

**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: Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee
Hon. Jerilyn L. Borack and Hon. Susan D. Huguenor, Co-chairs
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DATE: June 7, 2007

SUBJECT: Base Allocations for Child Support Commissioner and Family Law
Facilitator Program, Fiscal Year 2007–2008 (Action Required)

Issue Statement

The Judicial Council is required to annually allocate nontrial court funding, as described below, to local courts for the child support commissioner and family law facilitator program (Assembly Bill 1058 [Stats. 1996, ch. 957] program). These funds pay the salaries and benefits of child support commissioners and family law facilitators and support staff and associated operating expenses. The funds for this program are provided by a cooperative agreement between the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and the Judicial Council. Two-thirds of these funds are from the federal government, and the remaining one-third are from the state General Fund (nontrial court funding).

DCSS has advised staff that the funding available for the base allocations for fiscal year 2007–2008 will remain at the same level as that of the preceding fiscal year. The fiscal year 2006–2007 statewide funding was set at \$46,485,977, but funding was subsequently increased approximately \$1.4 million through a midyear amendment for total available funds of \$47,831,562. The \$1.4 million additional funds received in fiscal year 2006–2007 were allocated to courts for one-time-only special projects through a midyear reallocation process as approved by the Judicial Council. In addition, one court returned \$685,644 that it projected it would be unable to spend during that year for distribution to other courts through the midyear reallocation process.

In the proposed allocation for next fiscal year, courts that received the one-time-only funds have had their budgets reset to the prior base allocation. In the proposed allocation for FY 2007–2008, these funds have been redistributed to increase the base allocation of courts that had ongoing needs, primarily related to facilities. Because additional funds are not available for FY 2007–2008, staff has recommended that the initial base allocations remain the same for each court with the exception of the relatively minor changes noted below that have been funded by the redistribution of the funds allocated to one-time-only special projects during the previous year.

Funding for the child support commissioner component of the program will be \$35,757,469, and funding for the family law facilitator component will be \$12,074,093 for a total program allocation of \$47,831,562.

Recommendation

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2007:

1. Approve the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee’s recommended revised base allocations for the child support commissioner program for fiscal year 2007–2008, as set forth in attachment A; and
2. Approve the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee’s recommended revised base allocations for the family law facilitator program for fiscal year 2007–2008, as set forth in attachment B.

Attachments A and B are on pages 4–7.

Rationale for Recommendation

In 1997, the Judicial Council established staffing standards for child support commissioners under Family Code section 4252(b)(3). Staffing standards are based on the number of local child support agency cases that have established child support orders. Base allocations remained substantially the same from the inception of the program in 1997 until some reductions were made in FY 2003–2004 to adjust base allocations for courts that consistently did not use their full base allocations. Because of level funding, few permanent adjustments were made to the base allocations of courts whose program expenses consistently exceeded their base allocations until FY 2004–2005, when the Judicial Council approved some revisions.

Because funding available for immediate allocation remains level with the preceding fiscal year, no significant adjustments are being made to the base allocations at this time with the exception of one major and several minor facility-related increases and changes to make permanent several minor adjustments made in prior fiscal years.

Alternative Actions Considered

No alternative actions were considered, as the Judicial Council is required to allocate funding for this legislatively mandated program.

Comments From Interested Parties

This proposal was not circulated for comment.

Implementation Requirements and Costs

None.

