February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Alameda
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Morris D. Jacobson, Presiding Judge Chad Finke, Court Executive Officer (510) 891-6273

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Engaged in countywide reorganization of Court departments to promote efficiency and improve service to the public**
- **Preparing to launch a new case management system in most case types**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Court reorganization

In January we began the initial phases of what will be one of the largest reorganizations in recent memory for our Court. The Court's two primary goals in launching this effort are (a) to promote efficiencies by making better of use of reduced staff resources, and (b) to improve service to the public, in particular self-represented litigants.

In general, once the reorganization is complete each courthouse will specialize in a particular case type, e.g., civil trials, felonies etc. Of tremendous value to the public, the Hayward Hall of Justice will become a "one stop shop" for self-represented litigants; all case types with a strong nexus to court users who choose to represent themselves or who cannot afford an attorney will be under one roof. This includes all Family Law matters, evictions, restraining orders, probate cases, and small claims. Further, the Court's Self-Help Center will be consolidated in Hayward, eliminating the need for users to travel to multiple courthouses, and cutting down significantly on repeat trips to court.

Also in an effort to improve court access, we are expanding the number of courthouses where traffic cases are heard, from two to five, because traffic cases make up the largest percentage of our filings.

New case management system

In 2016 we will deploy a new case management system in nearly every case type. We project this will create efficiencies that will allow us to hold vacant staff positions open and use the resulting salary savings to offset budget reductions that we will see as a result of our status as a so-called "donor" court under WAFM. The new system will not support traffic cases.

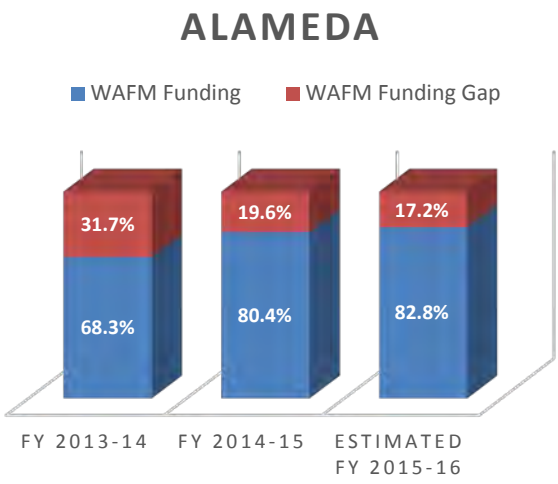
Budget Challenges and Priorities

Our primary challenge is the fact that we have been classified as a "donor" court under WAFM, and therefore are facing additional years of budget reductions.

Our priority is to absorb the WAFM cuts without resorting to staff layoffs or reductions in our level of service to our users.

We believe we can achieve these goals through a combination of untapped efficiencies, aggressive management of expenditures, and restored funding from the Legislature and the Governor.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	1,573,254
Square Miles Covered	821
Total Number of Court Facilities	10

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Alpine
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Thomas Kolpacoff, Presiding Judge Annie Long, Court Executive Officer (530) 694-2113

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Implemented new case management system**
- **Filings have increased 11.5% since FY 2010-11**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
Like all of California's courts, Alpine was responsible for ramping up for the traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program (amnesty) that began October 1, 2015. But unlike other courts, Alpine has a full time staff of just four people, and a filings caseload that has increased by 11.5% over the last three years. The effort we expended preparing for and learning about amnesty helped us provide three people with reductions in the amounts of outstanding fines owed. We also have been able to release holds on three driver's licenses.

Implemented new case management system.
Using the last of our encumbered reserves as of two years ago combined with funds we could spare from operations these part two fiscal years, Alpine has invested in a case management system that will provide court users, our staff, judicial officers and others access to more reliable and manageable data about the cases and other operations at our court.

Filings then and now
Comparing Alpine's filings data from FYs 2010-11 and 2013-14, we have experienced an 11.5% increase in filings while, statewide, courts generally continue to experience a decline. (See the Court Statistics Report, found online at http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/2015-Court-Statistics-Report.pdf.)

Budget Challenges and Priorities

1. The court continues to function without staff court reporters.
2. We have no staff interpreters.
3. We had to operate for several years without the services of a Court Executive Officer, creating administrative burdens for the two judicial officers.
4. The two judicial officers are regularly assigned to serve in other courts in the region, including Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Inyo, and Mono.
5. We must use courtrooms in neighboring El Dorado Superior Court for some criminal matters.
6. Our historic courthouse has a single courtroom, which means that our two judges cannot hear cases at the same time.
7. We do not have funding for technology staff, so the case management system and other technological enhancements we are implementing must be undertaken with costly contracted support.
8. We lack staff to manage procurement and contracting, placing the burden on our court executive for Judicial Branch Contracting Law/Manual compliance.
9. Our court executive is also responsible for all HR and bookkeeping functions due to a lack of staff support.

Court Demographics

Population Served	1,079
Square Miles Covered	743
Total Number of Court Facilities	1
Number of judicial officers	2
Number of non-judicial staff	4 FTE

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Amador
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Steve Hermanson, Presiding Judge | Barbara Cockerham, Court Executive Officer | (209) 257-2681

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Identifying and implementing technology solutions for court operations**
- **Implementation of an enhanced comprehensive collections unit**
- **Reorganization of the court's traffic civil assessment program**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Identifying and implementing technology solutions for court operations

As a result of our efforts to identify and implement technology solutions, a new e-warrant process is in place that speeds up the delivery of warrants from the Amador Superior Court judges to law enforcement. The process enables officers to get the warrants to the judges without having to drive to judges' homes, and results in a quick turn-around time for getting the arrest warrants reviewed, signed and delivered. This process is efficient and eliminates down time. There is a plan to expand this service to juvenile warrants.

Implementation of an enhanced comprehensive collections unit

With the assistance of Ventura Superior Court, Amador Superior Court established a successful comprehensive collections unit to address the collection of outstanding court-ordered debt. Having a dedicated collections person ensures our ability to comply with best practices as statutorily required, and to continue to focus on collection efforts with a focus on discharge of accountability for old and uncollectible debt.

Reorganization of the court's traffic civil assessment program

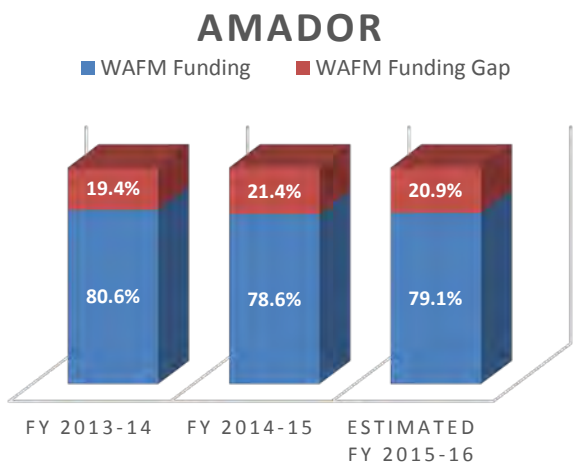
In early 2015, the Court began reorganizing the traffic civil assessment program. As of this year, we have all but eliminated what once was a full-scale civil assessment calendar, which now averages fewer than 10 cases a week. These are strictly aged cases that are routinely audited by the collections specialist.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Staffing Level: Budget cuts had a significant impact on rural courts. In FY 2010-11 our court had nearly 38 FTE staff. Today we have just over 27 FTE, a 29% reduction. The WAFM FTE calculation would reduce our FTEs to 30%. This is unsustainable; budget restraints and inadequate staffing continue to prevent Amador from restoring public services, addressing backlogs, and implementing critical technological needs.

Technology: Our court's priorities for the next three fiscal years include implementing technology strategies to enhance access to justice, especially with regard to e-filing, and further automating jury services. Our greatest challenge remains funding.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	36,151
Square Miles Covered	605
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Butte
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Robert A. Glusman, Presiding Judge | Kimberly Flener, Court Executive Officer | (530) 532-7013

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Increased access to justice for our main population center**
- **Increased access to justice via the implementation of a new case management system**
- **Increased community involvement with the California Civic Learning Project (CCLP)**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Increased access to justice with the new North County Courthouse facility
To maximize the use of our new facility, our Court reallocated staff across multiple divisions to encourage access to justice for the constituents in our County's largest population center (Chico).

Increased access to justice with implementation of a new case management system
Our Court recently, in February 2016, implemented a new case management system (Odyssey). This new system enhances our constituents' experience and improves their access to the court system. This system also lays the framework for modern practices such as e-filing and online document retrieval.

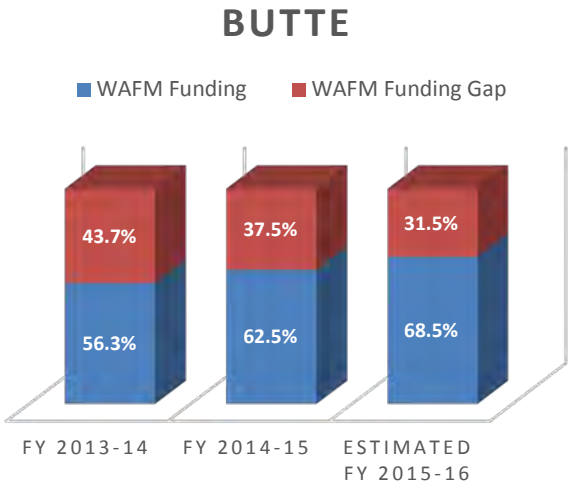
Increased community involvement with the California Civic Learning Project (CCLP)
We are entering into the second year of this pivotal pilot program that was assigned by the Chief Justice. Our Court has been regularly working with local educational and governmental leaders to implement specific program components. The program components (which include, but are not limited to) mock trials, student voter education, and civic engagement, will greatly benefit the youth in our County, and are designed to directly promote further community involvement in and education about the court system.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Case management system resources
The Odyssey system costs four times more to maintain on a yearly basis than our outdated legacy system did. Additionally, we are only able to deploy the base functionality. In order to implement the additional functionality that the system provides, we require additional financial resources to support the framework.

Increased local costs
Our Court has experienced increased local maintenance costs that were incurred by the opening of our new facility.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	222,316
Square Miles Covered	1,640
Total Number of Court Facilities	4

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Calaveras
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Timothy S. Healy, Presiding Judge Dan Vrtis, Court Executive Officer (209) 754-6144

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **All case type implementation of new Case Management System (CMS)**
- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Greater access to Court records through new online portal**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

All case type implementation of new Case Management System (CMS)
In 2015 the court took on the overwhelming task of replacing its old legacy case management system with a current state of the art CMS. As of June 19, 2015 the Court implemented the new system with all case types; a successful conversion of all cases from the old system to the new was accomplished. The court is moving towards a paperless system with the goal of having all case types paperless by the end of 2016, at which time the court may have e-filing capabilities.

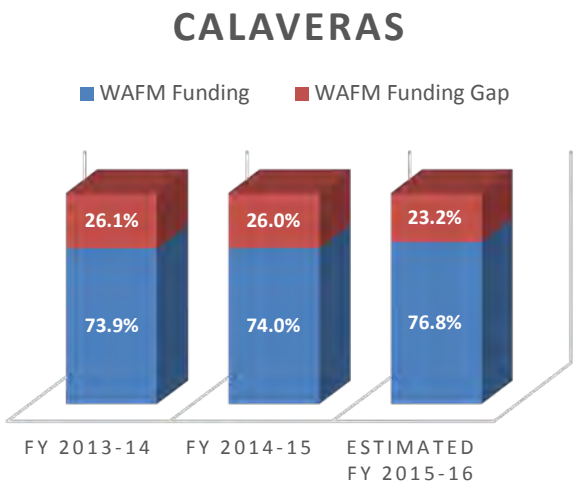
Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/ infraction amnesty program
In October 2015, the amnesty program was implemented. The Court's collection clerk works daily assisting individuals who hope to qualify for the program by answering phone calls or providing in-person service at the counter.

Greater access to Court records through new online portal
As part of the new CMS and as a prerequisite of going paperless, all documents are scanned and attached to a case. Our justice partners now have access through the online portal to their related case documents. Other parties are allowed access as allowed by California Rules of Court.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

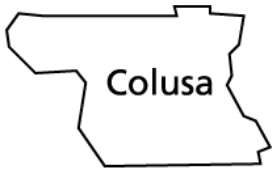
As with most small courts in California, the WAFM funding model continues to have a significant impact on our court, resulting in a reduction of funding based on our WAFM share. We still must provide all necessary court services, but without the economies of scale enjoyed by larger courts. Despite this frustration, we continue to maintain full service hours, but we have been unable to provide COLAs for employees since 2008.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	44,650
Square Miles Covered	1,037
Total Number of Court Facilities	1



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Colusa
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Jeffrey A. Thompson, Presiding Judge Jason Galkin, Court Executive Officer (530) 458-0695

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Broadened services toward Collaborative Courts**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
Implementation of the traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program has greatly impacted our court. Processing time has increased because of all of the manual adjustments required per case to ensure the reductions and distributions are done properly. Without extra care, local agencies, the State and the County may not receive their appropriate share of the amounts collected. Since the implementation of the amnesty program, fine and civil assessment revenues have decreased more than 40%.

Broadened services for Collaborative Court
Colusa Superior Court works closely with our local outreach programs (including Probation, Behavioral Health, and a local Drug and Alcohol program) to support recovery and reduce the likelihood of recidivism. Due to funding restrictions and limited community needs beyond those addressed in collaboration with local outreach programs, a Collaborative Court is not planned at this time.

Other court services
Budgetary reductions have been a challenge to overcome in Colusa Superior Court, although Court services have been minimally impacted. This is due to the skill of court administration, the bench, and the dedicated and hardworking staff. In spite of budget difficulties, we are pursuing a business process reengineering study as well as investigating technological advances to increase overall efficiency, service availability, and access to justice. These steps will help to maximize the long term benefit of short term salary vacancy savings.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Our staff vacancy rate has gradually increased since WAFM implementation; it is now at 28%.
- The 1% cap on fund balances effectively eliminates our ability to conduct multi-year planning for staffing, large infrastructure and technology projects, and long term efforts. There are concerns that the 1% limit may inhibit the progress we make with our reengineering study.
- Space limitations for courtrooms and staff needs continue to restrict Court flexibility and efficiency. Colusa is in serious need of a facility expansion. Additional space would provide a hearing room and more office space. This is the court's top priority for funding.

Court Demographics

Population Served	21,660
Square Miles Covered	1,156
Total Number of Court Facilities	2

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Contra Costa
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Steven K. Austin, Presiding Judge | Stephen H. Nash, Court Executive Officer | (925) 957-5600

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Restored public counter hours in clerk's offices**
- **Eliminated partial court closure days and backlogs**
- **Reestablished Traffic Night Court; added Truancy, Laura's Law, and Intensive Support Calendars**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Public hours in court clerk's offices extended
Effective November 1, 2015, the court increased the number of hours that the court clerk's offices are open by two hours per day.

Partial court closure days and backlogs eliminated
As a result of the budget crisis, the court negotiated staff furloughs, and had closed all non-essential operations during the end of the year holiday week. Beginning in 2015, the partial closures were eliminated, resulting in timelier processing of court business without interruption. With a focus on providing efficient service, the court has eliminated most backlogs in the processing of civil and traffic cases, and significantly reduced wait times for family law mediation appointments.

