

The seal of the Judicial Council of California is faintly visible in the background. It features a central figure holding a scale of justice, surrounded by the text "JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA" and "EUREKA 1849".

**Trial Court Allocations:
Workload-Based
Allocation and Funding
Methodology
Adjustment Process**

Judicial Council Meeting

April 24, 2014

Recommendation

- Deny the request of the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino under the Workload-Based Allocation and Funding Methodology Adjustment Process.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
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Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee

- The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee took action on its recommendation to the council at its March 25, 2014 meeting.
- The recommendation was approved unanimously.



Rationale

- The WAFM Adjustment Request Process is intended to provide trial courts the opportunity to identify those factors not yet accounted for in the WAFM and request ongoing adjustments to the WAFM funding need.
- Mendocino's staffing needs pursuant to the Resource Assessment Study (RAS), the foundation of the WAFM, are sufficient to handle their workload; however, since they are not fully funded to their workload need, they are not able to provide reasonably adequate court services at their single-courtroom branch facility.

Rationale

- The issue identified by Mendocino is an issue currently faced by many California trial courts.
- The issue identified by Mendocino is not due to a workload factor unaccounted for in the WAFM, but rather as a result of not being fully funded by the state general fund.
- Mendocino's concerns regarding access to court services related to geographic location of court houses are important issues with statewide funding and policy implications.



Rationale

- As opposed to being a TCBAC issue, the problems and challenges of maintaining branch courts should be addressed as an “access to justice” issue requiring critical and farreaching statewide and local policy decisions and funding determinations outside of the WAFM’s scope.



End of Presentation



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