



JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
OF CALIFORNIA

TRIAL COURT BUDGET  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[www.courts.ca.gov/tcbac.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/tcbac.htm)  
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TRIAL COURT BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

January 15, 2015

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Administrative Office of the Courts, 2860 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 400, Sacramento

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- Advisory Body Members Present:** Judges: Laurie M. Earl (Chair), Thomas J. Borris, Jonathan B. Conklin, Mark A. Cope, Thomas DeSantos, Gregory S. Gaul, Barry P. Goode, Dodie A. Harman, Lesley D. Holland, Elizabeth W. Johnson, Carolyn B. Kuhl, Cynthia Ming-mei Lee, Paul M. Marigonda, Marsha Slough, and Winifred Young Smith; Executive Officers: Alan Carlson, Sherri R. Carter, Jake Chatters, Richard D. Feldstein, Rebecca Fleming, Kimberly Flener, Jose Octavio Guillen, Shawn C. Landry, Stephen H. Nash, Deborah Norrie, Michael M. Roddy, Mary Beth Todd, Kim Turner, Christina M. Volkers, and David Yamasaki; Judicial Council staff advisory members: Curtis L. Child, Curt Soderlund, and Zlatko Theodorovic.
- Advisory Body Members Absent:** Judges and CEOs: None; Judicial Council staff advisory members: Jody Patel.
- Others Present:** Patrick Ballard, Steven Chang, Martin Hoshino, Cory Jaspersen, Vicki Muzny, and Rob Oyung.

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OPEN MEETING

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**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and roll was taken.

**Approval of Minutes**

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of the December 9, 2014, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) meeting.

**Public Comment**

None received.

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**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1 – 6)**

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**Item 1**

**Update on the Governor's Budget Proposal**

**Action:** *This was a discussion item with no action taken.*

**Item 2**

**Current Fund Condition Statements for the Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF) and State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund (IMF)**

**Action:** *This was a discussion item with no action taken.*

**Item 3**

**2015–2016 State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund (IMF) Allocations for Information Technology Programs**

**Action:** *A motion was made and approved unanimously to amend the third recommendation of the working group that was formed by Judge Earl to identify the needs and priorities of the trial courts and determine whether and how costs for existing programs/services could be reduced. A motion was then made and approved unanimously to support the following working group recommendations as amended, and submit them to the Judicial Council for its consideration:*

- 1. The Judicial Council recommend that the Judicial Council Technology Committee oversee the implementation of the proposed actions outlined in Attachment 2D. Short-term actions (within 12 months) will result in a savings of approximately \$1.0 million which is short of the estimated \$3.4 million reduction needed. However, medium-term (12-24 months) to long-term (24-36 months) actions are anticipated to result in additional savings. Long-term actions should be initiated now due to the length of time required for analysis, implementation, and transition from existing to new solutions.*
- 2. The Judicial Council recommend that the Judicial Council IT Office consider reducing as many external contractors as possible. External contractors have specific domain knowledge but are typically more costly than permanent employees.*
- 3. The Judicial Council consider creating a working group or designating an existing committee to focus on IT efficiencies and cost saving measures for smaller courts.*

**Item 4**

**Budget Change Proposal (BCP) for Funding Trial Court Security Costs**

**Action:** *A motion was made and approved unanimously in support of the recommendations of the Trial Court Security Growth Funding Working Group as follows:*

- *The request for a growth rate increase for courts that provide security should be delayed until the submission of BCP's for 2016–2017 in September 2015. A 2015 spring BCP would still be submitted to maintain funding at FY 2010–2011 security levels. This option allows the Trial Court Security Growth Funding Working Group more time to review the impacts of a growth factor if a 5 percent General Fund augmentation for court operations is to be received in 2016–2017.*
- *The baseline amount to calculate the growth factor would be based on funding needed to maintain 2010–2011 security levels. (Staff and private security would be based on court-provided information in the 2010–2011 Security Survey.) Positions and/or private security that were permanently reduced would not be included. Court security staff benefits funding received would be deducted. Equipment costs for screening stations, duress buttons, and wands would also not be included.*

**Item 5**

**Children's Waiting Room Distributions**

**Action:** *A motion was made to approve the recommendations of the Children's Waiting Room Work Group with an amendment to the third bullet in recommendation 2.D. that the courts should return the unspent CWR distributions. Before a vote was taken on this motion, further discussion was held and votes on two other motions were taken. A motion was made and approved to accept several changes to the language in the work group recommendations. A motion was made and approved to accept the amended language in recommendation 2.D regarding return of the unspent CWR distributions. After additional discussion, a vote was taken on the original motion relating to all of the recommendations and was not approved. A motion was then made and approved unanimously to have this item come back to the TCBAC after further review by the work group, including a review by the JCC's Legal staff and Finance/Accounting offices.*

**Item 6**

**Amendments to the Statute Requiring a 2 Percent Reserve Held in the TCTF**

**Action:** *Due to a lack of time, this item was deferred to the next TCBAC meeting.*

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

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on March 23, 2015.