising the <i>Request for Dismissal</i> form and updating the rules of court concerning dismissal.
4.	<i>Amount in Controversy.</i> The committee recommended revising numerous forms to implement SB 71, which raised the amount in controversy for limited civil and small claims court cases.
5.	<i>CEQA Rules.</i> The committee recommended amending the California Rules of Court on CEQA actions to reflect a new statutory requirement that courts must schedule a case management conference within 30 days of the filing the complaint.
6.	<i>Memorandum of Costs.</i> The committee recommended revising the trial court memorandum of costs to add a verification under penalty of perjury and to correct the categories of costs to be consistent with statutory provisions and across forms.
7.	<i>Unlawful Use of Personal Information.</i> The committee recommended revising an order form on the unlawful use of personal information to provide additional information on the form so the Secretary of State’s office could take action on such orders.
8.	<i>Tentative Rulings.</i> The committee recommended revising the rule of court on tentative rulings to remove the requirement to make such rulings available by telephone as most court users do not access the rulings through that method.
9.	<i>Complex Coordinated Actions.</i> The committee began work on amending court rules on complex coordinated actions to streamline the process for courts when cases within the actions are closed in order to best use court resources.
10.	<i>Review of Pending Legislation.</i> The committee reviewed and made recommendations regarding council position on dozens of bills with potential impact on the civil courts.

Criminal Law Advisory Committee
Annual Agenda¹—2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Lisa Rodriguez, Chair, Judge, Superior Court of San Diego County Hon. Serena Murillo, Vice Chair, Judge, Superior Court of Los Angeles County
Lead Staff:	Sarah Fleischer-Ihn, Attorney, Criminal Justice Services Office
Committee’s Charge/Membership: Rule 10.42(a) of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Criminal Law Advisory Committee, which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for improving the administration of justice in criminal proceedings. Rule 10.42(b) sets forth the membership categories of the committee. The Criminal Law Advisory Committee currently has 21 voting members. The current committee roster is available on the committee’s webpage.	
Subgroups of the Advisory Committee²: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pretrial Policy and Data Subcommittee2. Protective Orders Working Group (POWG)3. Joint Mental Health Legislation Subcommittee	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

²For the definition of “subcommittee” see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); “working group” see rule 10.70, “workstream,” see rule 10.53(c); and “education curriculum committee,” see rule 10.50(c)(6).

Meetings Planned for 2025³ (Advisory body and all subgroups listed above.)

Date/Time/Remote or Location if in person (see footnote 3 for in-person meetings):

- January 2025 (videoconference to discuss rule and form proposals and discuss pending legislation)
- February, March 2025 (videoconference to discuss rule and form proposals and discuss pending legislation)
- April, May, June 2025 (videoconference to discuss pending legislation)
- July 2025 (videoconference to discuss rule and form proposals and discuss pending legislation)
- August, September, October 2025 (videoconference to discuss pending legislation)
- November, December 2025 (videoconference to discuss rule and form proposals)
- Other videoconference meetings as needed

Subcommittee Meetings:

- Pretrial Policy and Data Subcommittee: as needed to work on rule and form proposals and reviewing legislation
- Protective Orders Working Group (POWG): as needed to work on rule and form proposals
- Joint subcommittee to review mental health legislation with the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee: as needed from February through September to review proposed legislation

Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.

³ Refer to section IV. 2. of the [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is suspending advisory body in-person meetings for the 2024–2025 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek final approval from the advisory body’s internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated July 1, 2024, for additional details.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴
1.	<p><i>Develop a stay-away order from protected retail establishments under AB 3209</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Priority 1(a)⁵</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶</i></p>
	<p>Project Summary: The committee will develop new forms to implement AB 3209 (Stats. 2024, ch. 169), which allows a court to order defendants convicted of specified theft offenses or persons arrested for specified theft offenses to stay away from a protected retail establishment for up to two years.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipate circulating for comment in winter 2024, for an effective date of July 1, 2025</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff; the Joint Rules Subcommittee of Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executive Advisory Committees (TCPJAC/CEAC JRS) will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, justice system partners</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Joint project with Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, potential collaboration with Joint Protective Order Working Group</p>

