



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

November 22, 2024

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

<https://jcc.granicus.com/player/event/3923>

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**Advisory Body Members Present:** Judges: Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin (Chair), Hon. Judith C. Clark, Hon. Kimberly A. Gaab, Hon. Wendy G. Getty, Hon. Patricia L. Kelly, Hon. Michael J. Reinhart, and Hon. Lisa M. Rogan.

Executive Officers: Ms. Rebecca Fleming (Vice Chair), Ms. Stephanie Cameron, Mr. Chad Finke, Mr. Kevin Harrigan, Mr. Brandon E. Riley, Mr. Michael M. Roddy, Mr. Chris Ruhl, Mr. Neal Taniguchi, and Mr. David H. Yamasaki.

**Advisory Body Members Absent:** Hon. J. Eric Bradshaw, Hon. Samantha P. Jessner, Hon. David C. Kalemkarian, Mr. Shawn C. Landry, Mr. Darrel E. Parker, and Mr. David W. Slayton.

**Others Present:** Hon. Bunmi Awoniyi, Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Ms. Fran Mueller, Ms. Donna Newman, Ms. Thera Hearne, Ms. Oksana Tuk, and Ms. Rose Lane.

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OPEN MEETING

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**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The chair welcomed the members, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and took roll call.

**Approval of Minutes**

The committee approved minutes from the October 4, 2024, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) meeting.

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DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-3)

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**Item 1 – 2024–25 Trial Court Trust Fund Allocation Increase for Judicial Council Audit Services and Budget Services Offices (Action Required)**

Consideration of an increased Trial Court Trust Fund allocation of \$1.5 million for the Judicial Council's Audit Services and Budget Services offices for 2024–25.

**Action:** The TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the recommendations to increase the fiscal year 2024–25 Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF) allocation for the Judicial Council’s Audit Services and Budget Services offices by \$1.5 million, for consideration by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee and then the Judicial Council at its February 21, 2025, business meeting:

1. An additional \$1.3 million for the Audit Services office to reflect the resources included in the Budget Act of 2024 to ensure that the appropriate number of trial courts will be audited by the State Controller’s Office; and
2. An additional \$150,000 for the Budget Services office to fund the actual costs of budget workload for the collections program that are supported by the TCTF.

**Item 2 – Trial Court Trust Fund Court Interpreters Program Funding (Action Required)**

Consideration of court interpreter allocations and expenditures for 2023–24 and 2024–25.

**Action:** The TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the following recommendations for consideration by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee and then the Judicial Council at its February 21, 2025, business meeting:

1. Address the \$4.6 million shortfall in fiscal year 2023–24 by allocating this amount from the \$35 million Court Interpreter Program (CIP) fund balance from the TCTF to courts that exceeded their allocation;
2. Approve the remaining \$35 million CIP fund balance from the TCTF to be allocated to courts mid-year to address any CIP shortfalls for fiscal years 2024–25 and 2025–26;
3. Direct Judicial Council staff to continue to monitor CIP funding and program expenditures, provide regular updates to the TCBAC to report any changes, and work with the trial courts to develop a funding request for additional CIP resources beginning in fiscal year 2026–27; and
4. Direct Judicial Council Center for Families, Children & the Courts’ staff to work in collaboration with the Court Executives Advisory Committee to further refine the council’s Payment Policies for Independent Contractor Interpreters to address the statewide operational impacts of rising CIP expenditures.

**Item 3 – 2025 Draft Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee Annual Agenda (Action Required)**

Consideration of the draft Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee annual agenda for 2025.

**Action:** The TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the 2025 TCBAC draft annual agenda for consideration by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee at its meeting on December 10, 2024.

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**INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (ITEMS 1-2) (NO ACTION REQUIRED)**

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**Info 1 – Court Reporter Funding Mid-Year Survey for 2024–25**

Informational update on the mid-year survey for one-time redistribution of unspent court reporter funding for 2024–25.

**Action:** No action taken.

**Info 2 – Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act Updates**

Informational update on the mid-year survey for one-time redistribution of unspent CARE Act funding for 2024–25 and potential allocation adjustments.

**Action:** No action taken.

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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 12:52 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on January 9, 2025.