

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
BUDGET SERVICES
Report to the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
(Action Item)

Title: Court Reporter Allocations for 2024–25 for the Remaining \$10 Million

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Issue

Consideration of recommendations for 2024–25 allocations for the remaining \$10 million of the \$30 million in court reporter funding included in the Budget Act of 2024. Although the May Revision proposed reducing the \$30 million to \$20 million, the final enacted budget included \$30 million. The allocations for \$20 million of the total \$30 million were approved by the Judicial Council at its July 12, 2024, business meeting. The approved recommendations to allocate the remaining \$10 million will be considered by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee (Budget Committee) and then the Judicial Council at its September 20, 2024, business meeting.

Background

Budget Language

Senate Bill 170 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240), which amended the Budget Act of 2021, included \$30 million ongoing General Fund to the Judicial Council for establishing a methodology to allocate funding to all trial courts to increase the number of court reporters in family law and civil cases. The budget language in the Budget Act of 2022 and ongoing expanded the use of this funding but did not affect how these funds are allocated to the courts.

Funding Included in the Budget Act of 2024

Due to the state’s fiscal deficit, the May Revision for the 2024–25 budget proposed reducing the funding from \$30 million ongoing to \$20 million. The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) met on May 24, 2024, to consider recommendations to allocate the proposed \$20 million for court reporters¹. The allocations approved by the TCBAC at its May 24, 2024, meeting were based on the \$20 million. The May 24, 2024, report to the TCBAC noted that allocation changes may be necessary if there are changes to the court reporter appropriation and associated language in the Budget Act of 2024.

¹ Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda (May 24, 2024), <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/tcbac-20240524-noticeandagenda.pdf>; Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Materials (May 24, 2024), <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/tcbac-20240524-materials.pdf>.

The TCBAC's recommendations for the 2024–25 allocations for \$20 million were approved by the Budget Committee at its June 4, 2024, meeting². The Judicial Council approved these allocations at its July 12, 2024, business meeting and the funding will be distributed to the trial courts in August. The recommended allocations for consideration by the TCBAC outlined in this report are for the remaining \$10 million as the \$30 million ongoing was maintained in the Budget Act of 2024.

Allocation Methodology

In the first year of funding in 2021–22, the Funding Methodology Subcommittee of the TCBAC established the Ad Hoc Court Reporter Funding Subcommittee, consisting of members from the TCBAC, to develop an allocation methodology recommendation for 2021–22. Through deliberations, the ad hoc subcommittee developed a recommendation for an allocation methodology for the \$30 million and presented it to the TCBAC at its November 30, 2021, meeting and to the Budget Committee on December 7, 2021. The Judicial Council approved the allocation methodology at its January 21, 2022, business meeting and directed Judicial Council staff to update the allocation methodology used for this ongoing funding based on the most recent data available.

The council-approved allocation methodology was developed based on the 2020 Judicial Needs Assessment (JNA), which was the most current study at the time. Judicial workload, as described by the JNA, is measured by a court's assessed judicial need (AJN) and was identified as the best metric for the allocation methodology because of the parallel workload drivers between judgeships and court reporters. In addition, the AJN data includes separate noncriminal and criminal judicial workload metrics by court. Focusing on noncriminal judicial need, consistent with the requirements in the budget language, the proposed methodology for allocating funds to the trial courts is as follows:

1. Identify the proportion of judicial workload, as measured by the AJN, for noncriminal need by court;
2. Apply a funding floor to all courts. The allocation of the \$20 million approved by the TCBAC at its May 24, 2024, meeting included a proportional one-third reduction in the funding floor from the previous \$25,000 to \$16,667, consistent with the proposed reduction from \$30 million to \$20 million. With the \$30 million ongoing maintained in the Budget Act of 2024, the funding floor should be adjusted to the previous \$25,000. This will result in an additional funding floor increase of \$8,333 for the allocation of the remaining \$10 million for court reporters;

² Judicial Branch Budget Committee Meeting Agenda (June 4, 2024), <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jbbc-20240604-noticeandagenda.pdf>;

Judicial Branch Budget Committee Materials (June 4, 2024), <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jbbc-20240604-materials.pdf>.

