



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

WORKLOAD ASSESSMENT  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[www.courts.ca.gov/waac.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/waac.htm)  
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## WORKLOAD ASSESSMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

February 24, 2021  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM  
Electronic

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**Advisory Body Members Present:** Hon. Lorna A. Alksne, Chair; Hon. Charles R. Brehmer; Hon. Pamela Butler; Hon. Joyce Hinrichs; Hon. Kirk H. Nakamura; Hon. Lawrence P. Riff; Ms. Stephanie Cameron; Ms. Sherri Carter; Ms. Arlene D. Junior; Mr. James Kim; Mr. Michael Planet; Ms. Bonnie Sloan; Ms. Kim Turner

**Advisory Body Members Absent:** Hon. Jennifer K. Rockwell

**Others Present:** Ms. Leah Rose-Goodwin; Ms. Kristin Greenaway; Mr. Nicholas Armstrong; Ms. Khulan Erdenebaatar; Ms. Rose Butler

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#### OPEN MEETING

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#### 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 reviewed and approved the minutes of the September 9, 2020 meeting and the December 9, 2020 Action by Email Between Meetings of the Workload Assessment Advisory Committee.

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

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#### Item 1

#### Annual Agenda

#### Action:

*The first discussion focused on the Resource Assessment Study (RAS) and Legislative Report on Judicial Needs Assessment. Members were requested to generate ideas to reassess the model for adjustments, given that filings do not represent true numbers due to COVID-19. Two different workload challenges around COVID were brought up: 1) cases that got stuck between the lockdown and opening of courts, and 2) new filings impacted by the delay. Members proposed to use the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee's concept regarding applying a COVID delay factor as a temporary and immediate fix for the RAS and judicial needs reporting. The Superior*

***Court of Los Angeles will share their study using the COVID delay factor. The committee decided to do a pilot study using large, medium, and small courts to test the approach and develop recommendations that should also consider the CARES ACT (how it has impacted the workforce) and work-year-value issue. To this end, a small working group was created to work on the study and figure the elements in RAS that are impacted. Staff was directed to reach out to the National Center for State Courts to find out how other state courts are managing the process and share those findings with the committee.***

***Staff provided an update on the work being done concerning the Legislative Report on Measures to Promote the Fair & Efficient Administration of Justice (Gov. Code § 77001.5). Staff reported that they are looking to revamp the report to design it like an annual report and, more importantly, expand it to include more data points across the branch and beyond the time to disposition as captured in JBSIS. Staff will share the work later in the year.***

***Finally, JC staff provided an update on the work being done on the Judicial Needs Assessment, which is a biennial report due every even-numbered year. While it is not due this year, JC staff will use this year to review the model's prioritization and ranking methodology. The model was developed in the early 2000s, and a review is probably due. JC staff will also bring up the findings and any proposed changes to the committee for review, discussion, and approval.***

## **Item 2**

### **Workplan**

#### **Action:**

***The committee was provided a first look at the updated agenda form to keep track of items as issues or ideas come up. The committee will try out the form and see how it goes.***

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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 12:35 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on enter April 23, 2021.