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

#	New or One-Time Projects	
2.	<i>Amend the rule of court on mental competency proceedings to implement new laws</i>	<i>Priority 1(a), 2(a)</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Amend California Rules of Court, rule 4.130 on mental competency proceedings to incorporate statutory changes and update case law references. As relevant to the rule, SB 1323 (Stats. 2024, ch. 646) streamlines competency proceeding procedures, provides courts with more treatment-based solutions for felony defendants, and allows courts to determine whether it is in the interests of justice to restore a defendant to competence in a felony case that is eligible for diversion. As relevant to the rule, SB 1400 (Stats. 2024, ch. 647) would remove authority for a court to dismiss a misdemeanor incompetent to stand trial case and instead require the court to determine if the defendant is eligible for mental health diversion or other treatment, and to allow dismissal if a conservatorship is filed. Additionally, while amending the rule to implement the new laws, the committee may update rule 4.130(d)(3), which provides that the defendant’s statements made during the examination cannot be used in a trial on the defendant’s guilt or a sanity trial in a not guilty by reason of sanity trial, to reflect more recent case law.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Anticipate circulating for comment in winter 2024, for an effective date of July 1, 2025</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Committee, staff; the Joint Rules Subcommittee of Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executive Advisory Committees (TCPJAC/CEAC JRS) will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> Trial courts, justice system partners</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee, Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee</p>		
3.	<i>Amend rules and forms related to criminal protective orders to implement new laws</i>	<i>Priority 1(a)</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Amend California Rules of Court, rule 4.700, firearm relinquishment procedures, and the criminal protective order forms to incorporate SB 2907 (Stats. 2024, ch. 538) and SB 899 (Stats. 2024, ch. 544), which address firearm relinquishment procedures for criminal protective orders and establish a 15-year maximum postconviction protective order term under Penal Code section 273.5. The committee will also consider revisions to the criminal protective orders based on stakeholder suggestions regarding consequences for violating a protective order and including a protected person’s date of birth for inclusion in the National Crime Information Center’s Protection Order File, a federal electronic database maintained by the U.S. Department of Justice.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Anticipate circulating for comment in spring 2025, for an effective date of January 1, 2026</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff; the Joint Rules Subcommittee of Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executive Advisory Committees (TCPJAC/CEAC JRS) will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, justice system partners</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Protective Order Working Group</p>	
4.	Revise the felony plea form	Priority 1(a), 2(b)
	<p>Strategic Plan Goal IV</p> <p>Project Summary: The committee will consider several updates to the felony plea form, including advisements pursuant to <i>In re Tellez</i> (2024) 17 Cal.5th 77 and Proposition 36 (if passed), revising the item regarding a factual basis for the plea, supplementing citations for guilty or no contest pleas entered to take advantage of a plea agreement, and adding an evidence disposal waiver.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipate circulating for comment in winter 2024, for an effective date of July 1, 2025</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff; the Joint Rules Subcommittee of Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executive Advisory Committees (TCPJAC/CEAC JRS) will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, justice system partners</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>	
5.	Amend the rule of court defining the scope of the Criminal Law Advisory Committee (rule 10.42)	Priority 1(c)
	<p>Strategic Plan Goal IV</p> <p>Project Summary: Rule 10.42 authorizes the Criminal Law Advisory Committee to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for improving the administration of justice in criminal proceedings. The committee will recommend that the council amend that rule to</p>	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>expand the committee’s charge to allow the committee, with the assistance of its Pretrial Data and Policy Subcommittee, the opportunity to provide statewide guidance <i>directly</i> to the courts on issues related to bail and pretrial release decisions, conditions of pretrial release, and the use of pretrial risk assessments that are responsive to recent developments in pretrial including litigation on the use of bail schedules, case law (<i>see In re Humphrey</i> (2021) (11 Cal.5th 135); <i>In re Harris</i> (2024) (16 Cal.5th 292)), recommendations from the State Legislature’s Committee on the Revision of the Penal Code, and calls from trial court leadership for statewide guidance promoting consistency.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipate circulating for comment in spring 2025, for an effective date of January 1, 2026</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: None</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>	
6.	Develop procedures for affordable bail determination and pretrial release processes	Priority 1(a), 1(c) Strategic Plan Goal IV
	<p>Project Summary: To assist in the implementation of <i>In re Humphrey</i> (2021) (11 Cal.5th 135) and <i>In re Harris</i> (2024) (16 Cal.5th 292), the committee will consider revising <i>Defendant’s Financial Statement</i> (CR-105) and/or <i>Defendant’s Statement of Assets Form</i> (CR-115) to allow use in the pretrial context and may develop rules of court necessary to provide guidance on “least restrictive” non-financial conditions as defined in SB 129, the use of risk assessments, and the <i>Harris</i> factors for pretrial hearings.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipate circulating for comment in spring 2025, for an effective date of January 1, 2026</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, justice system partners</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
7.	<i>Develop a new form on firearm prohibitions while on mental health diversion</i>	<i>Priority 1(a), 1(c)</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The committee will consider developing a new court form to reflect findings under Penal Code section 1001.36(m), which allows the court to prohibit the possession of firearms when a person is on mental health diversion and the court finds that the person is a danger to themselves or others. The prohibition was added by AB 455 (Stats. 2023, ch. 236). This proposal was suggested by the California DOJ Bureau of Firearms.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Anticipate circulating for comment in spring 2025, for an effective date of January 1, 2026</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Committee staff; the Joint Rules Subcommittee of Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executive Advisory Committees (TCPJAC/CEAC JRS) will review proposals for court operations impacts as necessary.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> Trial courts, justice system partners, California DOJ Bureau of Firearms</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> None</p>		
8.	<i>Revise Penal Code section 1172.2 on compassionate release</i>	<i>Priority 1</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Develop proposal to amend Penal Code section 1172.2 on compassionate release to replace references to resentencing the defendant to release or termination of the prison term. While the statute intends for a defendant found to be eligible for compassionate release to be released from custody, the use of the term “resentencing” in the statute does not result in this objective, resulting in court inefficiencies and delayed relief for defendants with serious and advanced illnesses with an end-of-life trajectory or permanent medical incapacitation. Section 1172.2 was added to the Penal Code effective January 1, 2023.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Anticipate circulating for public comment in spring 2025, to go to the Council in fall/winter 2025 as proposed legislation with an effective date of January 1, 2027</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Committee staff, Governmental Affairs</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, justice system partners, Governmental Affairs</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>	
9.	Legislative proposal on referrals to CARE Act proceedings from competency proceedings	Priority 1
	<p>Strategic Plan Goal IV</p> <p>Project Summary: Consider the development of a legislative proposal to amend Penal Code sections 1370 and 1370.01 on the inquiry into the competence of the defendant before trial. Recent legislative amendments governing competence to stand trial procedures in adult criminal cases have created pathways to CARE Act proceedings separate from and in addition to a judicial determination that a defendant is ineligible for mental health diversion. This proposal would explore options to address issues in court referral procedures and deadlines that result in court inefficiencies and delays.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipate circulating for public comment in spring 2025, to go to the Council in fall/winter 2025 as proposed legislation with an effective date of January 1, 2027</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff, Governmental Affairs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, justice system partners, Governmental Affairs</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee, Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1.	<i>Review pending legislation</i>	<i>Priority 1</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal II</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The committee will review pending criminal law legislation and provide recommendations as to whether the Judicial Council should support or oppose the legislation. The committee will provide subject matter expertise on pending criminal law legislation.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Governmental Affairs, committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> None</p>		
2.	<i>Criminal justice and mental health</i>	<i>Priority 1</i>
		<i>Strategic Plan Goal II</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The committee will participate in the joint mental health subcommittee with the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee to review pending legislation related to criminal justice and mental health and provide recommendations as to whether the Judicial Council should support or oppose the legislation. The committee will provide subject matter expertise on pending criminal justice and mental health legislation and related issues.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Governmental Affairs, committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee</p>		