Traffic Night Court reestablished, and other collaborative courts added
Traffic Court has been reestablished, two times per month. Given a high demand for Traffic Court in the evenings, the possibility of further expansion is under review. The court has launched the following special court calendars:

- Truancy Court
- Laura's Law (Mental Health)
- Intensive Support – Domestic Violence

Other court services
The court is launching an application to allow for the online filing of requests for restraining orders related to domestic violence.

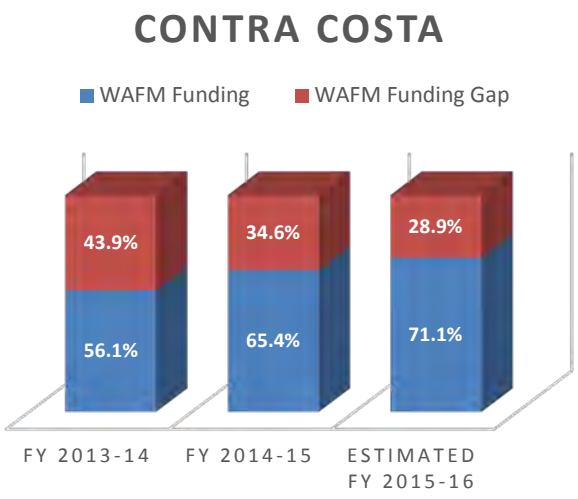
Budget Challenges and Priorities

Restoration/replacement of declining local revenues
Following the enactment of the traffic amnesty program, we are experiencing a 30% reduction in civil assessment revenues. Annualized, this equates to an ongoing reduction of $1.6 to $1.9 million per year, representing 2.8% to 3.3% of court funds.

Funding Courts for Employee Compensation
Unlike other state-funded entities, trial courts are currently not funded to address employee salary adjustments.

Inadequate Relief Staffing
With a 23% drop in staffing over several years, the court struggles with insufficient relief staff to keep courtrooms open.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	1,111,339
Square Miles Covered	802
Total Number of Court Facilities	6

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Del Norte
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. William H. Follett, Presiding Judge Sandra Linderman, Court Executive Officer (707) 465-3299

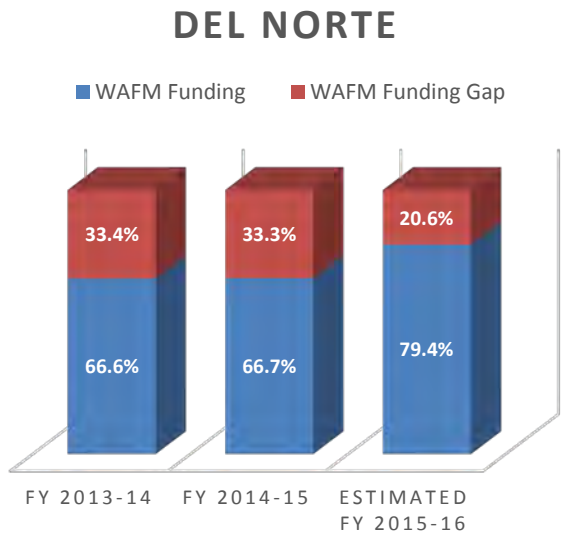
Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

Court has maintained the same level of access in light of continued budget shortages and reductions in staffing levels.

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
The Court implemented the traffic ticket infraction amnesty program as prescribed by statute. However, it is imperative to understand that this has put an undue hardship on our Court by increasing workload and significantly reducing revenue.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap
(see reverse)



Budget Challenges and Priorities

Self-Help / Mediation / Facilitator Services
The Court continues to employ one full-time and one part-time mediator. Should funding not be appropriated, cuts may need to be made in this department. Delays on complex family law cases create significant hardships for all involved.

Counters / Clerks / Telephones
The next cost saving measure will be to reduce public access to the Court through reduced counter hours and phone access. The Court has avoided this in the past year, but absent any further cost saving measures, this is the most logical step.

Staff Impacts / Furloughs / Layoffs / Unfilled Vacancies
Court has continued to hold several positions vacant due to budget reductions, with salary savings redirected toward operating expenses. Even with these reductions, without the funding gap closed, layoffs may need to be considered.

The Court intends on holding the hiring freeze in place until the funding gap is resolved. This continues to create untold delays in case processing and requires the Court operate without sufficient staffing levels. The long term effects of working with such limited resources may take years to realize.

Court Demographics

Population Served	28,131
Square Miles Covered	1,230
Total Number of Court Facilities	2

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of El Dorado
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Suzanne N. Kingsbury, Presiding Judge Tania Ugrin-Capobianco, Court Executive Officer (530) 621-5155

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented Court Telephone Appearance System**
- **Implemented Pretrial Supervision Program**
- **Expanded access to court users with implementation of credit card payments at each court facility**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implemented Court Telephone Appearance System
Court telephone appearance system was implemented January 1, 2016. The telephone appearance system is operated by the court which allows for court control, future integration with the new CMS, and operating cost recovery.

Implemented Pretrial Supervision Program
Effective July 1, 2015, the Court in collaboration with El Dorado County Probation, District Attorney, Public Defender, Health & Human Services, and Sheriff's Department, implemented a Pretrial Supervision Program to reduce recidivism. Although the program is in the early stages, we are seeing some positive results and continue to work with our justice partners to improve the program.

Expanded access to court users with implementation of credit card payments at each court facility
Credit cards are now accepted at each of our court houses allowing for individuals to pay civil filings fees and criminal fines and fees by credit card at the facility. This expands our credit card payments from being available only online, to being available at the court facility. Individuals may now pay by credit card immediately following a court proceeding and when filing documents.

Other Court Services
New Case Management System (CMS)
El Dorado Court has contracted for and has begun the process of converting to a new case management system. We are currently in the development and data mapping stages for traffic and are scheduled for go live early fiscal year 2016-17. We began our gap analysis for civil and criminal this fiscal year. The new CMS will provide much needed efficiencies to judicial officers and staff, integration with justice partners, and increased access to court users. The new CMS will be funded by a combination of restricted funds and revenue from the court telephone appearance system.

Updated Website
November 2015 we went live with a new website that increases general usefulness and self-help accessibility.

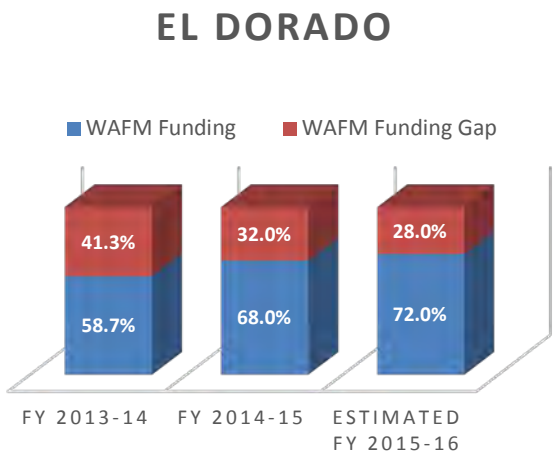
Electronic Warrant and Probable Cause Determinations
In collaboration with law enforcement we have implemented electronic probable cause determinations and after-hours electronic warrants.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Our priorities are sufficient funding for the following: a fully functioning court, and to cover rising costs. Specifically:

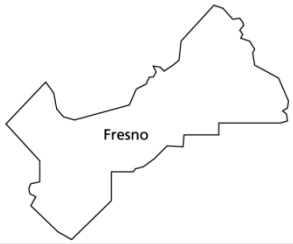
- We continue to operate with a 23% staff reduction which limits public access; we continue to have reduced clerks' office hours and backlogs in civil, family, traffic, small claims, collections, and records management.
- We need increased funding to upgrade infrastructure, specifically video remote interpreting, e-filing, public access, and case management.
- Increased funding is needed to maintain our aging court facilities. Our two primary court locations were built in 1911 and 1977. The facility built in 1977 still has original carpeting in many areas which is rotten and fraying. Both facilities have not been painted in decades. Some of the furnishings are in extremely poor repair. Ergonomic furniture is needed to prevent repetitive stress injuries. Our space needs to be modified to accommodate records retention including appropriate access by court staff.
- Increased funding is required for wage and benefit increases as well as to cover appropriate staffing levels.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	182,404
Square Miles Covered	1,788
Total Number of Court Facilities	5



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Fresno
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Kimberly A. Gaab, Presiding Judge Sheran L. Morton, Court Executive Officer (559) 457-2010

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Maximized 5% ongoing funding to rebuild our staffing levels to improve access to all;**
- **Maximized productivity by implementing new case management system to improve efficiencies; and**
- **Enhanced services to all litigants and justice partners utilizing improved technology.**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Maximized 5% ongoing funding to improve access
We hired 99 employees to rebuild staff to provide access; as a result, we increased services to the public and improved the timely processing of documents and cases.

Implemented a new case management system in all case types to improve efficiencies
Our Tyler Odyssey system allows *all* employees to understand and utilize one system. Immediate results include:

- Lower annual maintenance costs;
- eFiling capacity for the public;
- A paperless system, saving time and money;
- Increased access for the public and justice partners;
- eCitation capacity, saving significant time and money for the public and the court

Improved Technology

- Electronic court reporter transcripts create operational efficiencies for our court reporters and court staff;
- Remote video proceedings (previously a pilot project) allow people to appear from closer to their homes and jobs, saving a significant amount of their time and money;
- Video remote interpreting pursuant to our contract with CFI allows greater access to the public who need interpreter assistance; and
- Domestic violence services provided to remote locations help people who are unable to travel to downtown Fresno.

Other Court Services

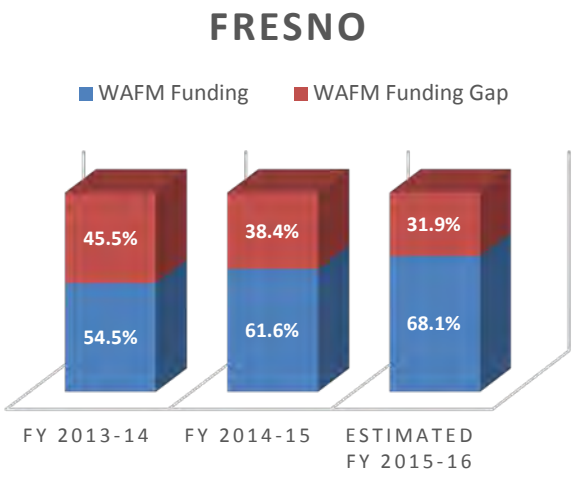
- New guardianship workshop: We have partnered with Central California Legal Services to provide much needed services to probate litigants.
- Hybrid Drug Court/Prop 47: We are reducing recidivism by connecting people to services quickly and maintaining their treatment through recovery.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Ongoing Funding: As a result of reduced funding, it is extremely difficult to maintain consistent services for the public year to year. Also, it is difficult to responsibly balance the necessary number of employees needed to complete the work with the need to provide staff with adequate salaries and benefits.

1% Reserve: We are unable to build a reasonable reserve similar to what the Governor has done for the State. A reserve is desperately needed to implement unfunded legislative mandates and court projects to increase efficiencies and adequately serve the citizens of Fresno County.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	964,040
Square Miles Covered	6,018
Total Number of Court Facilities	6

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Glenn
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Donald Cole Byrd, Presiding Judge Kevin Harrigan, Court Executive Officer (530) 934-6382

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Preparation for capital construction project to renovate and expand historic courthouse**
- **Preparation for implementation of new case management system**
- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Preparation for capital construction project to renovate and expand historic courthouse

Glenn is gearing up for a major facilities project. Part of that effort includes moving entirely out of the historic courthouse which is a high volume main branch, and into a temporary modular facility to allow for construction to occur. Additional staff efforts have been dedicated to records destruction and to rid the court of any unnecessary records, items, and exhibits from the 120+ year-old courthouse. This is an undertaking which is being handled with fewer staff on hand now than we had five years ago. These efforts are only possible because of the reduced public service hours currently being offered.

Preparation for implementation of new case management system

Glenn Superior Court is also gearing up for the implementation of a new case management system (CMS) to replace our antiquated system which is well over 20+ years old. This is an arduous process being handled, also with fewer staff now than 5 years ago. When operational, the new system will allow for e-filing, paper on demand, and improved interfaces with other government agencies and justice partners, among many other additional improved features when compared to the current system in use. These efforts are made possible in part by the reduced public service hours currently being offered.

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program

Glenn Superior Court has been aggressive with outreach and following up with those individuals who are eligible for the program.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- The 1% cap on fund balances continues to inhibit multi-year planning, local budget stability, and seed money for innovation to further promote efficiency and increased access to justice, such as the new CMS, described above.
- The lack of ability to maintain a fund balance at a reasonable level diminishes our court's flexibility, and adds unnecessary administrative burdens at a time of underfunding.

Budget Challenges and Priorities (continued)

- Staff was at 24.5 FTE in FY 2012-13; we're currently at 17 FTE; when enhanced collections staff are removed, we have a 31% vacancy rate.
- Self-help services are only available to the public two days per week.
- We are seeing evidence that the amnesty program will erode local civil assessment revenue, a heavily relied upon source of operating funds. This is an unintended consequence of the program that has not been addressed at the State level.
- Glenn judges are ranked 5th highest in the State of California in filings per judicial position, despite being a small 2-judge court.
- Our TCTF budget was $2.5m in FY 2010-11; currently it is $1.8m.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics calculation in WAFM does not work for our court because the region remains depressed economically.

Court Demographics

Population Served	28,353
Square Miles Covered	1,327
Total Number of Court Facilities	4

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Humboldt
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Joyce D. Hinrichs, Presiding Judge Kim Bartleson, Court Executive Officer (707) 269-1201

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program.**
- **Availability for credit card payments at the public windows.**
- **Establishment of information services by courtrooms when public windows are closed.**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program

The Court and County have implemented the traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program. To date, participation has been moderate but consistent. In the program's first quarter, 93 people received discounts in their delinquent fines, and 52 people had the court holds lifted on their driver's licenses.

Credit card payments at the public windows

We soon will be able to accept credit card payments at the public windows. Previously, in order to pay with a credit card, court users had to use an online or telephone option through a third party vendor. This in-court process will increase our ability to better serve the public and also decrease the fees passed on to the public.

Establishment of information services

The Court has established information services at the courtrooms for the public. This means services are available at times when Court is in session but the public windows are closed due to staffing shortages.

Impacts on court operations

Increased Homicide Filings: Homicide filings are 200% of normal, without slowing. The homicide cases strain clerical staff who are already stretched thin and fatigued.

Office Closure: Staff shortages continue to cause problems. We had to eliminate clerical staff at our Garberville location. Previously, people could make monthly payments at that facility, but now must send payments in the mail.

Court Interpreters: We continue to struggle to provide language services. Our remote location and lack of local resources subjects us to exorbitant fees from contract interpreters.

