Judicial Council *of* California

# TRIAL COURT BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE
# MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING WITH CLOSED SESSION

September 29, 2026

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Videoconference

**Members Present:** Judges: Hon. Judith K. Dulcich (Chair), Hon. J. Eric Bradshaw, Hon. Christopher R. Bowen, Hon. Rodney A. Cortez, Hon. Samantha P. Jessner, Hon. Patricia L. Kelly, and Hon. Scott R. L. Young

Executive Officers: Ms. Rebecca Fleming (Vice-Chair), Ms. Kate Bieker, Ms. Stephanie Cameron, Mr. Chad Finke, Mr. Kevin Harrigan, Mr. Robert M. Oliver, Mr. Michael M. Roddy, Mr. David W. Slayton, Ms. Kim Turner, and Mr. David H. Yamasaki

**Members Absent:** Hon. Julie A. Emede, Hon. Lisa M. Rogan, Hon. Lawrence Brown (Liaison), and Mr. Jake Chatters

**Others Present:** Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Ms. Randie Chance, Ms. Fran Mueller, Ms. Joleen Allgood, Mr. Jarret Yee, and Ms. Megan Ellis

## OPEN MEETING

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and took roll call.

**Approval of Minutes**

The advisory body approved the minutes of the August 27, 2026, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee meeting (TCBAC).

## DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1–2)

**Item 1**

**Proposition 36 Allocations for Fiscal Year 2026–27 (Action Required)**

Consideration of Proposition 36 allocations for fiscal year 2026–27.

***Action:*** *TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the fiscal year 2026–27 allocations to support implementation of Proposition 36, as displayed in Attachment 1B, based on 50 percent non-traffic misdemeanor and felony filings and 50 percent Proposition 36 survey data. This recommendation will be considered by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee and then the Judicial Council at its business meeting on December 11, 2026.*

**Item 2**

**Trial Court Minimum Operating and Emergency Fund Balance Policy Updates (Action Required)**

Consideration of updates to the Judicial Council's trial court minimum operating and emergency fund balance policy.

***Action:*** *TCBAC unanimously voted to approve the revisions to the trial court minimum operating and emergency fund balance policy, with a modification to Attachment 2C to insert the following language in item 7: "as determined by the following calculation based upon the prior fiscal year's ending total unrestricted general fund expenditures (excluding special revenue, debt service, permanent proprietary, and fiduciary funds), less any material one-time expenditures (e.g., large one-time contracts)."*

*The revisions will ensure the policy (1) aligns with contemporary fiscal realities, (2) supports greater flexibility for courts with limited financial resources, and (3) maintains prudent financial guidance without imposing outdated or burdensome requirements. This recommendation will be considered by the Judicial Branch Budget Committee and then the Judicial Council at its business meeting on December 11, 2026.*

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further open meeting business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Adjourned closed session at 12:50 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on October 29, 2026.