# Ongoing Projects and Activities	
3.	<i>Provide subject matter expertise for other advisory committees</i>
	<i>Priority 1</i>
<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>	
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The committee will provide subject matter expertise for other advisory committees working on proposals involving criminal law and procedure.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> None</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> Respective advisory committees</p>	
4.	<i>Participate in the Protective Orders Working Group</i>
	<i>Priority 1</i>
<i>Strategic Plan Goal IV</i>	
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Continue participation in the Protective Orders Working Group, which assists in ensuring consistency and uniformity in the different protective orders used in family, juvenile, civil, criminal, and probate proceedings, and helps to develop and update protective order forms and rules of court.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Ongoing</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Committee staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> California Department of Justice</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee</p>	

III. LIST OF 2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	<i>Amend California Rules of Court, rule 4.433, Matters to be considered at time set for sentencing.</i> At its September 2024 meeting, the Judicial Council approved amendments to rule 4.433 to update parole period advisements.
2.	<i>Revise criminal forms to incorporate legislation on firearm and body armor prohibitions and relinquishment requirements.</i> At its September 2024 meeting, the Judicial Council approved revisions to six criminal forms to reflect firearm and body armor prohibitions and relinquishment requirements and additional changes.
3.	<i>Develop a proposal to implement the Racial Justice Act.</i> At its May 2024 meeting, the Judicial Council approved revisions to three forms, amendments to the rule of court on habeas corpus proceedings, and approved a new rule of court to implement the Racial Justice Act.
4.	<i>Consider proposal addressing fee waivers for certified copies of criminal records.</i> The committee considered the proposal at its February 2, 2024 in person meeting and directed staff to conduct further research. Staff will provide an update shortly.
5.	<i>Pretrial release implementation.</i> The committee launched the Pretrial Policy and Data Subcommittee in 2024.
6.	<i>Revise Notification of Military Status form (MIL-100).</i> At its September 2024 meeting, the Judicial Council approved revisions to the form to reflect new requirements in family law cases and clarify procedures in criminal matters.
7.	<i>Develop a legislative proposal regarding access to prison records for resentencing.</i> The committee is following pending legislation on this issue.
8.	<i>Review pending legislation.</i> CLAC provided subject matter expertise or a recommended position on over 35 criminal law bills, including AB 1779 , Theft: jurisdiction; AB 1809 , Recall and resentencing; AB 1909 , Criminal fines: collection; AB 2065 , Criminal justice records: offender data; AB 2160 , California Women’s Care Act; AB 2168 , Prisons: anticipated prison stays; AB 2281 , Tribal judges; AB 2308 , Domestic violence: protective orders; AB 2309 , City attorney: state law: misdemeanor; AB 2483 , Postconviction proceedings; AB 2519 , Misdemeanor offenses: deferral of sentencing: firearms prohibition; AB 2629 , Firearms: prohibited persons; AB 2692 , Criminal procedure: diversion; AB 2739 , Firearms; AB 2788 , Crimes; AB 2833 , Restorative Justice Communications; AB 2907 , Firearms: restrained persons; AB 2943 , Crimes: shoplifting; AB 2985 , Courts: mental health advisement; AB 3088 , Criminal procedure: writ of habeas corpus; AB 3209 , Retail Theft Restraining Orders; SB 21 , Controlled substances; SB 285 , Criminal procedure: sentencing; SB 898 , Criminal procedure: sexual assault resentencing; SB 899 , Protective orders: firearms; SB 912 , Colorimetric field drug tests; SB 987 , Pretrial release: pretrial assessment agencies; SB 1001 , Death penalty: intellectually disabled persons; SB 1002 , Firearms: prohibited persons; SB 1025 , Pretrial diversion for veterans; SB 1133 , Bail; SB 1317 , Inmates: psychiatric medication: informed consent; SB 1323 , Criminal procedure: competence to stand trial; SB 1392 , Competence to stand trial; and SB 1400 , Competence to stand trial.
9.	<i>Criminal justice and mental health.</i> The committee reviewed pending legislation related to criminal justice and mental health and provided recommendations as to whether the Judicial Council should support or oppose the legislation. Committee members participated in a joint subcommittee on mental health legislation with members of the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee.

Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee
Annual Agenda¹—2024–2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Jayne Chong-Soon Lee, Judge, Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin
Lead Staff:	Corby Sturges, Attorney, Center for Families, Children & the Courts
Committee’s Charge/Membership:	
<p>Rule 10.44 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee, which is to make recommendations to the council for improving the administration of justice in proceedings involving, decedents’ estates, trusts, conservatorships, guardianships, and other probate matters; and mental health and developmental disabilities issues. Rule 10.44(b) sets forth additional duties of the committee.</p> <p>Rule 10.44(c) sets forth the membership position of the committee. The Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee currently has 17 members. The current committee roster is available on the committee’s web page.</p>	
Subgroups of the Advisory Committee:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legislation Subcommittee 2. Conservatorship Subcommittee 3. Guardianship Subcommittee 4. Mental Health Subcommittee 	
Meetings Planned for 2024–2025 (Advisory body and all subgroups listed above.)	
Date/Time/Remote or Location if in person	
Full committee, the 3rd Thursday of each month (more frequent as warranted by committee workload), 4:30–5:30 pm, remote	
Legislation Subcommittee, every two–three weeks, February–August 2025, time TBD, remote	
Other subcommittees, as needed, remote	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects	
1.	<i>New project to recommend new and amended CARE Act rules and new and revised CARE Act forms</i>	<p><i>Priority² 1(a), 1(c)</i></p> <p><i>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</i></p>
<p>Project Summary: The committee will develop a recommendation for new and amended rules and new and revised forms to implement the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act (Welf. & Inst. Code, §§ 5970–5987), as amended by Senate Bill 42 (Umberg; Stats. 2024, ch. 640), Senate Bill 1323 (Menjivar; Stats. 2024, ch. 646), and Senate Bill 1400 (Stern; Stats. 2024, ch. 647), as well as to respond to requests from courts and the executive branch. The project is expected to include a revised petition (form CARE-100) that is easier for family members and other self-represented petitioners to complete; an alternative petition for use exclusively by licensed behavioral health professionals; rules to circumscribe the CARE Act court’s communication with criminal or mental health courts that have referred respondents to CARE Act proceedings as well as juvenile courts with jurisdiction over CARE Act respondents; a new form to give ongoing notice to original petitioners; and rules or standards regarding the role of the judiciary in improving system performance.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: New and amended rules and new and revised forms expected to take effect July 1, 2025, and January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Statutory amendments may impose costs and draw on trial court resources, but the rule amendments and form revisions themselves are unlikely to have a significant impact on the courts or the Judicial Council; staff resources include committee staff, Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC), Legal Services, Governmental Affairs, and Editing and Graphics (EGG) staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: trial courts, Department of Health Care Services, county behavioral health agencies, public</p> <p>AC Collaboration: TBD</p>		

² For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

³ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California’s Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