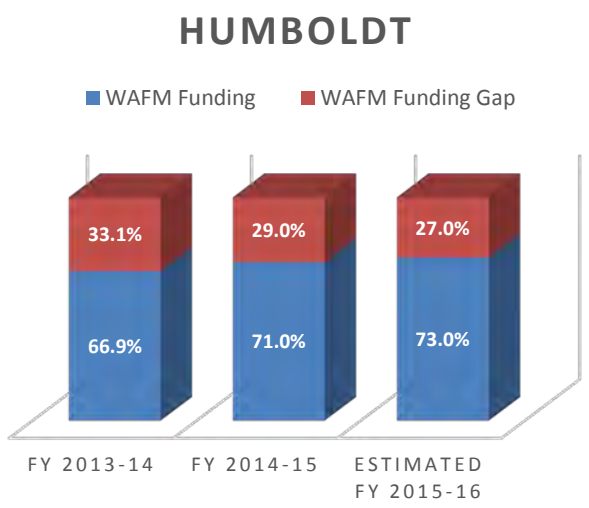
Budget Challenges and Priorities

Turnover: Low salary levels continue to make hiring and retaining employees extremely difficult. Entry level recruitments that used to draw 50-70 applicants before the recession now draw fewer than 10. Employees often find better-paying employment after a short period of time.

CMS: Case management system (CMS) support will terminate in 3 years. A new CMS with electronic records and public access is required. With no fund balance, we need funds to replace it.

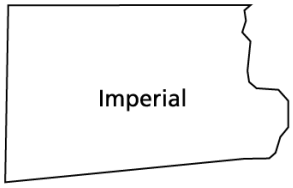
I.T. Planning: Lack of financial resources, including a fund balance of only 1%, makes it almost impossible to plan for technology improvements to increase public access.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	134,648
Square Miles Covered	4,052
Total Number of Court Facilities	1



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Imperial
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Christopher J. Plourd, Presiding Judge | Tammy L. Grimm, Court Executive Officer | (760) 482-2250

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **The Court launched a 24/7 online and phone payment service for criminal and traffic violations, improving access for the public, enhancing customer service, and reducing workload in the Court's phone center.**
- **The Court made a county-wide media push to encourage people to appear for jury duty after experiencing a 10% response rate to jury summonses.**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Interactive Web and Voice Payment Service

Imperial went live on an upgraded web and voice program. The service is bilingual and provides 24 hour access and payment options for traffic and criminal cases. In the first month, 3,448 transactions were processed, doubling the volume from the legacy system. The service improves public access to the court, and streamlines court processes.

Juror Participation

In Imperial County, requests for jury hearings have increased while juror participation has plummeted. To improve civic participation for jury service, the Court holds hearings for potential jurors who failed to respond to jury notices. These hearings provide quality education about the importance of the jury system in California, which we hope will translate into more robust public participation.

Other Court Services

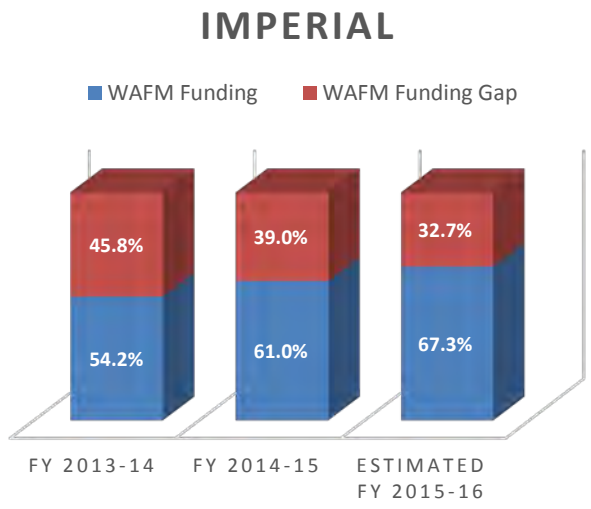
Amnesty Outreach

To get a head start on amnesty, the Court reviewed past due cases and physically marked all that were eligible for amnesty, and provided that list to the agency contracted to implement the amnesty program. Now, when a customer calls or visits the court, the cashiers know to inform him/her of the amnesty program. In addition, notices publicizing amnesty were printed in English and Spanish and posted in the Court. During the first quarter of the program, the Court released holds on 779 driver licenses and reduced 369 fines. There has been a positive response from members of the public who received the 80% discount to their fine amounts.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

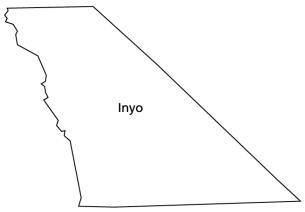
- Requests for Court services continue to exceed our capabilities.
- Staff compensation has remained substantially flat over the last five years, impacting staff retention and morale.
- Amnesty program costs exceed the revenue collected, in addition to a first quarter default rate of 34%.
- The reduction in collected fine and fee revenue, due in part to the amnesty program, has caused a funding shortage for 4.5 (3%) of staff, reducing our ability to provide customer service.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	180,672
Square Miles Covered	4,482
Total Number of Court Facilities	4



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Inyo
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Dean T. Stout, Presiding Judge Pamela M. Foster, Court Executive Officer (760) 873-6069

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Plan for additional Collaborative Courts**
- **Update computer software for better access for all court stakeholders**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
As Inyo County is a tourism-based economy that features the Owens Valley and the eastern access to Mt. Whitney and the Sierras, there are many travelers who visit Inyo, and, as a result, many traffic tickets. Despite no start-up resources, we have fully prepared for the mandated traffic amnesty program.

Plan for additional Collaborative Courts
Inyo Superior Court operates a Drug Court in collaboration with the County Health and Human Services and Probation Departments. This court has been highly successful in helping users change their lives in a positive way while living in their communities.

We are researching opportunities for a Reentry Court, where newly released probationers can receive the services and support they need with proper oversight from the Court and other service providers, in a group setting. With a goal toward reduced recidivism, the addition of this Court will augment the current court services, while providing expanded services to the community.

Update computer software for better access for all court stakeholders
Inyo will be making updates and improvements to our jury services and case management software applications, thereby making court operations more efficient for the public, prospective jurors, and our court personnel.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

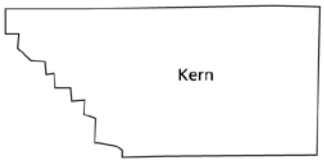
The current Workload Allocation and Funding Methodology calculation suggests that Inyo Court is nearly fully funded. Unfortunately, we are not fully funded. In fact, we have, like other small courts, suffered a substantial reduction from our historical funding allocation, leaving the court with a reduced staff and limited resources.

Despite these reduced resources, the Court will continue to provide excellent service in the administration of justice to the citizens of Inyo County.

Our classic 1921 courthouse was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998, and today would be incredibly costly to repair or replace if it should be damaged by fire or earthquake. Our more pressing concerns, however, are the costs of ongoing technological upgrades and additional court personnel, both of which are vital to preserving public access to justice.

Court Demographics

Population Served	18,590
Square Miles Covered	10,227
Total Number of Court Facilities	3



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Kern
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. John S. Somers, Presiding Judge Terry McNally, Court Executive Officer (661) 868-4934

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Incremental service restorations were only possible due to WAFM reallocations. Baseline budget allocations remain 3% below 2007-08 funding levels and have not kept pace with increased costs of operations, staffing and services.**
- **Innovations, infrastructure investment and collaborative programs help court achieve operational efficiencies.**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Restoration of services begins after years of budget reductions.

- Lake Isabella – Regional court facility closed in June 2013 was reopened one day per week for traffic and limited civil filings in the fall 2015.
- Operating Hours – Court telephone and counter hours restored Monday – Thursday to 4:00 PM, an increase of 12%.
- Court Reporters – Reporter services in unlimited civil courts restored as of March 2016 after a 3-year budget balancing hiatus.

Collaboration and innovation combine to improve services and increase efficiencies.

- Integrated Criminal Justice Case Management System – The Court and its Justice Partners—DA, Public Defender, Sheriff, Probation—have agreed to a cooperative upgrade of the County-wide criminal case management system.
- STAR Court – Utilizing recidivism grant funding, the Court, with local Justice and Mental Health Agency partners, established the Sustained Treatment and Recovery Court, a collaborative Mental Health Court.
- Service Kiosks – Payment and informational kiosks installed at all Court facility locations have increased access for court users.
- Jury Automated Check-in – Jurors may now utilize technology to check in for service on the web and in jury assembly rooms at newly installed kiosks.

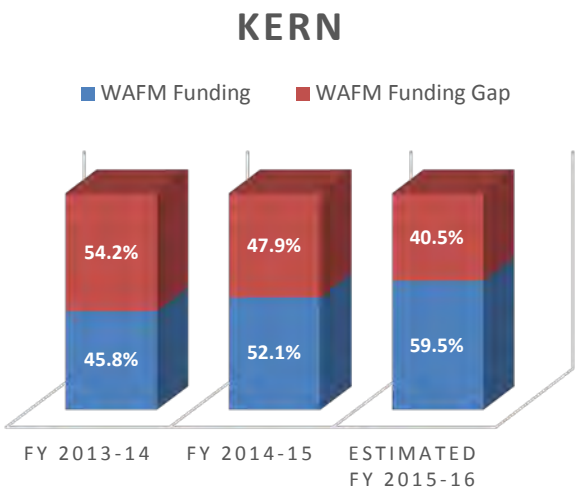
Amnesty program data (October - December 2015)

- Fine reductions processed: 2,128
- Driver's license holds lifted: 333
- Fines, fees, assessments waived: $810,065
- Outstanding debt collected (gross): $162,466

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Employee vacancy rates: Overall vacancy rates remain at 23% below WAFM workload/staffing recommendations. Actual staffing is 121 positions short of WAFM model need of 535.
Recruitment hampered by uncompetitive wages: Kern Superior Court employee wages remain 12% below market averages in key areas of technology, legal services and professional classifications.
Reserve depletion stymies reinvestment: The mandated depletion of the Court's local fund balance will hinder future reinvestment in technology, facilities and other infrastructure improvements and modernization.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	873,092
Square Miles Covered	8,162
Total Number of Court Facilities	12

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Kings
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Steven D. Barnes, Presiding Judge | Jeffrey E. Lewis, Court Executive Officer | (559) 582-1010

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Eliminated mandatory furloughs after 6 consecutive years**
- **Consolidated all court services into the new courthouse**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Eliminated mandatory furloughs after six consecutive years

Beginning in FY 2009-10 and through FY 2014-15, the Court mandated staff furloughs as a means of balancing the budget. The employees averaged 14 furlough (lost wage) days a year. This year (FY 2015-16), we have been able to avoid furloughs for the first time in seven years, providing some modest relief to our hard working and valued staff.

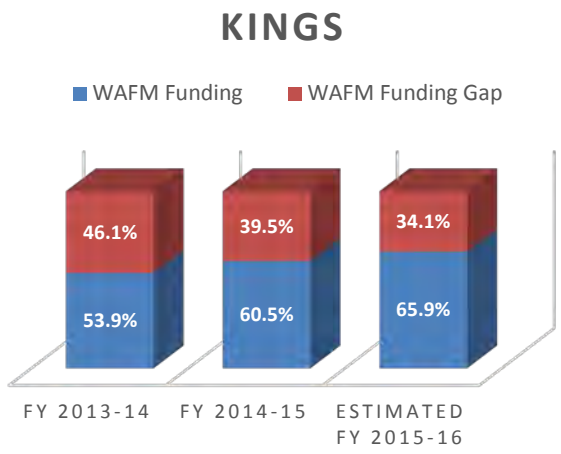
Consolidated all court services into the new courthouse

With the completion of the new courthouse in December 2015, we were able to consolidate court services from six locations into a single state-of-the-art courthouse. Consolidation of services to the new facility has enabled us to more efficiently and effectively utilize staff, and provide increased security for the bench and the public. We also believe the new court facility will reduce operational costs in the long run. We made the move over the course of a month with the final move occurring over a long weekend, which means neither the court nor the public experienced any interruption in services or access.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Restore hours to M-F 8:00 to 5:00
- Restore staffing levels, eliminating the need to rely on contract employees (CTSI/GCS) and volunteers. Utilization of contract employees and volunteers has assisted the court financially; however it has come with its own challenges i.e. training, productivity and turnover.
- Reduce backlog due to staffing shortage. Backlog (in all areas) is currently 60 – 120 days.
- Provide salary increases and restore/increase benefits to all employees. The employees have not had any increases in 7 years.
- Kings has lost several experienced employees due to stagnant salaries and benefits, making it extremely difficult to compete in the local job market.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	150,181
Square Miles Covered	1,392
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Lake
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Andrew S. Blum, Presiding Judge Krista LeVier, Court Executive Officer (707) 263-2575

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Veteran's Collaborative Court**
- **Expanded Self-Help Services**
- **New Real-Time Court Minutes software**
- **New Lakeport Courthouse**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

- **Veteran's Collaborative Court -** Recidivism Reduction Grant funding has allowed the court to establish a Veteran's Court which provides services to veterans who come in contact with the criminal justice system.

- **Expanded Self-Help Services -** Increased services related to the family law court calendars. Staff from the self-help center attend the court calendar and assist litigants on the spot. The court has also expanded the use of remote self-help workshops. A presenter is at one location and, via videoconferencing, is able to present the workshop to litigants in multiple court locations in Lake, Butte and Tehama Counties.

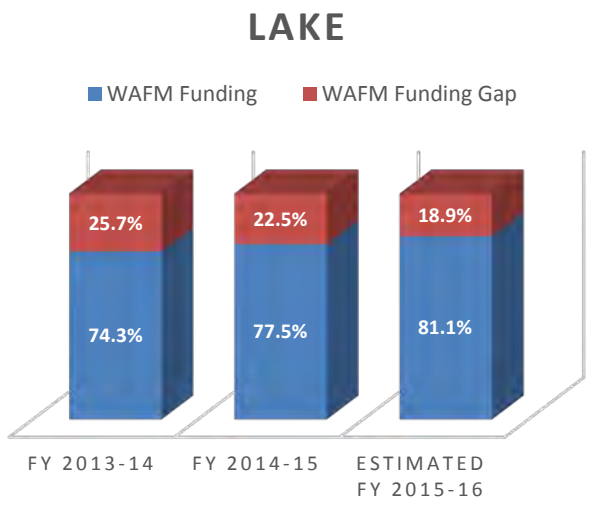
- **New Real-Time Court Minutes software -** This technology is an enhancement to our current case management system which will allow courtroom clerks to prepare the court minutes in real time. This will significantly decrease post-hearing staff time needed to complete follow-up work. The project is being completed with reserve funds and would not have been possible under the current 1% fund balance cap.

- **New Lakeport Courthouse -** The court is very excited to have a new courthouse project funded under SB 1407. The project will replace the current main courthouse which is severely overcrowded, lacks adequate security, is seismically unsafe, and has failing systems. The courthouse is expected to be completed in 2019.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Public Counters and phones are only open from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm daily due to budget reductions.
- One-time funding is necessary to allow us to invest in technology that would create efficiencies and increase the public's access to justice.
- Despite the Governor's statement that overall Judicial Branch funding is 10.5% higher than in FY 2007-08, Lake Superior Court's overall revenue is down 28%.
- Without a significant increase in funding for trial court operations, additional service reductions may be unavoidable in FY 2016-17.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	64,699
Square Miles Covered	1,330
Total Number of Court Facilities	3

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Lassen
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Michele Verderosa, Presiding Judge | Andi Barone, Court Executive Officer | (530) 251-8203

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Obtained grant for Pretrial Services to provide options other than incarceration**
- **Obtained grant funding for Adult Drug Court to include residential service treatment program**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of the amnesty program
Our first quarter reporting shows that 113 people in our county have had their outstanding debt from tickets reduced, and 45 qualified to have the hold on their driver's licenses lifted.

