



Judicial Council of California

Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee

www.courts.ca.gov/tcbac.htm

tcbac@jud.ca.gov

TRIAL COURT BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

October 29, 2025

12:00 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.

<https://jcc.granicus.com/player/event/4017>

Advisory Body Members Present: Judges: Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin (Chair), Hon. J. Eric Bradshaw, Hon. Christopher R. Bowen, Hon. Samantha P. Jessner, Hon. David C. Kalemkarian, Hon. Patricia L. Kelly, Hon. Lisa M. Rogan, and Hon. Sonny S. Sandhu

Executive Officers: Ms. Rebecca Fleming (Vice-Chair), Ms. Kate Bieker, Mr. Jake Chatters, Mr. Chad Finke, Mr. Kevin Harrigan, Mr. Chris Ruhl, Mr. David W. Slayton, Ms. Kim Turner, and Mr. David H. Yamasaki

Advisory Body Members Absent: Hon. Judith C. Clark, Hon. Julie A. Emede, Ms. Stephanie Cameron, Mr. Shawn C. Landry, and Mr. Michael M. Roddy

Others Present: Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Hon. Bunmi Awoniyi, Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Ms. Fran Mueller, Ms. Donna Newman, Ms. Maria Lira, Ms. Oksana Tuk, and Mr. Marshall Comia

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body approved the minutes of the August 25, 2025, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee (TCBAC) meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM (ITEM 1-4)

Item 1 – Increased Transcript Rate Allocations for Fiscal Year 2025–26 (Action Required)

Consideration of allocations for fiscal year 2025–26 increased transcript rates.

Action: *The TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the \$7 million allocation to each trial court proportionally using the Judicial Council–approved methodology for fiscal year (FY) 2025–26, based on an average of the prior three-year transcript expenditures, as outlined in Attachment A. The approved*

recommendation will be considered by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee and then the Judicial Council at its December 12, 2025, business meeting.

Item 2 – Final Adjustments for Year-End Fund Balances for FY 2024–25 (Action Required)

Consideration of final one-time adjustments for FY 2024–25 year-end fund balances for the trial courts.

Action: *The TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the final FY 2024–25 year-end fund balance reduction of \$2.9 million, which reflects a total reduction of \$20.6 million above the fund balance cap offset by \$17.7 million in applicable Funds Held on Behalf requests. The \$2.9 million reduction will be allocated to the trial courts in January 2026. This recommendation will be considered by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee and then the Judicial Council at its December 12, 2025, business meeting.*

Item 3 – Funding Methodology Subcommittee Work Plan Update for FY 2025–26 (Action Required)

Consideration of an update to the Funding Methodology Subcommittee annual work plan for FY 2025–26.

Action: *The TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the proposed update to the Funding Methodology Subcommittee work plan for FY 2025–26 to revise the existing allocation methodology for court-appointed juvenile dependency counsel funding to determine an appropriate and effective way to address challenges faced by the trial courts in providing quality representation for children and families.*

Item 4 – Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee Annual Agenda for 2026 (Action Required)

Consideration of the proposed Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee annual agenda for 2026.

Action: *The TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the committee’s annual agenda for 2026 and to update the fiscal year and add “as necessary” to the Community, Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act project on page 28 of the materials. This recommendation will be considered by the Judicial Council Budget Committee on November 13, 2025.*

Note: *Subsequent to the action, it was determined the information on page 28 of the materials is not part of the proposed TCBAC Annual Agenda for 2026. Therefore, no changes are needed.*

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on January 15, 2026.