#	New or One-Time Projects	
2.	<i>New revision of forms for petition for appointment of a probate conservator, order appointing a conservator, and letters of conservatorship</i>	<i>Priority² 1(a), 1(c)</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The committee will develop a recommendation for revisions to <i>Petition for Appointment of Probate Conservator</i> (form GC-310), <i>Order Appointing Probate Conservator</i> (form GC-340), and <i>Letters of Conservatorship</i> (form GC-350). The recommendation will bring the forms into conformity with the conservatorship statutes, as amended by Assembly Bill 1194 (Stats. 2021, ch. 417) and Assembly Bill 1663 (Stats. 2022, ch. 894), simplify the forms, and make them more intuitive for self-represented petitioners and conservators to understand. The recommendation will also promote consistency with recently developed or revised forms, including <i>Confidential Supplemental Information</i> (form GC-312), <i>Confidential Declaration on Medical Ability to Attend Hearing—Probate Conservatorship</i> (form GC-325), <i>Confidential Capacity Assessment and Declaration—Probate Conservatorship</i> (form GC-335), and <i>Everyday Activities Attachment to Confidential Capacity Assessment and Declaration—Probate Conservatorship</i> (form GC-335A). If time and resources permit, the committee will also consider recommending conforming revisions to <i>Petition for Appointment of Temporary Conservator</i> (form GC-111), <i>Order Appointing Temporary Conservator</i> (form GC-141), and <i>Letters of Temporary Guardianship or Conservatorship</i> (form GC-151).</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Revised forms expected to take effect January 1, 2026.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> The project is unlikely to have a significant fiscal impact on the trial courts or the Judicial Council; staff resources include committee staff, CFCC, Legal Services, and EGG staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> Trial courts, self-represented litigants, county public guardians and conservators, public</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> n/a</p>		
3.	<i>New project to recommend revisions to forms used to specify a conservator’s general duties and a conservatee’s general rights and approval of a new form for use to list the rights retained by a conservatee</i>	<i>Priority² 1(a), 1(c)</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The committee will develop a recommendation to revise <i>Notice of Conservatee’s Rights</i> (form GC-341), as required by Probate Code section 1830(c), and <i>Duties of Conservator</i> (form GC-348), as required by Probate Code section 1834(a), as well as a new form—either a standalone form or an attachment to form GC-341—for use to list the specific rights retained by the conservatee and any other information required by Probate Code section 1835.5 that is not already included in the order of appointment. AB 1663 (Stats. 2022, ch. 894)</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Revised forms expected to take effect January 1, 2026.</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: The project is unlikely to have a significant fiscal impact on the trial courts or the Judicial Council; staff resources include committee staff, CFCC, Legal Services, and EGG staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: conservators, conservatees, trial courts, public</p> <p>AC Collaboration: n/a</p>	
4.	<p>New project to recommend adjusted dollar amounts for use to determine eligibility for succession to decedent’s property without full estate administration and revision of forms that include those amounts</p>	<p>Priority² 1(a), 1(c), 1</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</p>
	<p>Project Summary: The committee will develop a recommendation to adjust the dollar amounts used to determine eligibility for succession to property without administration and revise the forms that include those amounts. Probate Code section 890 requires the Judicial Council, once every three years on April 1, to adjust specified property values used for determining eligibility for succession to a decedent’s property without full administration and to publish a list of those values. The last adjustment and revision took effect April 1, 2022; the next is due April 1, 2025. In addition, Assembly Bill 2016 (Maienschein; Stats. 2024, ch. 331) requires a specific adjustment to one of these amounts on the same date.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Adjusted amounts and conforming form revisions must take effect April 1, 2025.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: The project is unlikely to have a significant fiscal impact on the trial courts or the Judicial Council; staff resources include committee staff, CFCC, Legal Services, and EGG staff, as well as possible collaboration with Information Technology staff to publish adjusted amounts on the web.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: trial courts, self-represented litigants, successors to interests in property of decedents</p> <p>AC Collaboration: n/a</p>	
5.	<p>New project to recommend revision of forms DE-310 and DE-315 to conform to changes to the statutory process to determine succession to real property in estates of small value</p>	<p>Priority² 1(a), 1(c)</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</p>

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>Project Summary: The committee will develop a recommendation for revisions to forms DE-310 and DE-315 to conform to changes made by Assembly Bill 2016 (Maienschein; Stats. 2024, ch. 331) to the statutory process for determining succession to a decedent’s real property located in California if the value of the estate falls below a specified amount.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Revised forms expected to take effect April 1, 2025.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: No projected fiscal impact; staff resources include committee staff, Legal Services staff, and EGG staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: trial courts, public</p> <p>AC Collaboration: n/a</p>	
6.	<p>One-time revision of Handbook for Conservators</p>	<p>Priority² 1</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</p>
	<p>Project Summary: The committee and staff continue developing updates and revisions to the Judicial Council’s <i>Handbook for Conservators</i> to reflect recent changes to the law, simplify the language, and reorganize the <i>Handbook</i> to make it more user-friendly for conservators to access online. Probate Code section 1835 requires the council to develop an information package, to make that package available to the courts, and periodically to update the package when changes to the law warrant. (Prob. Code, § 1835(c), (e).) The courts may use the information package to fulfill their duty, under Probate Code section 1835(a)–(b), to provide conservators with specified information. The Judicial Council approved the first edition of the <i>Handbook</i> in 1991 to serve as the information package required by section 1835; it was published in 1992. The second edition was published in 2002. The Rules Committee approved work on the third edition of the <i>Handbook</i> in this committee’s 2015 and 2016 annual agendas. The council approved the third edition, effective October 28, 2016. Changes to the law since the last edition and a shift to primarily online use require another round of updates.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Committee staff anticipates submitting the revised handbook for Judicial Council approval in early to mid-2025.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: No projected fiscal impact to trial courts or Judicial Council; staff resources include committee staff, CFCC staff, Legal Services staff, and EGG staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: trial courts, conservators, public</p> <p>AC Collaboration: n/a</p>	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
7.	<i>One-time report to the Legislature on court effectiveness in conservatorship cases</i>	<i>Priority² 1</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> Probate Code section 1458 (added by Assembly Bill 1194; Stats. 2021, ch. 417, § 4) requires the Judicial Council to “report to the Legislature the findings of a study measuring court effectiveness in conservatorship cases, including the effectiveness of protecting the legal rights and best interests of a conservatee.” The statute requires the report to include specific caseload statistics and to recommend “statewide performance measures to be collected, best practices to protect the legal rights of conservatees, and staffing needs to meet case processing requirements.” Council staff, working with a contractor, have finalized the research tool and are selecting courts for participation. Case file review and data collection will begin in fall 2024. Once the data are collected, the contractor will analyze the data and draft the report. The committee will serve as a resource to staff on the recommendations to be included in the report. It will review the final report and recommend council approval and submission to the Legislature.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Report to the Legislature due January 1, 2027.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> Minimal fiscal impact to trial courts; Judicial Council staff has engaged a consultant using funds appropriated for that purpose. Committee staff, CFCC research staff, and the consultant are collaborating on the research that will serve as the basis of the report’s conclusions and recommendations.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> Legislature, trial courts, persons interested in conservatorship proceedings</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> n/a</p>		
8.	<i>New project to recommend amendment of rules and revision of forms related to transfer of conservatorships into California under the California Conservatorship Jurisdiction Act.</i>	<i>Priority² 1(a), 1(c)</i> <i>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</i>
<p><i>Project Summary:</i> The committee will develop a recommendation to amend rule 7.1050 and revise forms GC-366, GC-368, and, perhaps, GC-367 to allow courts, in accepting transfer of a conservatorship into California from another state, a tribe, or a foreign country, to report determinations affecting voting rights of conservatees as required by elections Code section 2211.5, perform required monitoring of conservators, and make any modifications to out-of-state conservatorship orders necessary to conform to California law.</p> <p><i>Status/Timeline:</i> Rule amendments and form revisions expected to take effect January 1, 2026.</p> <p><i>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources:</i> No projected fiscal impact; staff resources include committee staff, Legal Services, and EGG staff.</p>		