Obtained grant for Pretrial Services
The pre-trial services grant provides the court with funding for a pre-trial services officer to aid in determining the potential success of pre-trial release of a defendant. Conditions of pre-trial release may include participation in drug and/or alcohol classes, periodic drug and/or alcohol testing, regular check-ins, electronic monitoring, mental health counseling, etc.

Grant for Adult Drug Court
The Adult Drug Court program provides funding for residential treatment. Until this grant, our rural remote county only had a small out-patient alcohol and drug treatment program, but no residential program. We are hopeful to be able to address long-term and ongoing treatment with this program.

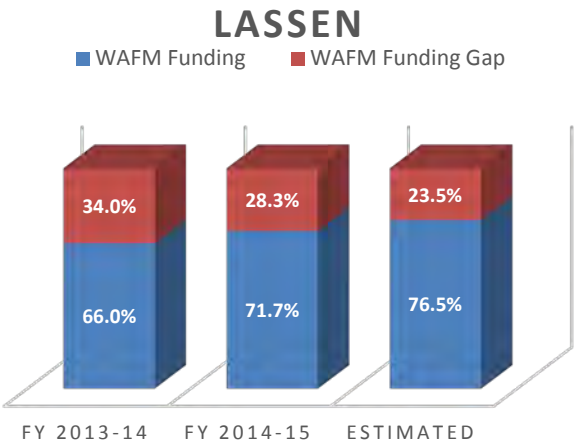
Other court services

- While the need for self-help services continues to grow, we are only able to provide monthly clinics through a contract attorney on a first come, first serve basis.
- The court's Teen Court Program continues to thrive and evolve; it has a strong educational component, and the mock trial competition has brought substantial energy and enthusiasm to the program, which also includes mentoring provided through the local bar association.
- We have streamlined the jury services experience by creating a juror assembly room. This allows for a streamlined jury check-in system, the separation of potential jurors from witnesses and others related to a case, and it allows for automated juror orientation.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Providing certified interpreters at reasonable rates continues to be a challenge especially in our remote rural location; the court is exploring virtual remote interpreting.
- Obtaining per diem court reporters at reasonable rates is extremely challenging for our small rural court.
- We are struggling to implement and maintain ever-changing and advanced technology; this is a priority, despite the lack of reliable funding, local resources, expertise, and statewide justice partner integration. Despite these challenges, the court is continuing the implementation of a new case management system.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	32,581
Square Miles Covered	4,720
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Carolyn B. Kuhl, Presiding Judge Sherri R. Carter, Court Executive Officer (213) 633-0112

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Interpreter services greatly expanded thanks to efficiencies in interpreter management**
- **Online services improved**
- **Outdated case management systems are being replaced**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
Through the first four months of the program, Los Angeles has handled 365,000 calls, collected $4 million, and removed 25,000 DMV holds.

Interpreter services greatly expanded thanks to efficiencies in interpreter management
Interpreter services are now provided to litigants, regardless of income, in non-mandated areas including juvenile dependency, elder and dependent abuse, unlawful detainers, domestic violence matters, probate conservatorship and guardianship matters, civil harassment, family law and small claims cases.

Online traffic services improved
Improved online services have increased website usage and reduced courthouse crowding. In our Traffic division, an online assistant provides custom information on citation processing options in six languages.

Outdated case management systems are being replaced
All court case management systems will be replaced as of September 2017, funded by one-time savings from FY 2013-14.

Business process reengineering creates efficiencies:
- Traffic - courtrooms are now paperless.
- Civil - online self-scheduling of hearings.
- Criminal - online data sharing with justice system partners.
- Family law - reduced wait time for mediations and child custody evaluations.
- Significant efficiencies and organizational restructuring were achieved with cooperation of employee representatives.

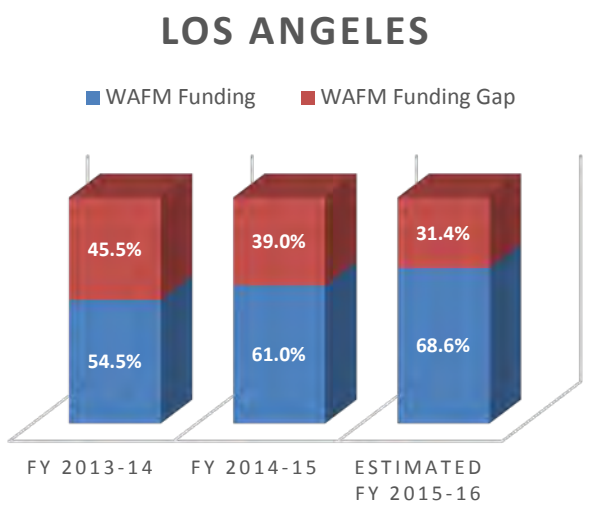
Budget Challenges and Priorities

LA Superior Court is funded at less than 70% of its workload-based funding need.

The greatest need is for **ongoing** funding for staff expansion to fill basic needs. The most critical need is to hire staff to expand access to justice, reduce delays and backlogs by restoring full-service courtrooms, and bring back court-employed Court Reporters.

Much-needed innovations are too often blocked for lack of funding due to the overly restrictive statutory 1% limitation on carry-over fund balance.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	10,041,797
Square Miles Covered	4,752
Total Number of Court Facilities	38

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Madera
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Ernest J. LiCalsi, Presiding Judge | Bonnie Thomas, Court Executive Officer | (559) 416-5599

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Launching of a Behavioral Health Collaborative Court**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

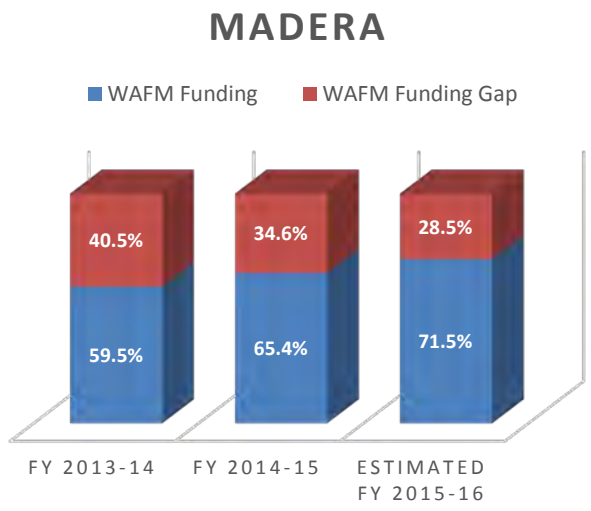
Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
We have updated our website to include information regarding the traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program (amnesty). Each time staff has an interaction with a member of the public, staff checks to see if the party is eligible for a reduction in the amount of court-ordered debt they owe, or to get their driving privileges restored, or both. Our clerks also actively inform people about the amnesty program. When reviewing the amnesty applications, we "err on the side of generosity." In fact, we took the proactive step of providing the collection agency implementing the program with extensive reports indicating eligibility for the program based on our available court records.

Launching of a Behavioral Health Court
Madera started Behavioral Health Court, a Collaborative court, which is held two days each month. Behavioral Health Court partners include the District Attorney, the Public Defender, the Office of the Alternative Public Defender, Probation, Behavioral Health Services, Madera County Department of Corrections, SERI (provider of case management services, including counseling and care for the day-to-day personal needs of the participants), Hope House, and Madera Rescue Mission. Other agencies and organizations are involved as needed to address the specific needs of participants.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

We are still trying to recover from years of budget reductions. We have been able to maintain current levels of service to the public but we foresee many challenges ahead. The biggest challenge is the need for a new case management system, but with the inability to maintain reserves we have no funds to move off the current case management system. This is frustrated by the fact that we do not have any Information Technology staff in our court, which limits the types of services we are able to provide to the public.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	153,897
Square Miles Covered	2,153
Total Number of Court Facilities	2

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Marin
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Kelly V. Simmons, Presiding Judge James Kim, Court Executive Officer (415) 444-7398

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Increased local community outreach and education on traffic amnesty**
- **Innovative training program creates additional family court resources to help young children**
- **Rethinking 1% fund balance cap to plan for the future of the judicial system in California**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Increased local community outreach and education on traffic amnesty

To ensure that information about the amnesty program is widely shared in our local community, Marin County Superior Court has actively partnered with various community organizations in sharing information, and collaborated with local community leaders to help increase public awareness and education about the benefits of the amnesty program.

- We recently joined forces in conducting outreach with a local community group that provides art, music, theater and other enrichment opportunities to low income families and at-risk children.
- We worked with an organization that is currently dedicated to helping low-income Spanish-speaking immigrants. The goal by the Court was to actively get out to the community to widely, cross-culturally and effectively share information about the program to a variety of different groups and individuals.
- The Court will continue to look for more opportunities and partnerships to increase public awareness, as well as help educate the public about the amnesty program.

Innovative training program creates additional family court resources to help young children

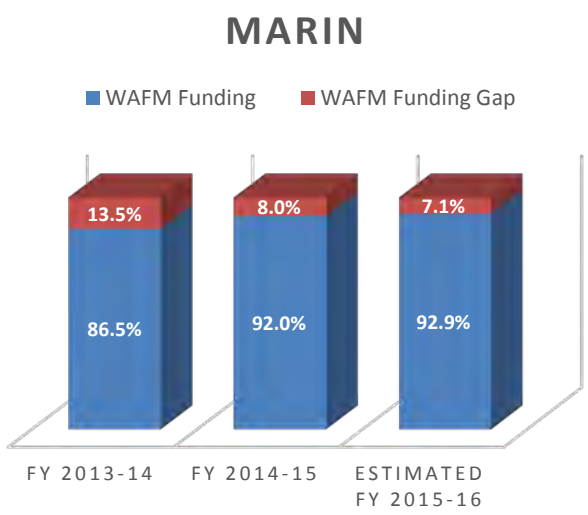
Marin Superior Court together with a dedicated committee of local attorneys, mental health experts, experienced professional supervisors, the Marin Family Law Facilitator and the two family law judges created a 24-hour course that meets the state standards for training of professional supervisors to help monitor parenting time for children in family court.

The course was offered over a three day period at the courthouse free of charge. In exchange for this free course, the graduates agreed to provide a significant number of free hours and/or low cost supervision for local families. Marin County went from having a handful of professional supervisors to over 20 individuals with hundreds of hours "in the bank" available to families in crisis. For more information, please visit: http://www.marincourt.org/

Budget Challenges and Priorities

For the current fiscal year, the most significant budget challenge for Marin County Superior Court is the 1% fund balance cap. Because of the WAFM distribution, Marin Superior Court will receive approximately $500,000 less in our budget for at least the next two fiscal years. Since the 1% fund balance would directly cover this gap in funding, which pays for staff salaries and other operations, the Court not only has a funding problem, but also lacks the ability to save for future projects or increase staff positions that could greatly improve access to the justice system. Along with other courts in California, Marin supports more statewide conversations to rethink increasing the 1% fund balance so that courts can responsibly, consistently and proactively plan for the future of our justice system.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	255,846
Square Miles Covered	828
Total Number of Court Facilities	2

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Mariposa
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. F. Dana Walton, Presiding Judge | Cynthia J. Busse, Court Executive Officer | (209) 966-6984

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **In-custody video arraignments**
- **California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR)**
- **Website redesign**
- **Partial restoration of public hours**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

In-custody video arraignments
In collaboration with the County, the Superior Court of Mariposa deployed a new video arraignment system. New equipment provided by the County enables the court and the jail to conduct in-custody video arraignments for both misdemeanors and felonies.

California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR)
In collaboration with the JCC, Mariposa deployed CCPOR. The court now has immediate access to the scanned images of restraining and protective orders housed in the statewide registry.

Website redesign
In collaboration with the JCC, we are updating our website to the trial court template design. This user friendly format will enhance the public's ability to navigate between the various screens and access information on the website.

Partial restoration of public hours
Counter and telephone access to the public has been reduced since 2009 (to 8:30-3:00). This fiscal year, the court will partially restore counter access to the public by an hour and a half each day (to 8:00-4:00), and will fully restore telephone access to the public (8:00-5:00).

Other court services
Drug Court expansion: We expanded our Drug Court program to include defendants with multiple DUI convictions. This has been implemented to address the addiction issues of this population.

For several years now, the Court and the JCC have addressed the needs of the Historic Courthouse and court operations with the County. We have taken part in bi-monthly meetings and stand ready to continue to participate with the County in its efforts to move forward.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

WAFM funding has enabled our court to move forward utilizing resources necessary to carry out our duties and serve our community. However, court efficiencies are limited because we do not have adequate resources to replace our obsolete case management (CMS) and telecommunication systems.

The court is unable to provide electronic access to the public. Our current CMS cannot support a paperless environment and its report functions are limited.

Mariposa has the distinction of having the oldest courthouse in continuous use west of the Rockies. However, the Historic Courthouse built in 1854 suffers from many years of neglect. It has safety and security issues and the accommodations are inadequate for the needs of today. It is imperative that these needs be addressed. It would also be an irreparable loss to both the County and the State to not address the needs of this historic treasure.

Court Demographics

Population Served	17,682
Square Miles Covered	1,449
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Mendocino
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. John A. Behnke, Presiding Judge Chris Ruhl, Court Executive Officer (707) 467-2511

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Reorganized court calendar and workload to better utilize judicial and staff resources**
- **Implemented new behavioral health courts in Ukiah/Fort Bragg, and enhanced Adult Drug Court**
- **Jury improvements**

Court Service Highlights

Reorganized Court Calendar and Workload
Consolidated all misdemeanor cases and instituted vertical calendaring in criminal courtrooms to more efficiently process cases, better utilizing reduced clerk staff resources and streamlining court services for the court and public.

Added video capability to three courtrooms (for total of 4 of 8, including in Fort Bragg) to enable video arraignments from the jail and appearances by in-custody defendants in other types of hearings where legally permissible.

Implemented New Behavioral Health Courts (BHC), and enhanced Adult Drug Court
With grant funds, the court implemented formal BHCs to address the issue of criminal defendants who repeatedly come in contact with the criminal justice system due to behavioral health issues, both to help reduce recidivism and to support positive integration into the community. With other grant funds, the court is implementing several enhancements to Adult Drug Court to ensure participant success both during and after the program.

Jury improvements
The court improved the experience of jurors by installing express jury check-in kiosks and new interactive phone and web response systems, and implementing more efficient juror summoning policies and procedures.

Other court services
- Progress continued in implementing a new case management system, to go live in May 2016.
- Completely revamped public website to make it much more user-friendly.
- Renewed and refreshed focus on employee training.
- Implemented the traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program including expansion to selected misdemeanors.
- Avoided service reductions in Night Court for small claims and unlawful detainers, walk-in traffic cases, and in general phone service to the public.