3. After applying the funding floor amount to the courts, allocate the remaining funding proportionally to all other courts based on their noncriminal judicial need; and
4. Allocate the funding in one lump sum, on council approval.

The AJN data used in the allocation methodology for 2024–25 was updated based on the 2022 JNA, and the detail of the allocations by court for the remaining \$10 million in court reporter funding is included as Attachment A. The allocations for the \$20 million approved by the Judicial Council at its July 12, 2024, business meeting are included as Attachment B. The allocations for the total \$30 million in court reporter funding are included as Attachment C for reference.

Recommendation

Approve the Court Reporter allocations for the remaining \$10 million to the trial courts as outlined in Attachment A.

Attachments

Attachment A: Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024–25 Allocations of \$10 Million

Attachment B: Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024–25 Allocations of \$20 Million

Attachment C: Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024–25 Total Allocations of \$30 Million

Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024-25 Allocations of \$10 Million Restoration in Funding

Cluster	Court	Initial Allocation of \$10M based on Noncriminal AJN			Allocation of \$10M with Funding Floor - restoring \$25,000 floor amount from the \$16,667 floor established in the \$20M funding allocation				
		Noncriminal AJN *	Statewide AJN	Proportion of \$10M	Funding Floor Court?	Floor Funding	Revised AJN	Allocation of	Final Allocation
							Proportion for Non- floor Courts	Non floor Funding	
Statewide	1,067	100%	\$10,000,000		\$91,663		\$9,908,337	\$10,000,000	
4	Alameda	36.8	3.45%	\$345,209			3.47%	\$343,680	\$343,680
1	Alpine	0.1	0.01%	\$591	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
1	Amador	1.1	0.11%	\$10,560			0.11%	\$10,514	\$10,514
2	Butte	6.1	0.57%	\$56,836			0.57%	\$56,585	\$56,585
1	Calaveras	1.3	0.12%	\$12,290			0.12%	\$12,236	\$12,236
1	Colusa	0.5	0.04%	\$4,411	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
3	Contra Costa	23.2	2.18%	\$217,693			2.19%	\$216,729	\$216,729
1	Del Norte	1.2	0.11%	\$11,369			0.11%	\$11,319	\$11,319
2	El Dorado	4.2	0.40%	\$39,599			0.40%	\$39,424	\$39,424
3	Fresno	28.4	2.67%	\$266,554			2.68%	\$265,374	\$265,374
1	Glenn	0.8	0.08%	\$7,555	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
2	Humboldt	4.5	0.42%	\$42,194			0.42%	\$42,007	\$42,007
2	Imperial	4.4	0.41%	\$41,427			0.42%	\$41,243	\$41,243
1	Inyo	0.5	0.05%	\$4,713	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
3	Kern	24.9	2.33%	\$233,026			2.34%	\$231,993	\$231,993
2	Kings	4.5	0.42%	\$41,711			0.42%	\$41,526	\$41,526
2	Lake	2.4	0.22%	\$22,230			0.22%	\$22,131	\$22,131
1	Lassen	0.8	0.07%	\$7,461	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
4	Los Angeles	341.3	31.99%	\$3,198,518			32.14%	\$3,184,349	\$3,184,349
2	Madera	6.0	0.56%	\$55,828			0.56%	\$55,581	\$55,581
2	Marin	5.1	0.48%	\$47,757			0.48%	\$47,545	\$47,545
1	Mariposa	0.4	0.03%	\$3,407	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
2	Mendocino	2.7	0.25%	\$24,987			0.25%	\$24,876	\$24,876
2	Merced	7.3	0.68%	\$68,145			0.68%	\$67,843	\$67,843
1	Modoc	0.4	0.04%	\$3,550	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
1	Mono	0.3	0.03%	\$2,703	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
3	Monterey	9.4	0.88%	\$88,053			0.88%	\$87,663	\$87,663
2	Napa	3.6	0.34%	\$33,794			0.34%	\$33,644	\$33,644
2	Nevada	2.6	0.24%	\$24,208			0.24%	\$24,101	\$24,101
4	Orange	77.0	7.22%	\$721,866			7.25%	\$718,668	\$718,668
2	Placer	9.3	0.88%	\$87,558			0.88%	\$87,170	\$87,170
1	Plumas	0.6	0.06%	\$6,010	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
4	Riverside	62.8	5.88%	\$588,174			5.91%	\$585,568	\$585,568
4	Sacramento	43.7	4.10%	\$409,521			4.11%	\$407,707	\$407,707
1	San Benito	1.4	0.14%	\$13,553			0.14%	\$13,493	\$13,493
4	San Bernardino	69.2	6.49%	\$648,753			6.52%	\$645,879	\$645,879
4	San Diego	77.9	7.30%	\$729,620			7.33%	\$726,388	\$726,388
3	San Francisco	25.1	2.35%	\$235,407			2.37%	\$234,364	\$234,364
3	San Joaquin	19.9	1.87%	\$186,711			1.88%	\$185,884	\$185,884
2	San Luis Obispo	6.0	0.56%	\$55,971			0.56%	\$55,723	\$55,723
3	San Mateo	13.5	1.26%	\$126,108			1.27%	\$125,549	\$125,549
3	Santa Barbara	9.2	0.86%	\$86,391			0.87%	\$86,009	\$86,009
4	Santa Clara	30.9	2.90%	\$289,961			2.91%	\$288,676	\$288,676
2	Santa Cruz	5.2	0.49%	\$48,903			0.49%	\$48,687	\$48,687
2	Shasta	6.2	0.58%	\$58,089			0.58%	\$57,832	\$57,832
1	Sierra	0.1	0.01%	\$955	X	\$8,333			\$8,333

Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024-25 Allocations of \$10 Million Restoration in Funding

Cluster	Court	Initial Allocation of \$10M based on Noncriminal AJN			Allocation of \$10M with Funding Floor - restoring \$25,000 floor amount from the \$16,667 floor established in the \$20M funding allocation				
		Noncriminal AJN *	Statewide AJN	Proportion of \$10M	Funding Floor Court?	Floor Funding	Revised AJN	Allocation of	Final Allocation
							Proportion for Non- floor Courts	Non floor Funding	
Statewide	1,067	100%	\$10,000,000		\$91,663		\$9,908,337	\$10,000,000	
2	Siskiyou	1.5	0.14%	\$14,323			0.14%	\$14,259	\$14,259
3	Solano	11.0	1.03%	\$102,708			1.03%	\$102,253	\$102,253
3	Sonoma	10.8	1.01%	\$101,405			1.02%	\$100,956	\$100,956
3	Stanislaus	14.1	1.32%	\$131,857			1.32%	\$131,272	\$131,272
2	Sutter	3.0	0.28%	\$27,926			0.28%	\$27,803	\$27,803
2	Tehama	2.3	0.22%	\$21,674			0.22%	\$21,578	\$21,578
1	Trinity	0.7	0.06%	\$6,223	X	\$8,333			\$8,333
3	Tulare	13.3	1.24%	\$124,420			1.25%	\$123,869	\$123,869
2	Tuolumne	1.9	0.18%	\$18,129			0.18%	\$18,049	\$18,049
3	Ventura	18.0	1.68%	\$168,463			1.69%	\$167,717	\$167,717
2	Yolo	5.3	0.50%	\$49,690			0.50%	\$49,470	\$49,470
2	Yuba	2.5	0.23%	\$23,254			0.23%	\$23,151	\$23,151

* Assessed Judicial Need (AJN) based on the updated 2022 data.