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: Rules Committee, trial courts, public AC Collaboration: n/a	
9.	<i>New project to recommend rule amendments and form revisions regarding notice that a guardian or conservator intends to change the residence of a ward or conservatee</i>	Priority² 1(a), 1(c) Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV
	Project Summary: The committee will develop a recommendation for amendments to rules 7.1013 and 7.1063 and revisions to forms GC-079, GC-079(MA), GC-080, and GC-080(MA) to implement changes made by Senate Bill 1106 (Rubio; Stats. 2024, ch. 455) to the requirements for notice of a guardian’s or conservator’s intent to change the residence of a ward or conservatee. Status/Timeline: Rule amendments and forms revisions expected to take effect January 1, 2026. Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: No projected fiscal impact; staff resources include committee staff, Legal Services, and EGG staff. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i> Internal/External Stakeholders: trial courts, Department of Health Care Services, county behavioral health agencies, public AC Collaboration: n/a	
10.	<i>New project to consider recommending Judicial Council–sponsored legislation to amend Penal Code sections authorizing referral of defendants by criminal courts to CARE Act proceedings</i>	Priority² 1 Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV
	Project Summary: In response to amendments to the Penal Code by Senate Bill 1323 (Menjivar; Stats. 2024, ch. 646) and Senate Bill 1400 (Stern; Stats. 2024, ch. 647) regarding referral of defendants found incompetent to stand trial to CARE Act proceedings, the committee will consider developing a recommendation for Judicial Council–sponsored legislation to revise and clarify the statutory deadlines for hearings in response to those referrals and to provide a pathway for referrals to CARE Act proceedings without a judicial determination that a defendant is ineligible for diversion. Status/Timeline: Legislative proposal anticipated to circulate for public comment in spring 2025, be submitted to council in fall/winter 2025, and, if approved, lead to introduction of legislation that would, if enacted, take effect January 1, 2027.	

#	New or One-Time Projects	
	<p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: The proposal would alleviate pressure on trial court fiscal and human resources by extending deadlines to account for events beyond the courts’ control; staff resources include committee staff, CFCC, Criminal Justice Services, Legal Services, Governmental Affairs, Policy and Research, and EGG staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: trial courts, justice system partners, public</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee, Criminal Law Advisory Committee</p>	
11.	<p>New project to consider recommending rule amendments or form revisions related to requests for Special Immigrant Juvenile findings in guardianship proceedings</p>	<p>Priority² 1</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal³ I, IV</p>
	<p>Project Summary: The committee will consider whether rule amendments or form revisions are needed to implement Assembly Bill 2224 (Santiago; Stats. 2024, ch. 955), which (1) amended Code of Civil Procedure section 155 to require a court that grants a person’s request for Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) findings to provide that person with a certified copy of the order granting the request within a specified time if the person has also submitted a request for expedited processing with a properly conformed proposed order; and (2) amended Probate Code section 1510.1 to clarify that a court may, under that section, appoint a parent as guardian of the person of the parent’s 18- to 20-year-old child in connection with a petition for SIJ findings.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Potential rule amendments or form revisions would take effect no sooner than January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Staff resources include committee staff, CFCC, Legal Services, Governmental Affairs, and EGG staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: trial courts, public</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1.	Review pending legislation	Priority² 1
		Strategic Plan Goal³ IV
<p>Project Summary: The Legislation Subcommittee reviews pending legislation affecting judicial administration, practice, or procedure in proceedings under the Probate Code, the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act, the CARE Act, and other statutes protecting persons with mental health disorders or developmental disabilities; provides technical assistance to Governmental Affairs office, legislative staff, sponsors, and stakeholders, as appropriate; and recommends positions to the council’s Legislation Committee, as required by rule 10.34(a)(3).</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Governmental Affairs staff, Legal Services staff, Center for Families, Children & the Courts staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: TBD, depending on subject matter and scope of legislation.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: TBD, depending on subject matter and scope of legislation. In the past, the committee has collaborated with the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee, the Criminal Law Advisory Committee, the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, and the Tribal Court–State Court Forum.</p>		
2.	Review enacted legislation	Priority² 1
		Strategic Plan Goal³ IV
<p>Project Summary: Review all enacted legislation referred to the committee by the Judicial Council’s Governmental Affairs staff to determine whether it raises issues within the advisory committee’s purview and, when appropriate, develop recommendations for amendment to the rules of court or revisions to Judicial Council forms to implement the legislation or to bring rules and forms into conformity with it.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Governmental Affairs staff, Legal Services staff, Center for Families, Children & the Courts staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: TBD; any proposal for new or amended rules of court or new or revised forms would circulate for public comment.</p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<i>AC Collaboration:</i> TBD, depending on subject matter and scope of legislation.	
3.	Promote gender neutrality in rules and forms	Priority² 1 Strategic Plan Goal³ IV
<p>Project Summary: As rules are amended and forms are revised for independent reasons, the committee will continue to review and, when possible, replace gendered terms or gender identity questions to conform to legislation providing for gender neutrality and nonbinary gender identity.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Legal Services staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: TBD; any proposal for new or amended rules of court or new or revised forms would circulate for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: TBD</p>		
4.	Review suggestions	Priority² 1 Strategic Plan Goal³ IV
<p>Project Summary: As mandated by rule 10.21(c), review suggestions referred by the Chief Counsel from members of the judicial branch and the public for improving judicial administration, practice, and procedure in decedents’ estate, trust, guardianship, conservatorship, and other proceedings under the Probate Code, as well as civil mental health proceedings under the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act and the CARE Act, and recommend action by the council or one of its committees.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Indeterminate fiscal impact on the trial courts or the Judicial Council; staff resources include committee staff, Governmental Affairs, Legal Services, CFCC, and other staff TBD</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p>		