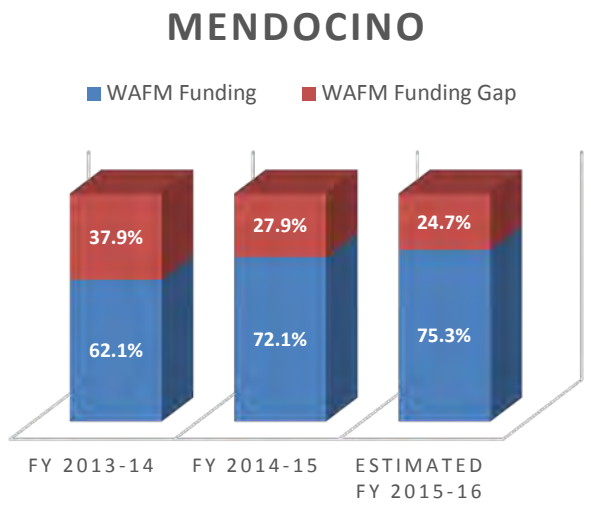
Budget Challenges and Priorities

The Court's staffing resources remain extremely thin, with supervisory and managerial staff regularly backing up courtroom and clerk staff to cover absences, creating an ongoing backlog.

Benefits costs – especially retirement and health insurance – remain an inordinately high percentage of employee costs, and prevent the Court from hiring desperately needed staff.

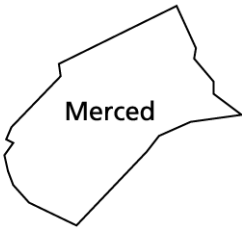
The 1% fund balance restriction continues to inhibit innovation due to the Court's inability to generate the necessary capital for innovative projects, specifically migration to a paperless/paper-on-demand operational environment.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	89,029
Square Miles Covered	3,878
Total Number of Court Facilities	2



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Merced
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Brian L. McCabe, Presiding Judge Linda Romero Soles, Court Executive Officer (209) 725-4127

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented e-filing in Civil, Family divisions as phase 2 of our case management system upgrade**
- **Assumed responsibility for court ordered debt collections from the county**
- **Enabled justice partner access to case data via web portal**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implemented e-filing in Civil, Family divisions
In our work towards greater operational efficiencies and improved services to the public, we implemented e-filing for Civil and Family Law case types. Civil e-filing is now mandatory. Additionally, case index information is available via web portal, and court documents will be available online as of the 2nd quarter of this year. Also, all 4,200 microfilmed reels containing old case records have been digitized, expediting retrieval of archival case information. All case files continue to be scanned into our case management system for system wide access.

Assumed responsibility for court ordered debt collections
On July 1, 2015, we assumed responsibility of collections from the county. Now, collections staff members are located in all courthouses to better assist the public. To date, we have collected $971,765, and our cost of collections is 18%. (The county's cost rate was 70%.)

Justice partner access via web portal
All our justice partners as well as the general public are able to access court cases online, providing for greater efficiency in accessing information at any time.

Other court services
Facilities: We relocated our Traffic division staff to a newer, larger leased facility that, unlike the prior space, is ADA compliant and includes a waiting area, allowing us to better serve the public. The main courthouse lobby remains inadequate for security screening and queuing of those that enter the courthouse. The new Los Banos Courthouse will open in late September 2016, although we have two judicial vacancies (Merced and Los Banos).

Clerk's offices: We continue to close at 3PM in order to allocate staff to address the high volume of backlogged documents that require attention as we remain understaffed.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

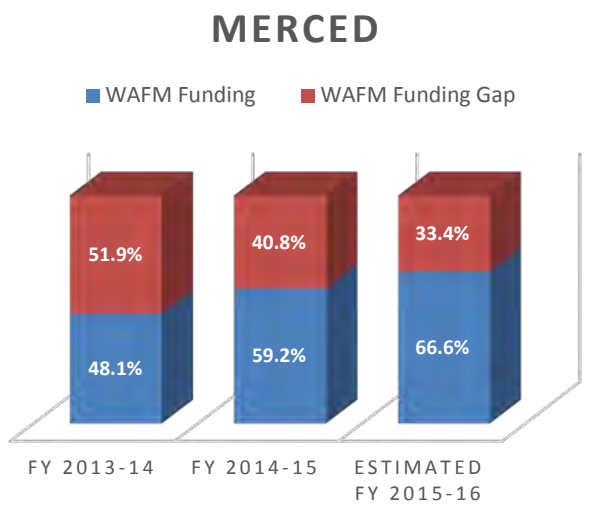
Traffic amnesty program: Launched October 1, 2015, amnesty has reduced civil assessment revenue by 68% in a single year while significantly increasing our workload.

Facility upgrades: The relocation to the new Los Banos facility will increase our costs for janitorial and IT. Our main courthouse lobby needs to be expanded to accommodate the public.

IT system upgrades: We must revisit and devise a plan for our IT system's security.

Recruitment: Due to flat wages and our inability to provide regular raises, we experience difficulty in hiring and retaining qualified candidates.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	264,922
Square Miles Covered	1,972
Total Number of Court Facilities	6

February 2016

Modoc

Superior Court of California
County of Modoc
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Francis W. Barclay, Presiding Judge Ronda Gysin, Court Executive Officer (530) 233-6516

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Successful implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Maintain all court services previously in place**
- **Preserve court operation hours without reduction in services to the public**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Successful implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
This was a collaborative effort with our staff, CCTC, Judicial Council, and the State Controller's Office to ensure that all requirements were met and implemented by the launch date for the amnesty program. Having the pertinent information readily available at the front counter and on our website helped in the distribution of information for the citizens of Modoc County.

All court services maintained if not improved
In spite of our continually shrinking budget, Modoc has continued to provide the full range of services needed for the successful administration of justice.

Modoc County citizens continue to have access to our Self-Help Center, our website, and counter staff anytime during our normal hours of operation. Our website continues to improve and development of additional self-help portals are in the works.

Court Demographics

Population Served	9,023
Square Miles Covered	4,203
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

Court Service Highlights in Detail (cont.)

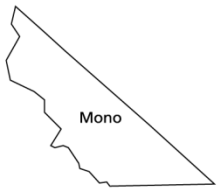
Preservation of court operation hours
By reducing work hours for some employees, not filling vacancies, and reassigning other employees, Modoc was able to avoid reducing clerk hours, thereby preserving full access to court functions.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

While the funding floor, which provides a minimum level of funding for California's smallest courts, is helpful, Modoc remains insufficiently funded for full operations. Two of the biggest challenges facing Modoc are IT hosting and updating the current case management system. Adding to these financial challenges is the problem of finding qualified personnel to help implement these improvements.

Modoc is funded only to the point of maintaining the status quo without flexibility to improve. Additionally, our court facilities are in need of repairs and improvements to increase the safety and utility of our court building (seen below in both front and rear views) for the public and staff.

Left and above – photos of Modoc Courthouse in need of repair (2016).



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Mono
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Stanley L. Eller, Presiding Judge | Hector Gonzalez, Court Executive Officer | (760) 924-5444

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Additional funding has ended the need for court closures and court employee furloughs**
- **Implemented a collaborative drug court program**
- **Implemented a supervised visitation program**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Additional funding ended the need for court closures and court employee furloughs
Due to significant budget reductions in fiscal year 2014-15, Mono County Superior Court implemented 20 mandatory furloughs which resulted in closing the court 17 business days over a 9-month period. Additional funding provided in the current fiscal year through the Trial Court Trust Fund has allowed our court to remain open for all regular business days and avoid furloughing court employees.

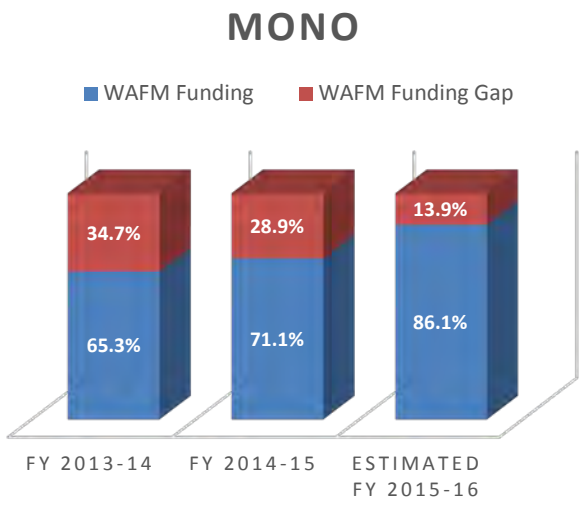
Implemented a collaborative drug court program
In collaboration with our County District Attorney's Office and Probation Department, Mono County Superior Court was able to establish a drug court program for adult offenders.

Implemented a supervised visitation program
In collaboration with neighboring Inyo County Superior Court, we established a supervised visitation program. The program was established with grant funding from the Judicial Council.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Additional Trial Court Trust Fund allocation in the current fiscal year made it possible for Mono County Superior Court to avoid court closures and court employee furloughs. However, the funding was not sufficient to allow our court to fill positions left vacant due to budget reductions. This has resulted in a nearly 49% vacancy rate in our deputy clerk positions, positions that are essential to serving the public. To compensate for the lack of court staff due to budget reductions, our court has reduced services to the public by eliminating assistance by phone. The public is required to submit questions or seek assistance by email.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	14,143
Square Miles Covered	3,132
Total Number of Court Facilities	2

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Monterey
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Mark E. Hood, Presiding Judge Teresa A. Risi, Court Executive Officer (831) 775-5678

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented a modern case management system in all non-criminal case types**
- **Expanded interpreter services**
- **Implemented a new DUI Treatment Court**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implemented a modern case management system in all non-criminal case types

A unique collaboration was established comprised of a small (Napa), medium (Monterey), and large (Santa Clara) court to implement a modern case management system (CMS). This collaboration provided the ability to pool resources, realize some cost savings, and leverage best practices in the configuration and implementation of the CMS, aptly named Odyssey. Aimed at enhancing operational efficiencies and improving access to justice to the public, Monterey implemented the Odyssey CMS in all non-criminal case types (civil, probate, family law, child support, small claims, mental health, and juvenile) in October 2015 and will move to mandatory e-filing in these case types in July 2016. Implementation in criminal case types is on the horizon, currently projected for a 2017 launch.

Expanded interpreter services

Monterey prioritized access to language interpreter services expanding court-provided services to all civil case type priorities, which promotes equitable access to justice to parties despite inherent language barriers. These services are now provided in case types where services previously were limited, provided for a fee, or unavailable including Small Claims, Probate/Guardianships, Domestic Violence Restraining Orders, Family Law, and Civil.

Implemented a new DUI Treatment Court

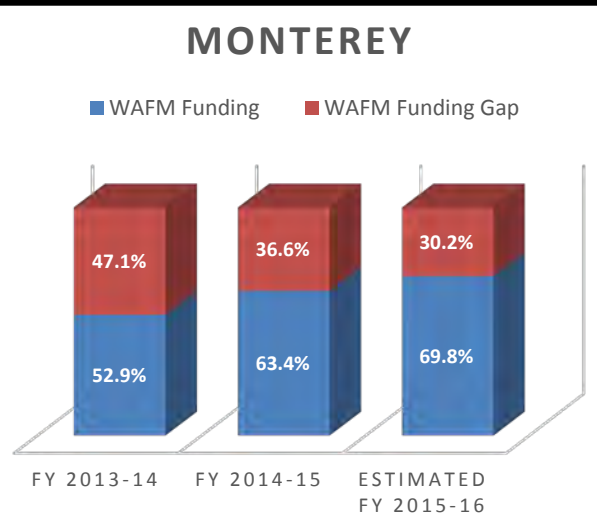
Monterey implemented a Driving-Under-the-Influence (DUI) Treatment Court in October 2015. This therapeutic collaborative court provides an avenue to reduce DUI recidivism, enhance community safety, and foster a healthier and safer life for the participants and their families by providing treatment, alcohol and drug testing, education, strict supervision, regular judicial review, and overall accountability to these high-risk offenders. Funds from an Office of Traffic Safety grant also enabled Monterey to allocate resources to probation supervision, behavioral health coordination, and monitoring and testing supplies.

Budget Priority

Underserved South Monterey County

The 2012 indefinite delay of the South Monterey County Courthouse project has left residents of this dominantly Hispanic, poor rural agricultural community underserved. The 2013 closure of the King City (South County) Courthouse due to budget constraints coupled with accessibility and security concerns has further complicated access to justice. Residents must now travel up to 110 miles round trip to access Self-Help, Family and other court services. The small south county town of Greenfield **donated land** at a cost of $5 million (cost of land purchased and infrastructure build-out) to the State that **may be lost at the end of 2016 if the courthouse project does not commence.**

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	425,756
Square Miles Covered	3,771
Total Number of Court Facilities	6 (1 Facility, King City Courthouse closed, effective Sept. 28, 2013)

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Napa
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Mark Boessenecker, Presiding Judge | Richard D. Feldstein, Court Executive Officer | (707) 299-1111

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented a modern case management system for civil, family law, probate, and juvenile dependency cases that increases efficiency and access to justice**
- **Collaborated with our local justice partners to institute a Victim Restitution Court**
- **Eliminated three court closure days thereby restoring access to justice for the public**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Modern case management system
In collaboration with Monterey and Santa Clara Superior Courts, Napa Superior Court launched a new case management system that provides expanded capability including access to online court case information, documents, and services including electronic filing. Collaboration among the three Northern California trial courts was extremely beneficial, substantially decreasing the system's development and implementation costs for all, and allowing shared operational and technical expertise, and standardized court operations and services.

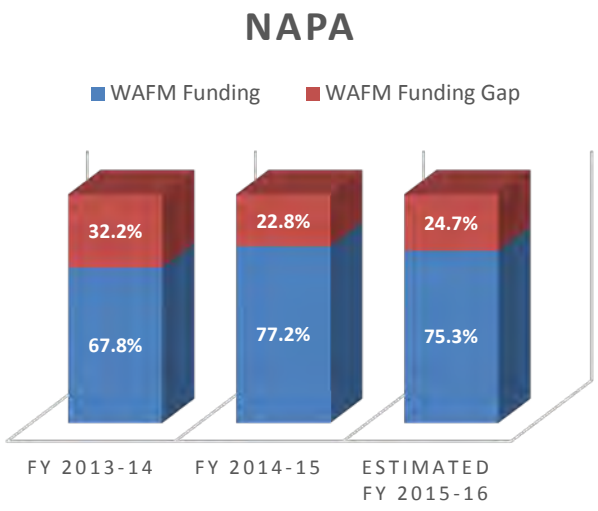
Victim Restitution Court
Recognizing that victim restitution is one of the most basic forms of justice rendered by courts, the Napa Superior Court entered into a partnership with our other local justice agencies to more effectively redress the financial damage to victims of crime. Under this program, the court works with the District Attorney and probation staff to identify offenders with adequate financial resources and significant victim restitution obligations. Direct and regular judicial review and intervention will help ensure compliance with court orders addressing victim of crime financial losses.

