**Title:** Superior Court of Stanislaus Adjustment Request Proposal

**Date:** 8/5/2025

**Summary of DAAC Discussion, Analysis, and Next Steps**

**Introduction**

On January 15, 2025, an Adjustment Request Process proposal (ARP) was submitted by the Superior Court of Stanislaus. This ARP proposes a factor in the Resource Assessment Study (RAS) model to be included in the Workload Formula (WF) calculations that accounts for the additional time and costs to conduct background checks using the Automated Firearms System (AFS) for domestic violence retraining orders required by AB 3083. This bill became effective January 1, 2025, and compliance is contingent on available funding.

**Background**

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee’s Workload Formula Adjustment Request Process is used by the trial courts to suggest modifications to the Workload Formula used for trial court funding[[1]](#footnote-1) Per Judicial Council policy the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) chair, in consultation with the Judicial Council Budget Services director, reviews each request received from the courts and refers them to the appropriate advisory committee for review and recommendation.

In February 2025, TCBAC referred the subject ARP to DAAC, determining that the issue was related to court workload that is measured in the RAS model. Judicial Council staff introduced the ARP to DAAC at its May 13, 2025, meeting, where the committee discussed the request.

**Analysis**

In evaluating ARP requests that come to the Data Analytics Advisory Committee, the following considerations are taken:

* Impact of the proposal on filings data, including changes in filings and availability of filings data in reportable format by all 58 courts.
* Changes to court workload, such as new processes or number of hearings, that may affect the RAS model caseweights.
* New laws or other issues that change the available time of court staff, which is measured in the staff year value.
* Other changes to the components of the calculation of staff FTE need as measured in RAS (i.e. court clusters, manager-supervisor ratio, program 90 ratio).

The subject ARP would impact court workload by requiring courts to perform a new function –a background check through AFS—although the bill language specifies that compliance is contingent on available funding.

In its discussion, the committee raised the point that these types of background checks are not uniformly performed by court staff; in at least one court, the sheriff’s department conducts the background check. Nevertheless, the RAS model does not require that all courts perform all functions identically in order to be included in the model. The caseweights reflect a range of case processing practices and out and local practices in courts.

Since the bill was just passed, this workload was not included in the most recent RAS update due to the study update being conducted in 2024—prior to the January 2025 implementation of AB 3083. Any changes that impact court workload associated with AB 3083 will be captured in the next study update. If AB 3083 impacts judicial workload, that workload will be captured in the 2025 judicial workload study update and reflected in the caseweights used to assess statewide judicial need.

1. <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=7188751&GUID=A90AB7DB-FA13-43B5-8817-947ABF3AB919> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)