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities	
	<p>Internal/External Stakeholders: TBD, depending on subject matter and scope of suggestion.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: TBD, depending on subject matter and scope of suggestion.</p>	
5.	Monitor developments in California guardianship law related to immigrant children	<p>Priority² 1</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal³ IV</p>
	<p>Project Summary: Continue to monitor the implementation, in probate guardianship proceedings, of section 155 of the Code of Civil Procedure (added by Stats. 2014, ch. 685, § 1), section 1510.1 of the Probate Code (added by Stats. 2015, ch. 694), and other statutes concerning state judicial findings to support (proposed) wards’ federal petitions for Special Immigrant Juvenile classification. If necessary, recommend amended rules of court or revised forms.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing. Any proposal for new or amended rules of court or new or revised forms would circulate for public comment.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Committee staff, Governmental Affairs, Legal Services, and CFCC staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: TBD</p> <p>AC Collaboration: Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee; others TBD</p>	
6.	Provide subject-matter expertise	<p>Priority² 1</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal³ IV</p>
	<p>Project Summary: The committee serves as a subject-matter resource for the Judicial Council, its internal committees, other advisory bodies, and Judicial Council staff to support legal work, avoid duplication of efforts, and contribute to the development of recommendations for council action. These efforts may include providing probate and mental health procedural expertise and review to working groups, advisory committees, subcommittees, and Judicial Council staff, as needed.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Staff Resources: Governmental Affairs, Legal Services, and CFCC staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities
	<p><i>Internal/External Stakeholders:</i> TBD, depending on subject matter and scope of the issues raised.</p> <p><i>AC Collaboration:</i> TBD, depending on subject matter and scope of the issues raised.</p>

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III. LIST OF 2023–2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	Recommended new and amended rules and new and revised forms to implement the Community Assistance Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, as amended by Senate Bill 35 (Stats. 2023, ch. 283), effective September 1, 2024.
2.	Recommended forms for use by a conservator of the person to prepare and file a conservatorship care plan as required by Senate Bill 280 (Stats. 2023, ch. 705), effective January 1, 2025.
3.	Recommended new and revised conservatorship forms for confidential declarations regarding a (proposed) conservatee’s legal capacity and medical ability to attend a hearing, effective January 1, 2025.
4.	Recommended amendments to rule 7.1016, effective January 1, 2025, to implement legislation enacted to protect the interests of children who participate in court in child custody proceedings, including probate guardianships.
5.	Provided technical assistance and subject-matter expertise on proposals to adopt and revise forms used to register and seek enforcement of tribal and out-of-state child custody determinations, including those made in probate guardianship proceedings, effective January 1, 2025.

Traffic Advisory Committee
Annual Agenda¹ 2024-2025
Approved by Rules Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Maria Lucy Armendariz, Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Lead Staff:	Jamie Schechter, Attorney, Criminal Justice Services Office
Committee's Charge/Membership: Rule 10.54 of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Traffic Advisory Committee, which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for improving the administration of justice in the area of traffic procedure, practice, and case management and in other areas as set forth in the fish and game, boating, forestry, public utilities, parks and recreation, and business licensing bail schedules. The Traffic Advisory Committee currently has 12 members. The current committee roster is available on the committee's web page.	
Subgroups of the Advisory Committee²: None.	
Meetings Planned for 2025³ (Advisory body and all subgroups listed above.) Date/Time/Remote or Location if in person (see footnote 3 for in-person meetings): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remote meeting October 2024	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year or cycle and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

²For the definition of “subcommittee” see Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.30(c); “working group” see rule 10.70, “workstream,” see rule 10.53(c); and “education curriculum committee,” see rule 10.50(c)(6).