Partial elimination of furloughs and court closures
The lingering effects of the Great Recession required the court to close the court three full days per month plus every Friday at 2:30 PM, furloughing all court employees two and a half hours per week. While the 2:30 PM Friday closures continue, the court has been able to eliminate the remaining three all-day closures and restore full court access and services on those days.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

As a noted in the chart below, although the FY 2015-16 budget act provided some fiscal relief, state trial court funding fell far short of the resources necessary to fully fund Napa Superior Court operations. As a result, the court will continue to close its doors every Friday. The court's primary fiscal priority for FY 2016-17 is the elimination of these weekly closures and associated furloughing of court employees. Additionally, the court will require a significant investment of resources in the expansion of our new case management system to the criminal and traffic case types.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	139,255
Square Miles Covered	788
Total Number of Court Facilities	3

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Nevada
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. B. Scott Thomsen, Presiding Judge G. Sean Metroka, Court Executive Officer (530) 265-1313

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Expanded comprehensive collection program**
- **Beginning implementation of case management system enhancements**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
In collaboration with our primary collection service, we have widely advertised the amnesty program and the response has been significant. Additionally, our amnesty program includes specific misdemeanor violations, broadening its impact.

Expanded comprehensive collection program
With the addition of staff dedicated to our collections programs in Nevada City and Truckee, we are better able to collect delinquent debt more quickly, which reduces the penalties and assessments that some people would otherwise have to pay. Our efforts also have resulted in the increased collection of older cases.

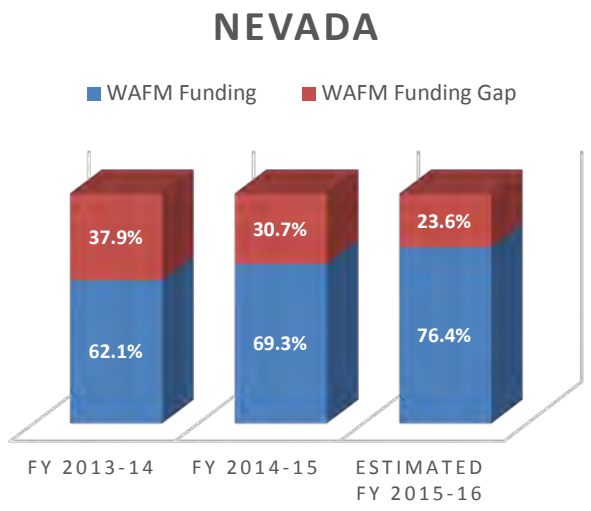
Case management system enhancements
This year we have begun work to enhance our case management system in three areas: electronic filing, document management interface, and automated traffic case initiation. In concert with these improvements, we have contracted with an electronic payment processing service that will enable us to reduce the cost of processing payments to and otherwise managing traffic cases.

The document management interface project will facilitate a transition away from paper files reducing our costs for records creation, management, and storage. It will also facilitate access to case files in courtrooms.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Because we have experienced a reduction in filings the last few years, we also have experienced a reduction in our WAFM distribution (i.e., in our operating revenue). However, the normal cost increases associated with employees, services, and supplies continue to far outpace our efforts to reduce expenditures. While we have decreased staff to adjust to reductions in our funding, we have necessarily had to reduce many important public services as a result. As we balance the court budget, our first priority is to maintain access to justice in our county.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	97,225
Square Miles Covered	974
Total Number of Court Facilities	3

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Orange
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Charles Margines, Presiding Judge | Alan Carlson, Court Executive Officer | (657) 622-7017

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Improved access and assistance for self-represented litigants, prospective jurors, and the public**
- **Continued innovation toward an all-electronic court record; more web and mobile applications for litigants, jurors, lawyers, justice partners, and the public**

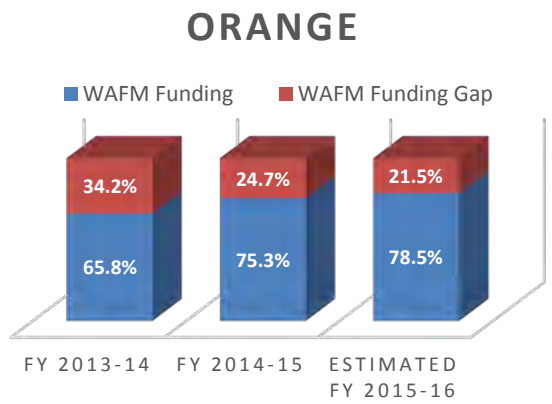
Court Service Highlights in Detail

- Implemented new case management system for family and juvenile cases, allowing for an all-electronic court record
- Developed cutting edge portal to assist self-represented litigants navigate the court process and effectively use available self-help services
- Implemented postcard summoning for prospective jurors, plus web-based qualification and postponement options
- Maintained drug court and mental health court participation notwithstanding Prop. 47
- Opened South County Service Center to provide assistance to locally underserved public
- Developed on-line Small Claims Triage tool for self-represented litigants in collaboration with five other courts
- Implemented video appearance option in most civil courtrooms
- Launched mobile friendly capacity for 14 services for litigants, jurors, and the public
- Improved the court's information technology security infrastructure
- Implemented electronic arrest warrant issuance processes
- Community Court recognized as a mentor court; one of only four nationwide
- Expanded training and development to all court employees; involved all court employees in responding to issues raised in our court's Employee Satisfaction Survey
- Developed emergency message broadcast system using screen pop-ups, text messages, and phone messages
- Launched new Appeals web page

Budget Challenges and Priorities

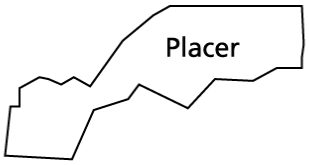
- Inadequate funding for legal representation for children and parents in juvenile dependency cases
- No funding to maintain call center to help the public
- Need to restore staffing levels in operations to reduce backlogs and delays in processing and filing documents
- Lack of funds to replace aging case management system for civil, probate, and mental health cases
- Insufficient funding to expand self-help services to meet the needs of unrepresented litigants
- Challenges in maintaining competitive compensation relative to labor market
- Lack of reserves prevents planning and long-term investment in improved business practices and automation to reduce costs
- Significant deferred maintenance in old court facilities
- No courthouse for 600,000 people in South County

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	3,113,991
Square Miles Covered	948
Total Number of Court Facilities	9



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Placer
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Alan V. Pineschi, Presiding Judge Jake Chatters, Court Executive Officer (916) 408-6186

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Restored staffing levels to enable reopening one courtroom previously closed during recession.**
- **Increased self-help center staffing and services.**
- **Expanded interpreters to nearly all civil and family cases.**
- **Focusing on technology improvements to expand public self-service and enable e-services.**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Restored staffing levels to enable reopening one courtroom closed during recession
The Placer Superior Court reduced staffing by more than 40% during the recession earlier this decade, necessitating closing two courtrooms and severely limiting the use of a third.

Restored funding has allowed nominal growth. That growth was sufficient to reopen one courtroom, resulting in a significant reduction in civil trial delays. Family law litigants continue to face significant delays in court hearings, however. Addressing these delays is a key priority for the court if additional funding is provided in FY 2016-17.

Increased self-help center staffing and services
Self-help center staffing increased by 33%, improving our ability to provide one-on-one services, reduce delays in completion of orders after hearing, and expand availability to self-represented litigants immediately following court hearings.

Expanded interpreters to nearly all civil and family case types
Interpreters are now provided in all case types except small claims. Between 7/1/15 and 1/31/16, the court was able to fulfill all requests. Additional efforts in the current year focus on prioritization for language interpreters in the translation of signage and forms. Funding for actual translation is a priority for FY 2016-17.

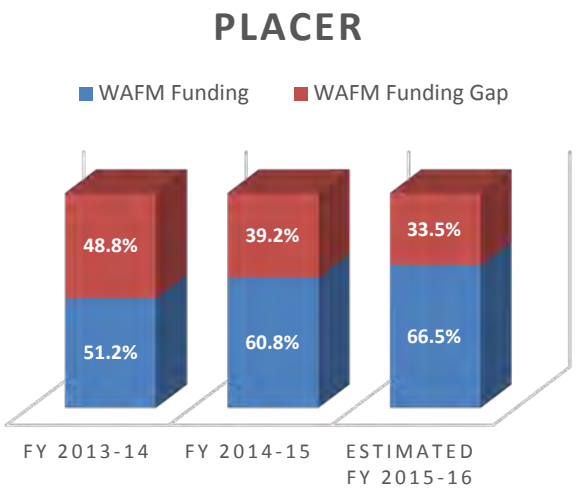
Focusing on technology improvements to expand public self-service and enable e-services
Implementation of a modern case management system continues – by June 30 we will be providing expanded online information of criminal case status and outcomes, initial transition to e-case files in criminal and an expanded juror on-line portal. Priorities for FY 2016-17 include implementing a modern system for civil and family law and initiating e-filing activities.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Budget constraints continue to impact:

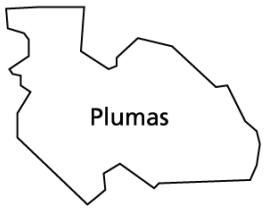
- Setting of family law matters due to closed courtroom and lack of sufficient judicial officers.
- Provision of the court record in family law proceedings.
- Investments in technology necessary to support heightened demand and delivery of e-services.
- Availability of court appointed experts, due to existing appointment rates.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	366,115
Square Miles Covered	1,503
Total Number of Court Facilities	6



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Plumas
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Ira R. Kaufman, Presiding Judge Deborah Norrie, Court Executive Officer (530) 283-6016

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Expansion of services for criminal litigants under criminal realignment and Prop. 47**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
The Court worked with the County of Plumas to develop the traffic amnesty program. Both agencies have shared responsibility for implementation of the program. Both have trained staff on the mechanics of the program, and what each agency's role is. And, we both have added web pages to our web sites regarding the amnesty program for the benefit of our customers.

Expansion of services for criminal litigants under criminal realignment and Prop. 47
The Court is actively working with its criminal justice partners to expand services for criminal litigants in both felony and misdemeanor cases to increase positive outcomes for those defendants. The Court successfully applied for a Recidivism Reduction Program grant, which is providing funds for education for our criminal justice partners, and to allow for planning for increased services. The County currently operates a day reporting center which provides a centralized location to assess defendants and direct them to appropriate services.

Among the features of our program, the pretrial release program has been agreed upon and should be implemented by the end of March 2016. A new and expanded collaborative justice court is also in the planning stages – this court will provide services for defendants who are veterans, and for those who have substance abuse issues and mental health challenges.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

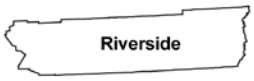
The Plumas Court continues to work with reduced funding as WAFM is implemented. We estimate that our court will reach its funding floor in FY 2016-17. The Court's priorities are as follows:
1) Reduce technology costs while improving technology capabilities; and,
2) Begin the search for a new case management system that will provide court customers with greater access.

The Court faces challenges with reduced funding. The Court continues to provide the only self-help for litigants in the County of Plumas. Based on the available funding, self-help services have been reduced to just 16 hours per week. With a staff of only 10, the Court also faces challenges in keeping pace with the workload. We also continue to have challenges with space. The Plumas Superior Court currently occupies approximately a third of a historic courthouse, and we store many of our files and supplies off site. The Court is negotiating with the County for additional space within the courthouse.

Court Demographics

Population Served	19,140
Square Miles Covered	2,613
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016



Superior Court of California
County of Riverside
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Harold W. Hopp, Presiding Judge
www.riverside.courts.ca.gov

W. Samuel Hamrick, Jr., Court Executive Officer
(951) 777-3162

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Restoration of critical public services**
- **Enhanced technology to improve public service and efficiency**
- **Expanded strategies to assist self-represented litigants**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Restoration of critical public services
Recovering from budget reductions over the past five years, the court was able to begin restoring critical public services and improving access to justice, primarily at the public counters, over the telephones and through electronic means. The court was able to avoid the closure of courtrooms or a reduction in service hours. Despite the addition of critical staff positions, severe staffing shortages remain.

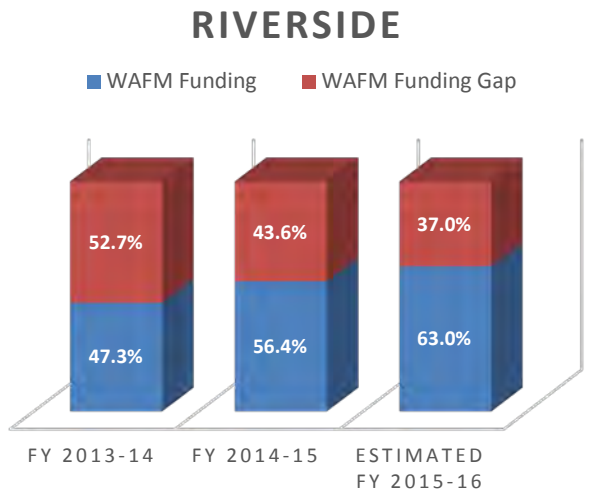
Enhanced technology to improve public service and efficiency
Numerous enhancements have been made to automate services so that the public can access the court without needing to come to a courthouse or, in many cases, without ever having to wait in a line. This includes online services, interactive voice assistance, fax filing, kiosks, and other electronic media. Not only does this improve overall service, it eliminates paper documents in many cases, thus reducing the need for storage, and drastically minimizing the potential for human error. As an example, the recent implementation of criminal e-filing capabilities has resulted in the e-filing of approximately 1,000 felony complaints in just two months. Plans for a new case management system are on the horizon.

Expanded strategies to assist self-represented litigants
The court has begun restoring self-help services by hiring additional staff to triage and assist litigants. The court has also expanded services to include assistance with guardianship and small claims matters. As a result, there has been an increase in the number of self-help litigants assisted this year.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Despite a slight uptick in funding this fiscal year, it is difficult to maintain a core level of services for the public. Civil assessment revenue is down 30%--$5 million--because of the Amnesty Program. This lost revenue offset more than half of the gain from WAFM. The effects of the revenue loss are compounded because of the ban on local reserves. As a result, staffing vacancies may need to be increased, jeopardizing the restoration of public services. In addition, the court continues to be severely under-judged with the second highest judge-to-filing ratio in the state. Currently, fifty-one more judges are required to hear just the current caseload. We hope that the Governor's plan to reallocate judicial vacancies to counties most in need will result in some relief.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	2,308,441
Square Miles Covered	7,303
Total Number of Court Facilities	14

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Sacramento
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Kevin R. Culhane, Presiding Judge | Tim Ainsworth, Court Executive Officer | (916) 874-8668

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infractions amnesty program**
- **Launching of a pilot Veterans Treatment Court**
- **Managing Proposition 47 workload**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implementation of amnesty program
The court worked with county and private collection partners to ensure that the amnesty program was available to the public starting on the inception date. Through December 31, 2015 the court had processed nearly 3,000 participants and over 9,300 cases, including the return of 72 previously suspended driver's licenses.

Veterans Treatment Court
Veterans Treatment Court is a new pilot court established in collaboration with law enforcement and community treatment providers. The goal of this pilot is to offer veterans of the United States Armed Forces a comprehensive, treatment-based alternative to incarceration for non-violent criminal offenses. Veterans who qualify participate in treatment, counseling, and various other services for a period of 12 to 18 months. Upon successful completion of the program, the majority of veterans will have the charges against them dismissed.