Attachments

Child Support Commissioner Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2006–2007	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2007–2008	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2007–2008
Alameda	\$ 1,201,672.00		\$ 1,201,672.00
Amador	162,225		162,225
Butte	414,000		414,000
Calaveras	130,000	22,000	152,000
Colusa	52,350		52,350
Contra Costa	1,154,364		1,154,364
Del Norte	55,000		55,000
El Dorado & Alpine	235,000		235,000
Fresno	1,773,040		1,773,040
Glenn	135,000		135,000
Humboldt	140,000		140,000
Imperial	186,401		186,401
Inyo	83,000		83,000
Kern	734,908		734,908
Kings	312,913	21,939	334,852
Lake	179,432		179,432
Lassen*	83,410	24,590	108,000
Los Angeles	5,798,149		5,798,149
Madera	245,000		245,000
Marin	171,048		171,048
Mariposa	87,000		87,000
Mendocino	196,946		196,946
Merced	624,295		624,295
Mono	50,870		50,870
Monterey	422,619		422,619
Napa	204,865		204,865
Nevada & Sierra	378,920		378,920
Orange	2,585,850		2,585,850
Placer	417,943		417,943
Plumas	106,700		106,700
Riverside	1,101,932		1,101,932
Sacramento	1,174,766		1,174,766
San Benito	155,111		155,111
San Bernardino**	2,096,952	799,799	2,896,751
San Diego	2,015,061		2,015,061
San Francisco	1,015,000		1,015,000
San Joaquin	784,818		784,818
San Luis Obispo	257,000		257,000
San Mateo	450,718		450,718
Santa Barbara	524,674		524,674
Santa Clara	1,944,087		1,944,087
Santa Cruz	209,661		209,661
Shasta & Trinity	481,960		481,960
Siskiyou	265,538		265,538

Child Support Commissioner Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2006–2007	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2007–2008	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2007–2008
Solano	596,635		596,635
Sonoma	555,687		555,687
Stanislaus	754,205		754,205
Sutter	222,353		222,353
Tehama	105,000		105,000
Tulare	584,088		584,088
Tuolumne	183,410		183,410
Ventura	641,254		641,254
Yolo	219,991		219,991
Yuba	226,320		226,320
Total	\$ 34,889,141.00	\$ 868,328.00	\$ 35,757,469.00
Total Child Support Commissioner Allocation			35,757,469.00
Total Family Law Facilitator Allocation			+ 12,074,093.00
Total Amount to be Allocated			\$ 47,831,562.00
*Increased Facility Costs			
**New Leased Facility Costs.			

Family Law Facilitator Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2006–2007	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2007–2008	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2007–2008
Alameda	\$ 416,096.00		\$ 416,096.00
Butte	116,867		116,867
Calaveras	134,620		134,620
Colusa	59,000		59,000
Contra Costa	342,770		342,770
Del Norte	56,065		56,065
El Dorado & Alpine	118,897		118,897
Fresno	440,347		440,347
Glenn	85,000		85,000
Humboldt	100,000		100,000
Imperial	50,000	9,000	59,000
Inyo	64,120		64,120
Kern	396,356		396,356
Kings	60,000	5,400	65,400
Lake	66,120		66,120
Lassen*	68,044	57,456	125,500
Los Angeles	2,109,379		2,109,379
Madera	92,530		92,530
Marin	111,867	45,000	156,867
Mariposa	52,130		52,130
Mendocino	69,120		69,120
Merced	113,000		113,000
Modoc	52,130	29,200	81,330
Mono	54,000		54,000
Monterey	134,937		134,937
Napa	69,120		69,120
Nevada & Sierra	133,240		133,240
Orange	602,355		602,355
Placer	100,494		100,494
Plumas	64,120		64,120
Riverside	667,668	75,000	742,668
Sacramento	345,528		345,528
San Benito	69,120		69,120
San Bernardino*	409,650	103,000	512,650
San Diego	516,516	75,000	591,516
San Francisco	275,000		275,000
San Joaquin	245,519		245,519
San Luis Obispo	75,000		75,000
San Mateo	145,633		145,633
Santa Barbara	190,515		190,515
Santa Clara	497,252		497,252
Santa Cruz	82,960		82,960
Shasta	180,600		180,600

Family Law Facilitator Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2006–2007	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2007–2008	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2007–2008
Siskiyou	85,494		85,494
Solano	148,241		148,241
Sonoma	154,615		154,615
Stanislaus	251,599		251,599
Sutter	74,120		74,120
Tehama	28,130	3,218	31,348
Trinity**	0	28,000	28,000
Tulare*	314,983	36,983	351,966
Tuolumne*	64,120	10,000	74,120
Ventura	282,855		282,855
Yolo	85,494		85,494
Yuba	73,500		73,500
Total	\$ 11,596,836.00	\$ 477,257.00	\$ 12,074,093.00
Total Family Law Facilitator Allocation			12,074,093.00
Total Child Support Commissioner Allocation			+ 35,757,469.00
Total Amount to be Allocated			\$ 47,831,562.00
* Facility-related increase			
**Prior shared FLF Trinity-Shasta			