Noncriminal case types: Civil, Family, Juvenile, Probate, Mental Health

Criminal case types: Felony, Misdemeanors, Infractions

Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024-25 Allocations

Cluster	Court	Initial Allocation of \$20M based on Noncriminal AJN			Allocation of \$20M with Funding Floor adjusted from \$25,000 to \$16,667 based on one-third reduction in statewide funding (i.e., from \$30M to \$20M)				
		Noncriminal AJN *	Statewide AJN	Proportion of \$20M	Funding Floor Court?	Floor Funding	Revised AJN Proportion for Non- floor Courts	Allocation of Non floor Funding	Final Allocation
4	Alameda	36.8	3.45%	\$690,419			3.47%	\$687,360	\$687,360
1	Alpine	0.1	0.01%	\$1,181	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
1	Amador	1.1	0.11%	\$21,121			0.11%	\$21,027	\$21,027
2	Butte	6.1	0.57%	\$113,673			0.57%	\$113,169	\$113,169
1	Calaveras	1.3	0.12%	\$24,580			0.12%	\$24,471	\$24,471
1	Colusa	0.5	0.04%	\$8,822	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
3	Contra Costa	23.2	2.18%	\$435,387			2.19%	\$433,458	\$433,458
1	Del Norte	1.2	0.11%	\$22,738			0.11%	\$22,638	\$22,638
2	El Dorado	4.2	0.40%	\$79,198			0.40%	\$78,847	\$78,847
3	Fresno	28.4	2.67%	\$533,109			2.68%	\$530,747	\$530,747
1	Glenn	0.8	0.08%	\$15,110	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
2	Humboldt	4.5	0.42%	\$84,388			0.42%	\$84,015	\$84,015
2	Imperial	4.4	0.41%	\$82,853			0.42%	\$82,486	\$82,486
1	Inyo	0.5	0.05%	\$9,427	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
3	Kern	24.9	2.33%	\$466,051			2.34%	\$463,987	\$463,987
2	Kings	4.5	0.42%	\$83,421			0.42%	\$83,052	\$83,052
2	Lake	2.4	0.22%	\$44,460			0.22%	\$44,263	\$44,263
1	Lassen	0.8	0.07%	\$14,922	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
4	Los Angeles	341.3	31.99%	\$6,397,035			32.14%	\$6,368,695	\$6,368,695
2	Madera	6.0	0.56%	\$111,656			0.56%	\$111,162	\$111,162
2	Marin	5.1	0.48%	\$95,514			0.48%	\$95,091	\$95,091
1	Mariposa	0.4	0.03%	\$6,814	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
2	Mendocino	2.7	0.25%	\$49,974			0.25%	\$49,753	\$49,753
2	Merced	7.3	0.68%	\$136,290			0.68%	\$135,686	\$135,686
1	Modoc	0.4	0.04%	\$7,099	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
1	Mono	0.3	0.03%	\$5,405	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
3	Monterey	9.4	0.88%	\$176,105			0.88%	\$175,325	\$175,325
2	Napa	3.6	0.34%	\$67,587			0.34%	\$67,288	\$67,288
2	Nevada	2.6	0.24%	\$48,417			0.24%	\$48,202	\$48,202
4	Orange	77.0	7.22%	\$1,443,731			7.25%	\$1,437,335	\$1,437,335
2	Placer	9.3	0.88%	\$175,115			0.88%	\$174,339	\$174,339
1	Plumas	0.6	0.06%	\$12,020	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
4	Riverside	62.8	5.88%	\$1,176,347			5.91%	\$1,171,136	\$1,171,136
4	Sacramento	43.7	4.10%	\$819,041			4.11%	\$815,413	\$815,413
1	San Benito	1.4	0.14%	\$27,105			0.14%	\$26,985	\$26,985
4	San Bernardino	69.2	6.49%	\$1,297,506			6.52%	\$1,291,758	\$1,291,758
4	San Diego	77.9	7.30%	\$1,459,240			7.33%	\$1,452,775	\$1,452,775
3	San Francisco	25.1	2.35%	\$470,814			2.37%	\$468,728	\$468,728
3	San Joaquin	19.9	1.87%	\$373,422			1.88%	\$371,768	\$371,768
2	San Luis Obispo	6.0	0.56%	\$111,942			0.56%	\$111,446	\$111,446
3	San Mateo	13.5	1.26%	\$252,215			1.27%	\$251,098	\$251,098
3	Santa Barbara	9.2	0.86%	\$172,783			0.87%	\$172,017	\$172,017
4	Santa Clara	30.9	2.90%	\$579,922			2.91%	\$577,353	\$577,353
2	Santa Cruz	5.2	0.49%	\$97,806			0.49%	\$97,373	\$97,373
2	Shasta	6.2	0.58%	\$116,178			0.58%	\$115,664	\$115,664
1	Sierra	0.1	0.01%	\$1,909	X	\$16,667			\$16,667

Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024-25 Allocations

Cluster	Court	Initial Allocation of \$20M based on Noncriminal AJN			Allocation of \$20M with Funding Floor adjusted from \$25,000 to \$16,667 based on one-third reduction in statewide funding (i.e., from \$30M to \$20M)				
		Noncriminal AJN *	Statewide AJN	Proportion of \$20M	Funding Floor Court?	Floor Funding	Revised AJN	Allocation of	
							Proportion for Non- floor Courts	Non floor Funding	Final Allocation
	Statewide	1,067	100%	\$20,000,000		\$183,337		\$19,816,663	\$20,000,000
2	Siskiyou	1.5	0.14%	\$28,646			0.14%	\$28,519	\$28,519
3	Solano	11.0	1.03%	\$205,416			1.03%	\$204,506	\$204,506
3	Sonoma	10.8	1.01%	\$202,811			1.02%	\$201,912	\$201,912
3	Stanislaus	14.1	1.32%	\$263,713			1.32%	\$262,545	\$262,545
2	Sutter	3.0	0.28%	\$55,853			0.28%	\$55,605	\$55,605
2	Tehama	2.3	0.22%	\$43,348			0.22%	\$43,156	\$43,156
1	Trinity	0.7	0.06%	\$12,445	X	\$16,667			\$16,667
3	Tulare	13.3	1.24%	\$248,841			1.25%	\$247,738	\$247,738
2	Tuolumne	1.9	0.18%	\$36,258			0.18%	\$36,098	\$36,098
3	Ventura	18.0	1.68%	\$336,926			1.69%	\$335,433	\$335,433
2	Yolo	5.3	0.50%	\$99,381			0.50%	\$98,940	\$98,940
2	Yuba	2.5	0.23%	\$46,508			0.23%	\$46,302	\$46,302

* Assessed Judicial Need (AJN) based on the updated 2022 data.

Noncriminal case types: Civil, Family, Juvenile, Probate, Mental Health

Criminal case types: Felony, Misdemeanors, Infractions

Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024-25 Allocations of Total \$30 Million in Funding

Cluster	Court	Total Allocation of \$30 Million
		Statewide \$30,000,000
4	Alameda	\$1,031,041
1	Alpine	\$25,000
1	Amador	\$31,541
2	Butte	\$169,753
1	Calaveras	\$36,707
1	Colusa	\$25,000
3	Contra Costa	\$650,187
1	Del Norte	\$33,956
2	El Dorado	\$118,271
3	Fresno	\$796,121
1	Glenn	\$25,000
2	Humboldt	\$126,022
2	Imperial	\$123,729
1	Inyo	\$25,000
3	Kern	\$695,980
2	Kings	\$124,578
2	Lake	\$66,394
1	Lassen	\$25,000
4	Los Angeles	\$9,553,044
2	Madera	\$166,742
2	Marin	\$142,636
1	Mariposa	\$25,000
2	Mendocino	\$74,629
2	Merced	\$203,529
1	Modoc	\$25,000
1	Mono	\$25,000
3	Monterey	\$262,987
2	Napa	\$100,932
2	Nevada	\$72,304
4	Orange	\$2,156,003
2	Placer	\$261,509
1	Plumas	\$25,000
4	Riverside	\$1,756,704
4	Sacramento	\$1,223,119
1	San Benito	\$40,478
4	San Bernardino	\$1,937,637
4	San Diego	\$2,179,163
3	San Francisco	\$703,092
3	San Joaquin	\$557,652
2	San Luis Obispo	\$167,170
3	San Mateo	\$376,647
3	Santa Barbara	\$258,026
4	Santa Clara	\$866,029
2	Santa Cruz	\$146,060
2	Shasta	\$173,496
1	Sierra	\$25,000

Court Reporter Funding: FY 2024-25 Allocations of Total \$30 Million in Funding

Cluster	Court	Total Allocation of \$30 Million
	Statewide	\$30,000,000
2	Siskiyou	\$42,778
3	Solano	\$306,758
3	Sonoma	\$302,868
3	Stanislaus	\$393,817
2	Sutter	\$83,408
2	Tehama	\$64,733
1	Trinity	\$25,000
3	Tulare	\$371,607
2	Tuolumne	\$54,146
3	Ventura	\$503,150
2	Yolo	\$148,410
2	Yuba	\$69,454