This court is in addition to our other collaborative treatment courts - Drug Court, Community Realignment Re-entry Court, Loaves & Fishes Court (Homeless Court), Mental Health Court, and Violation of Probation (VOP) Court.

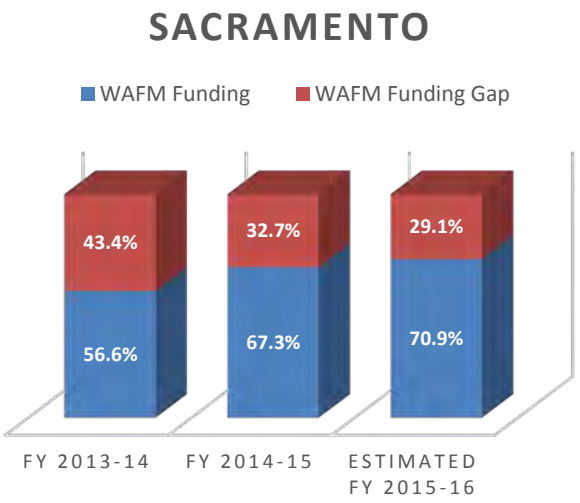
Prop 47 workload
The court has utilized one-time funding to implement the various components of Proposition 47. In so doing, the court has processed approximately 5,204 cases related to Prop 47 workload.

Other court highlights
New Courthouse
The Court recently obtained approval for a scope change to permit construction of a single unified courthouse in downtown Sacramento. The project is currently at the preliminary design stage.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Although a few limited services have been restored, there continues to be reduced services for Family Law litigants such as limited in-person procedural aid, very few self-help workshops, and minimal services for domestic violence victims.
- Staff reductions of more than 190 people since 2008 continue to result in backlogs of documents and pleadings in many court areas. The limited staff also results in reduced services to the public such as limited telephone hours and the closure of a number of public-counter service windows.
- Despite the lack of funding, we continue to make needed improvements to various outdated case management systems to increase efficiency and public access.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	1,454,406
Square Miles Covered	996
Total Number of Court Facilities	10

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of San Benito
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Harry J. Tobias, Presiding Judge Gil Solorio, Court Executive Officer (831) 636-4057

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Implementation of juvenile traffic ticket program**
- **Maintained court hours of public service**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implementation of traffic ticket/ infraction amnesty program
The Court was able to successfully implement the required traffic ticket/ infraction amnesty program. Dedicated existing staff assumed all new duties related to program, including providing relief to 20 people in the first quarter of the program.

Implementation of juvenile traffic ticket program
The Court was able to successfully transition the juvenile traffic ticket program from the County's Probation Department to the Court's traffic unit and case management system. Dedicated existing staff assumed all new duties related to program.

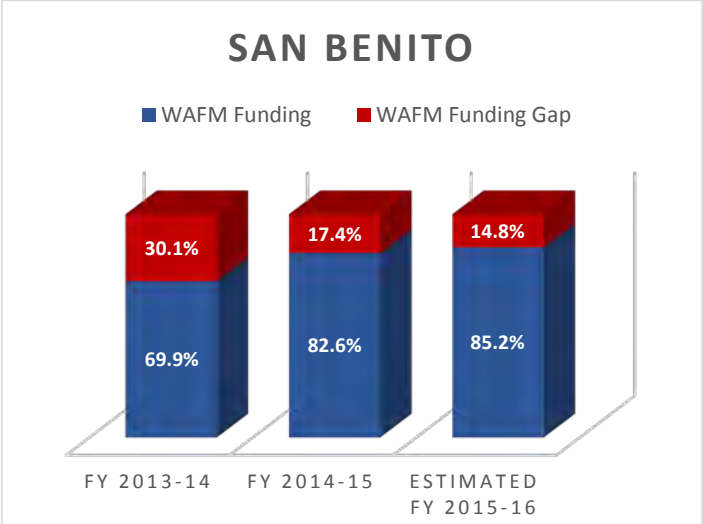
Maintained court hours of public service
Despite ongoing budget reductions, new additional layoffs were avoided which allowed us to maintain current hours of public service (e.g. public counter, self-help office, etc.).

Other Court Services
The Court collaborated extensively with the County Sheriff and State Department of Finance to increase the amount of funding for security services at the courthouse. Notwithstanding that funds are allocated to the County, the primary recipients of security services are the Court's customers, staff and judicial partners.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

1) Lack of funds to pay for new case management system.
2) Lack of funds to pay for hosting of existing case management system.
3) Lack of funds for sustainable COLAs / No COLAs since 2008.
4) Lack of funds to increase part-time Family Law Facilitator and Mediator to full-time for increased service hours to the public.
5) Due to 1% fund balance cap, we have no ability to save or budget for the items above.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	57,157
Square Miles Covered	1,391
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of San Bernardino
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Raymond L. Haight III, Presiding Judge | Christina M. Volkers, Court Executive Officer | (909) 708-8767

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Restoring services and access to the Court by reinstating courtrooms and service hours**
- **Expanding services by adding courtrooms and service hours, improving efficiency in resolving cases, and reorganizing operations**
- **Promoting innovation including technological to improve efficiency and access to the Court**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Restoring services and access to the Court by reinstating courtrooms and service hours

- Restored the Barstow courthouse to 2 full-time courtrooms
- Reinstated Clerk's Office and public telephone hours courtwide to 4:00 p.m. (from 3:00 p.m. daily)
- Improved access for Needles residents by reworking calendars to coincide with the new public transit option from Needles to Barstow and Victorville courthouses
- Reinstated Self Help hours to 4:00 p.m. (from 3:00 p.m.)

Expanding services by adding courtrooms and hours, improving efficiency in resolving cases, and reorganizing operations

- Increased the San Bernardino Historic Courthouse family law calendar to 10 judges, effectively adding two full-time family law calendars and reducing each judicial officer's caseload by over 17%
- Relocated and consolidated small claims, landlord-tenant, and infraction matters to Barstow to mirror efficiencies gained in the Fontana courthouse, allowing the Victorville courthouse to expand its operations to include three full-time family law courtrooms and six all-purpose criminal trial courtrooms
- Expanded hours for the Self Help Resource Centers to open over the lunch hour
- Added phone assistance hours and enhanced services in the Self Help Resource Centers by providing form sets via email, updating the Self Help webpage, and launching an internship program, which also created additional customer services
- Created a stand-alone Probate Division with four dedicated Clerk's Office windows

Promoting innovation to improve efficiency and access to the Court

- Implemented new case management system for criminal and traffic, creating benefits for the bar and the public such as access to electronic files and efiling, enhancements to portal access, and online payments
- Installed jury kiosks in four courthouses to facilitate juror check-in
- Provided an online conservatorship orientation program
- Completed civil and family law scanning project, including scanning over 11 million pages, and began scanning criminal and traffic filings to facilitate availability of electronic files

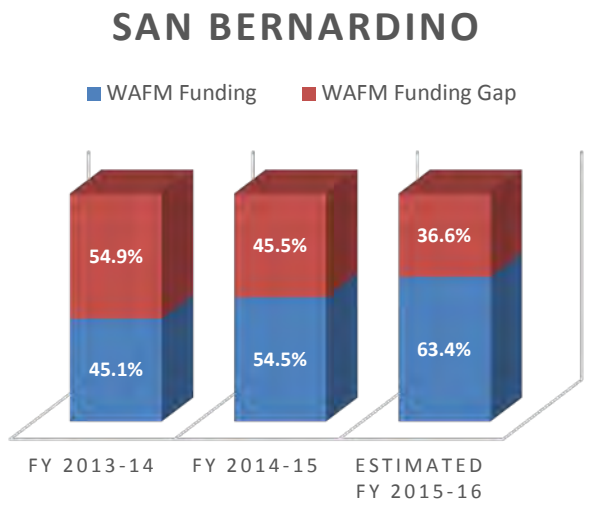
Other court services

- Amnesty program successfully implemented and 4,095 cases (from back to 1993) processed during the first three months
- Developed procedures to process Prop 47 petitions
- Exploring possible use for Video Remote Interpreting for other than Spanish interpreting services in outlying and remote courts.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

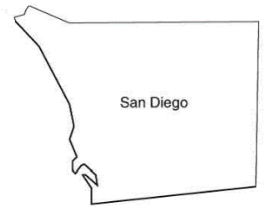
- Ongoing judicial officer shortage of over 60%
- Inability to reduce caseloads without opening additional courtrooms, which would require additional judicial officers and staff
- Funding obligations such as labor negotiations, line item budgeting by Legislature and Governor
- Potential reductions to Court revenue: portion of local fines and fees, civil assessments, installment payments

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	2,085,669
Square Miles Covered	20,105
Total Number of Court Facilities	14



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of San Diego
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Jeffrey B. Barton, Presiding Judge Michael M. Roddy, Court Executive Officer (619) 450-5478

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented Case Management System for Family Cases**
- **Will Restore Business Office Hours to 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implemented case management system for Family cases

The new Odyssey case management system will enable the Court to gain efficiencies by maintaining a comprehensive electronic case record, and improve access to the public by offering online access to Family Law cases and e-Filing for Family Support Division cases.

Will restore business office hours to 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday

The Court has been able to fill some vacant positions, which will increase public access by expanding business office hours court-wide to 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Other court services

Reduced Civil backlogs

The Court has reduced the backlog in our Civil division by over 1,500 hours in the last 10 months.

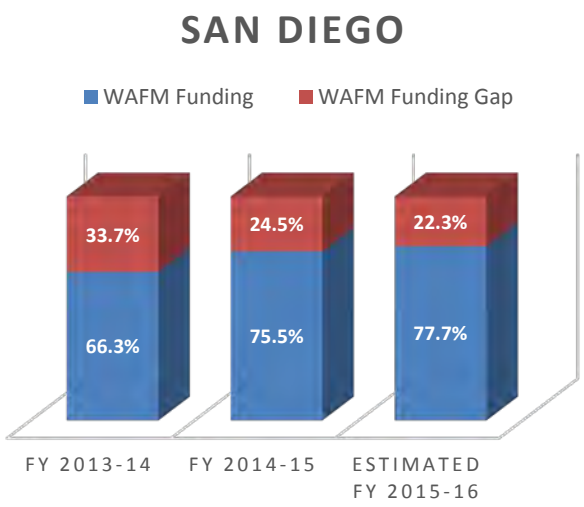
Plan to close Traffic case services in East and South County divisions halted

We will not have to eliminate Traffic services in our East and South County divisions, which manage a combined 140,000 infraction filings annually. By avoiding the planned closure, members of the public will not have to travel a minimum of 15 miles in each direction for hearings in the Central Traffic division.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Implementing the Traffic case type component of the Odyssey case management system will involve considerable personnel and capital investment.
- Although the Court has reduced Civil backlogs, no substantial progress has been made in the backlogs for other case types (Family, Criminal, Traffic).
- Moving into the new Central Courthouse with 71 courtrooms will create funding and logistical challenges for the Court.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	3,194,362
Square Miles Covered	4,526
Total Number of Court Facilities	9

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of San Francisco
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. John Kennedy Stewart, Presiding Judge | T. Michael Yuen, Court Executive Officer | (415) 551-5707

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Continued implementation and improvement of mandatory e-filing for civil cases**
- **Increased use of technology to better serve the public**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
The Court has worked with community organizations and local government to heighten awareness of traffic amnesty. The shared goal is to have as many people who are eligible for amnesty take advantage of it.

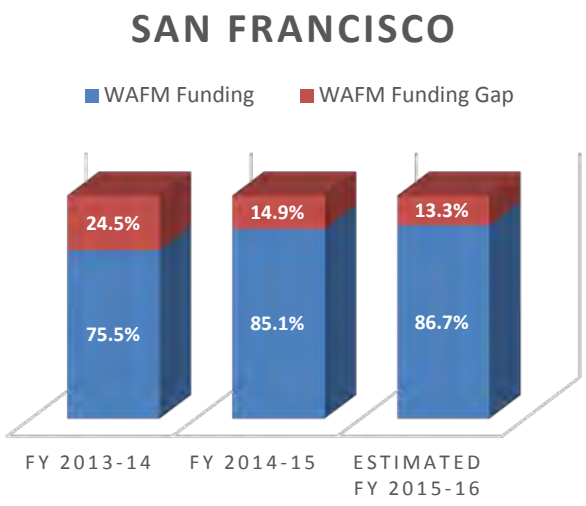
Continued implementation and improvement of mandatory e-filing for civil cases
The Court is entering its second year of mandatory e-filing in civil cases. The intent is to make filing more convenient to court users by allowing them to file from the convenience of their own surroundings and not have to endure long lines at the courthouse. Additionally, as more filings are received electronically, the Court's processes become more efficient, which helps us serve the public despite shrinking budgets. There are now 18 different options for the public to e–file. This includes 17 vendors and the Court's own e-filing web service. Multiple choices for the public promote competition, leading to enhanced service to the public.

Increased use of technology to better serve the public
Technology is being utilized to increase services to the public. This includes implementing digital recording in limited civil cases (that were previously not recorded or reported), installing new electronic signage, and making more calendar information accessible on the Court's website.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Implementation of a new case management system
The WAFM formula has the impact of siphoning funds from our court for redistribution to others. Therefore, we must become more efficient; the largest step in this direction is the implementation of a new case management system (CMS). The CMS was implemented in our Traffic Division in August 2015. The Criminal Division will be included in 2016, followed by the rest of the Court in 2017.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	837,442
Square Miles Covered	232
Total Number of Court Facilities	4

Superior Court of California
County of San Joaquin
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

February 2016

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. José L. Alva, Presiding Judge Rosa Junqueiro, Court Executive Officer (209) 992-5216

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented and deployed a new case management system for all case types**
- **Rolled out a new Payroll System**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Replaced Case Management Systems
We deployed a new case management system (CMS) by Justice Systems, Inc. for all case types on October 19, 2015, replacing three different CMS systems and automating juvenile delinquency for the first time. The court continues to work on refining business processes and addressing backlogs in workload while using our new CMS. Future enhancements including e-filing are expected to be deployed in the coming year.

Rolled out a new payroll system
On January 1, 2016, we launched a new payroll system by ADP. This system provides online services to court employees by automating time keeping as well as recruitment, payroll and benefits.

Other Court Services
Increased staff resources
We hired six new staff members to address workload increases. In spite of hiring additional staff, several employees recently retired. The combination of retirements and implementation of a new CMS has slowed down our work flow, particularly the pace at which we process cases.

Use of county services
The deployment of our CMS and ADP payroll services completed the court's transition away from county services. We no longer rely on the county to provide any services to the court.

Clerk's offices
Our Clerk's offices continue to close at 3:00p.m. and phones go unanswered at 4:00p.m. due to workload and staffing.