³ Refer to section IV. 2. of the [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

Note: Because of the current budget and staffing constraints, advisory body chairs and staff must first consider meeting remotely. The chair of the Executive and Planning Committee is suspending advisory body in-person meetings for the 2024–2025 annual agenda cycle. If an in-person meeting is needed, the responsible Judicial Council office head must seek final approval from the advisory body’s internal oversight committee chair. Please see the prioritization memo dated July 1, 2024, for additional details.

- Bi-weekly telephone conferences as needed throughout the year.

Check here if in-person meeting is approved by the internal committee oversight chair.

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II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴ [Group projects by priority number.]	
1.	Develop a Legislative Proposal Regarding Traffic Violator School as it Relates to MyCitations (New project)	<p>Priority 1(c)⁵</p> <p>Strategic Plan IV⁶</p>
<p>Project Summary: <i>MyCitations</i> is an online program developed by the Judicial Council that allows a litigant to request an ability-to-pay determination for infraction fines and fees without having to appear in court. Currently, <i>MyCitations</i> does not have the option for litigants to request traffic violator school. Several stakeholders, including courts, have requested that <i>MyCitations</i> include the option of traffic violator school. However, statutory timeframes for the reporting of traffic violator school completion and payment of the fine are impediments to offering this option through <i>MyCitations</i>. Further, courts have raised questions about how reduced fine amounts should be distributed when the litigant has requested traffic violator school and an ability-to-pay reduction. The proposal would explore possibilities for legislation to allow traffic violator school to become part of <i>MyCitations</i>.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipated circulation for comment in Spring 2025, to go to the Council in fall 2025 as proposed legislation with an effective date of January 1, 2027.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, Department of Motor Vehicles, other justice system partners, JCC Governmental Affairs, and any proposal will be circulated for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>		

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; or 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. *For each priority level 1 proposal, the advisory body must provide a specific reason why it should be done this year and how it fits within the identified category.* 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; or 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives. *If an advisory committee is interested in pursuing any Priority Level 2 proposals, please include justification as to why the proposal should be approved at this time.*

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

#	New or One-Time Projects⁴ [Group projects by priority number.]	
2.	<i>Revision of Trial by Declaration form TR-235</i> (One-time project)	Priority 2 (b)⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶
<p>Project Summary: Revise the officer declaration form (TR-235) for trial by written declaration based on Rules Committee feedback and to be consistent with <i>MyCitations</i>. In the Spring of 2024, the committee circulated for public comment a proposed revision of form TR-235 regarding treatment of Engineering and Traffic surveys (ETS) on this form, specifically the term “on file with the court” in boxes 4 and 5, as well as other clarifying changes to the form. Based on feedback received, the committee withdrew the proposal to consider additional clarifications and to conform the form with the online trial by declaration being developed for <i>MyCitations</i>.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipated circulation for comment in Spring 2026, with effective date of January 2027.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial courts, other justice system partners, and any proposal will be circulated for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None</p>		

# Ongoing Projects and Activities	
1. 2025 Bail Schedules Revision	Priority 1(a) ⁵ Strategic Plan Goal IV ⁶
<p>Project Summary: The Traffic Advisory Committee is required to revise and update the Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules annually to conform with new laws, as required by Penal Code section 1269b and California Rule of Court 4.102.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Anticipated circulation for comment in October 2024 to go the Council by circulating order with a January 2025 effective date.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Will be circulated for public comment.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	
2. Review Pending and Enacted Legislation	Priority 1(a) ⁵ Strategic Plan Goal II ⁶
<p>Project Summary: Review pending and enacted legislation that may impact traffic court administration. Provide subject matter expertise on legislation, including fiscal impacts for the courts. Propose rules and forms necessary to comply with legislation or other directives.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee Staff, Governmental Affairs. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: N/A</p>	
3. Traffic Bench Officer and Temporary Judge Training	Priority 1(a) ⁵

# Ongoing Projects and Activities	
<p>Project Summary: Provide support as requested by the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) with development of traffic training programs and materials for bench officers and temporary judges assigned to traffic proceedings.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A</p> <p>AC Collaboration: CJER Governing Committee.</p>	<p><i>Strategic Plan Goal IV⁶</i></p>

III. LIST OF 2024 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	The committee updated the Uniform Bail and Penalties Schedule to be consistent with 2024 legislation, completed December 2023.
2.	The committee provided Government Affairs office and the council’s Legislation Committee subject matter expertise on pending traffic bills, including operational and fiscal impacts of proposed legislation, ongoing.
3.	The committee proposed revisions to form TR INST, approved at the September 20, 2024, Judicial Council meeting.
4.	The committee proposed amendments to Cal. Rules of Court, rule 4.107, approved at the September 20, 2024, Judicial Council meeting.
5.	The committee proposed revisions to forms TR-320/CR-320, TR-321/CR-321, approved at the September 20, 2024, Judicial Council meeting.