

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS**

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102-3688

Report

TO: Members of the Judicial Council

FROM: Christine M. Hansen, Director, Finance Division, 415-865-7951
Stephen H. Nash, Assistant Director, Finance Division, 415-865-7584
Ruben Gomez, Supervising Budget Analyst, Finance Division, 415-865-7686

DATE: May 25, 2005

SUBJECT: Annual Report of Fiscal Year 2003–2004 Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings (Action Required)

Issue Statement

The Administrative Office of the Courts respectfully submits the following report of court reporter fees collected and expenditures for court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings for fiscal year (FY) 2003–2004. In order to transmit the report to the Legislature consistent with the timeframes specified by Government Code §68086(c), the AOC has submitted to the Legislature the following report of court reporter fees revenues collected in accordance with GC §68086(a)(1) and GC §68086(a)(4) in FY 2003–2004 and of FY 2003–2004 expenditures related to court reporters in superior court civil proceedings. This report is now submitted to the Judicial Council for formal approval.

In FY 2003–2004, \$28,437,311 was remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund for fees collected in accordance with GC §68086(a)(1) and GC §68086(a)(4), as follows:

- \$13,433,130 was related to fees charged in civil proceedings lasting more than one hour for the services of an official court reporter on the first and each succeeding judicial day those services are provided pursuant to Section 269 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- \$15,004,181 was related to the one-time fee of \$25 for the cost of the services of an official court reporter upon the filing of a first paper in a civil action or proceeding in the superior court where the amount demanded is over \$10,000.

In FY 2003–2004, the estimated cost of civil reporters in superior court civil proceedings was \$58,095,449.

The expenditure amount is an estimate since most courts do not track by case categories the amount of time court reporters spend in various civil proceedings. The estimate of \$58,095,449 was estimated by multiplying the sum of the total FY 2003–04 budgeted salaries and benefits of all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2003 (\$158,741,239) and total FY 2003–2004 expenditures on contract court reporters (\$9,651,366) by the estimated amount of time court reporters spend on civil cases (specifically civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family cases) vs. all cases (34.5 percent).

The time percentage estimate is based on a September 2003 time survey study conducted by the National Center for State Courts and involved nine representative superior courts, representing about 47 percent of statewide authorized court reporter positions. The nine courts that participated in the study were the Superior Courts of Amador, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, and Stanislaus Counties.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Judicial Council approve the Annual Report of Fiscal Year 2003–2004 Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings.

Rationale for Recommendation

The annual report is required by Government Code section 68502.5(b). The information in this report was previously provided to the Legislature on February 18, 2005, in anticipation of hearings on the judicial branch budget and in order to meet the required submission date of the report.

Alternative Actions Considered

Not applicable.

Comments From Interested Parties

No comments solicited; not applicable.

Implementation Requirements and Costs

No costs are associated with implementing this recommendation.



Judicial Council of California
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

455 Golden Gate Avenue • San Francisco, California 94102-3688
Telephone 415-865-4200 • Fax 415-865-4205 • TDD 415-865-4272

RONALD M. GEORGE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

WILLIAM C. VICKREY
Administrative Director of the Courts

RONALD G. OVERHOLT
Chief Deputy Director

February 18, 2005

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine
Legislative Counsel
State of California
State Capitol, Suite 3021
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Gregory P. Schmidt
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Annual Report of Fiscal Year 2003–2004 Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings

In conformance with the provisions of Government Code §68086(c), the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) respectfully submits the attached report of court reporter fees revenues collected in accordance with GC §68086(a)(1) and GC §68086(a)(4) in fiscal year (FY) 2003–2004 and of FY 2003–2004 expenditures related to court reporters in superior court civil proceedings.

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If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Ms. Christine Hansen, Chief Financial Officer, at 415-865-7951 or via e-mail at tina.hansen@jud.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Signed and Mailed

William C. Vickrey
Administrative Director of the Courts

WCV/sc

cc: Alex MacBain, Consultant, Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Committee
Steve Kawamura, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Greg Jolivette, Director, Legislative Analyst's Office
Koreen Hansen, Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
Members of the Judicial Council
Ronald G. Overholt, Chief Deputy Director, AOC
Regional Administrative Directors, AOC
Christine M. Hansen, Director, Finance Division, AOC
Stephen H. Nash, Assistant Director, Finance Division, AOC
Eraina Ortega, Manager, Office of Governmental Affairs, AOC