Collaborative courts
Our collaborative courts have secured $4 million in grant funding that supports 8 different collaborative court programs.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

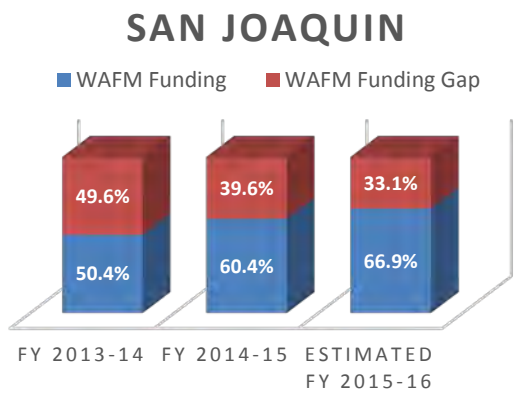
Facilities: Stockton - We will be moving into our new Stockton Courthouse at the end of this calendar year. Unfunded costs include: moving - $550,000; ongoing janitorial - $238,700; ongoing court security - $137,000; mail courier, file retrieval, facilities, and IT staff - $279,571.

Tracy - Our Tracy Court, which has 2 courtrooms, remains closed. Opening this branch is a priority and will help us better serve the South county residents and provide this population with better access to justice.

Amnesty - Although this program has assisted many with obtaining debt relief and driver's licenses, it has significantly decreased the collection of civil assessment revenue and increased the court's workload.

Vacant Judicial Officer - One commissioner position remains vacant due to lack of funds.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	710,731
Square Miles Covered	1,426
Total Number of Court Facilities	6

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of San Luis Obispo
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Barry LaBarbera, Presiding Judge | Michael Powell, Court Executive Officer | (805) 781-1528

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of mandatory e-filing in some civil case types**
- **Effective rollout of attorney portal**
- **Increase in Family Law Facilitator availability**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implementation of mandatory e-filing in some civil case types

As of January 1, 2016, San Luis Obispo (SLO) Superior Court began requiring e-filing for attorneys filing cases in probate and limited civil cases. This has been effective in decreasing the wait times and volume at the counters significantly. In fact, e-filing is so popular that we have decided to roll out mandatory e-filing in unlimited civil cases as of January 1, 2017. The significant number of e-filings has greatly lessened the volume of clerk time required for paper processing and document management in the civil department.

Effective rollout of attorney portal

Attorneys in San Luis Obispo now have access to an online court-attorney portal where they can access cases and documents online from any computer as a registered user. This has significantly diminished attorney traffic to the customer service windows in all areas of the court and has increased the level of access for attorneys to their cases and the public record.

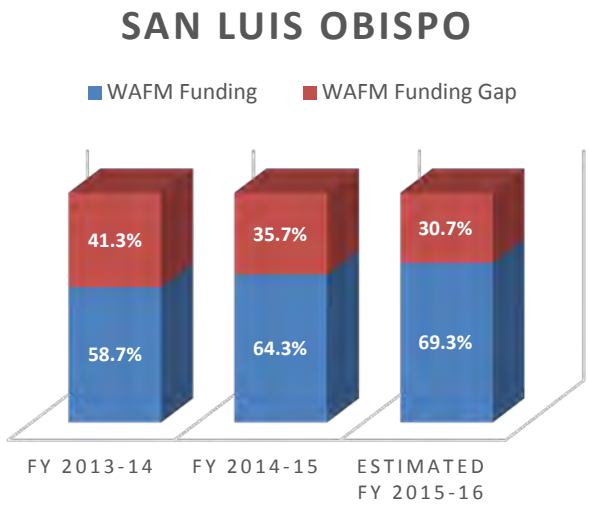
Increased Family Law Facilitator hours

SLO Court has increased the hours and availability of the walk-in clinic for the Family Law Facilitator, affording access four half-days per week without an appointment. This was done in part through the use of well-trained interns and improves access to justice.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

We continue to have concerns about the 1% cap on trial court fund balances, which inhibits our ability to maintain a more significant reserve for the purposes of managing unexpected and variable expenses, and planning for large and longer term modernization projects.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	272,357
Square Miles Covered	3,616
Total Number of Court Facilities	3

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of San Mateo
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. John L. Grandsaert, Presiding Judge Rodina Catalano, Court Executive Officer (650) 261-5016

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Restored services incrementally or through improvements in efficiency**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic infraction amnesty program.

Through December, 2015, the Court received 1,160 amnesty applications and approved 825, including 623 driver's license suspensions lifted. The Court collected net revenue of $58,120.

Service restorations and efficiency

- Added 1-2 trials back per week at Northern Branch.
- Restored 2 staff positions to improve courtroom services to the public.
- Restored 2 hours of clerk's office public counter and phone services on Fridays, only.
- Negotiated agreements with unions to enable Court to be fully PEPRA compliant by October 2016.
- Digitized records and closed records warehouse saving $250,000/yr.
- Implemented pilot monthly One-Day Divorce Program.
- Replaced obsolete and cost prohibitive criminal case management system for greater efficiency.
- Scheduled replacement of non-criminal case management system for June 2016.
- Improved process for public telephone call handling/queuing in criminal division.
- Reduced backlogs of incomplete judgments in civil and family law cases.

Budget Priorities

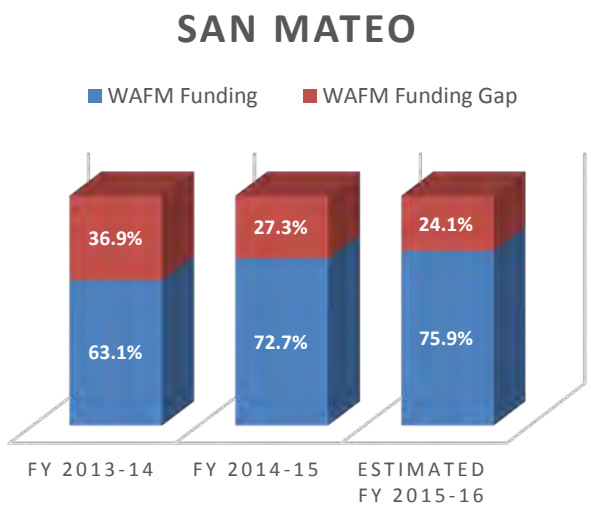
- Restore services incrementally.
- Improve Court efficiency through automation and innovation.
- Transform Court to paperless services and processes.

Budget Challenges

The Court continues to be challenged by the WAFM funding gap, which has precluded adding back any significant levels of services:

- Backlog/delays in assigning civil and criminal trials continue due to lack of courtroom and support staff.
- Wait time can be up to 2 months to obtain traffic arraignment date.
- Public service and counter hours remain severely reduced, and only open between 8 AM and 2 PM.
- Wait times for self-help services still exceed 3 hours.
- ADR and Family Court services still curtailed by 50%.
- Wait times on phone can still be up to 60 minutes.
- Wait times in line can still be up to 20 minutes.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	745,193
Square Miles Covered	741
Total Number of Court Facilities	5 (2 substantially closed)

February 2016

Santa Barbara

Superior Court of California
County of Santa Barbara
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. James E. Herman, Presiding Judge Darrel E. Parker, Court Executive Officer (805) 614-6594

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented mandatory e-filing in civil, family law, and probate**
- **Introduced evidenced-based risk assessment in pretrial/own recognizance decision making**
- **Call service center access expanded to traffic case and general information**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implemented mandatory e-filing in civil, family law, and probate
In moving towards a paperless court system, the Court introduced a new case management system in 2015. Following the successful implementation of that system, the court introduced mandatory electronic filing to our legal community in early 2016. The automation will expand access to justice and gain efficiencies in court operations as we struggle with a 26% reduction in workforce.

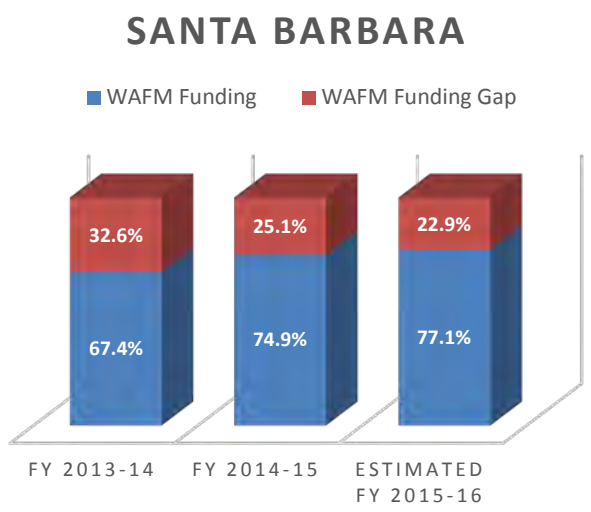
Introduced evidenced-based risk assessment in pretrial/own recognizance decision making
The Court introduced evidenced-based risk assessment into the judge's pretrial release decision through a collaborative partnership that includes the local justice community and the University of California at Santa Barbara. Work continues in reviewing the increased use of supervised pretrial release and its impact on jail overcrowding.

New call service center
After years of reduced office and telephone hours, the court employed a call service and payment process center as we expanded public access hours. Phones previously left unanswered after 3:00 p.m. are now answered by a live attendant until 9:00 p.m. seven days per week. Public access to assistance by the Court improved over 80% with the addition of this feature.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- The Governor's proposed increase to trial courts would largely offset our court's revenue reduction under the WAFM model, but the Court still endures reductions under that method.
- There is no means of addressing salary increases for employees, whose wages have fallen behind those of neighboring courts.
- Backlogs in critical areas have mounted, leaving default dissolutions unprocessed for over 8 months.
- Thousands of court events have yet to be logged into the case management system, contributing to confusion and the risk of over detention of inmates.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	433,398
Square Miles Covered	3,789
Total Number of Court Facilities	8

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Santa Clara
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Risë Jones Pichon, Presiding Judge | David H. Yamasaki, Court Executive Officer | (408) 882-2714

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of new case management system for Civil, Family, Juvenile and Probate operations**
- **Maintained court reporter services in non-mandated areas**
- **Avoided further reductions in public service hours and operating court rooms**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

- Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
- Implementation of Phase 1 of our case management system
- Planned implementation of e-filing in the 4th quarter of FY 2015-16
- Completion of Family Justice Center Courthouse in the 4th quarter of FY 2015-16

Court Service Reductions in Detail

Impact of WAFM funding reductions

- **Self-Help/Mediation/Facilitator Services**
  - Reduced Self-Help days from 4 (four) to 3 (three)
  - Reduced Small Claims Advisory services to e-mail only
- **Court Reporters/Interpreters**
  - Increased court reporter vacancies and reduced services due to fiscal reductions
  - Increased workload and delays in court hearings due to lack of certified and registered interpreters
- **Counters/Clerks/Telephones**
  - Reduced public service hours by closing at 3:00 p.m. (from 4:30 p.m.)
  - Reduced number of operating service windows due to budget reductions
  - Increased backlogs in conjunction with reduced staffing levels
  - Reduced telephone services as a result of redirecting staff to support customers appearing in person
- **Courtroom Closures**
  - Since 2009, a total of 9 courtrooms have been closed courtwide. There are no immediate plans to re-open any of these departments due to fiscal reductions
- **Impact of closed Courtrooms**
  - Reduced workforce by 300 employees since 2008, making staffing levels 37% lower than 2008
- **Judicial Officers**
  - We will be carrying 5 (five) commissioner vacancies at the conclusion of this fiscal year

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Challenges

Despite the introduction of additional funding for the trial courts, the continued reduction in local funding to Santa Clara court resulting from the Workload Allocation and Funding Methodology (WAFM) has required us to continue reducing our workforce and services to the public.

Today, our staffing level stands at 566 employees, down significantly from 860 in 2008. This reduction prompted (already implemented) courtroom closures, and continues to contribute to significant delays in scheduling court hearings and processing petitions filed at our windows. With costs continuing to escalate and funding continuing to remain flat, we may be required to reduce our staffing even more, worsening our backlogs and delays.

Efforts to balance our budget by reducing staff have also prompted us to maintain vacancies in court commissioner positions which previously served in traffic and small claims courtrooms in the cities of Palo Alto and Morgan Hill. With these staff reductions and courtroom closures, litigants in our County are required to take longer amounts of time from their work at considerable expense (including lost wages, gas, parking, etc.) to resolve their cases. Our staff-to-judicial officer ratio continues to be one of the lowest in the state.

Priorities

Notwithstanding these declining resources, we will be implementing the second phase of our case management system next fiscal year and relocating from 6 separate court facilities into our new Family Justice Center Courthouse. Both of these activities will present operational and budget challenges, and will be our top priorities for funding next budget year.

Court Demographics

Population Served	1,868,558
Square Miles Covered	1,304
Total Number of Court Facilities	14

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Santa Cruz
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Denine J. Guy, Presiding Judge Alex Calvo, Court Executive Officer (831) 420-2401

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Completed the implementation of new case management system**
- **Implemented traffic and infraction amnesty program**
- **Held *"Build Your Future: Prop 47 Felony Record Change Resource Fair"***

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Case management system implementation
In 2014, the Court decided to move forward with the implementation of a new case management system. The project was only possible due to the multi-year accumulation of funds using trial court reserves. This new and modern case management improves public and justice party access to court case information, creates operational efficiencies and has positioned this court to implement eFiling and electronic case files in the coming months. Over time, the court will achieve significant efficiencies that will permit the improvement of services and access to the public.

Traffic and infraction amnesty program
In October 2015, the court quickly implemented the traffic amnesty program which has provided members of our community with reductions of delinquent debt and restoration of driver's licenses.

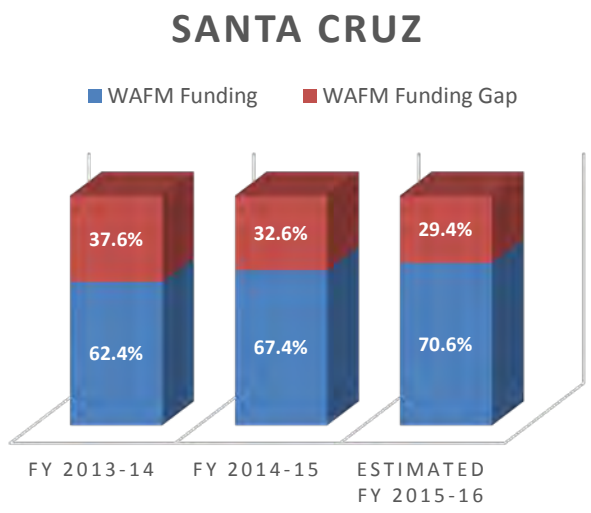
Proposition 47 outreach
We collaborated with county justice partners to provide a comprehensive and coordinated approach to enable those with eligible felony convictions to reduce those convictions to misdemeanors. In January, we held the first ever "*Build Your Future: Prop 47 Felony Record Change Resource Fair.*"

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Staffing Levels: 34% vacancy rate coupled with lower compensation is causing a decline in morale and difficulties in attracting and retaining high-quality employees.

Commissioner Conversion: The court has taken advantage of a salary savings from a vacant commissioner position since 2010. This position has now been converted to a judgeship, and the financial impact of this will put a significant strain on the court's budget.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	271,595
Square Miles Covered	607
Total Number of Court Facilities	4

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Shasta
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Gregory S. Gaul, Presiding Judge | Melissa Fowler-Bradley, Court Executive Officer | (530) 245-6761

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Enhanced and expanded public service to pro per litigants in Shasta and Trinity Counties**
- **Implemented Recidivism Reduction program**
- **Improved technology to increase public access**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Enhanced and expanded public service to pro per litigants in Shasta and Trinity Counties
Shasta expanded Family Law Facilitator and Self-Help services to neighboring Trinity County. Shasta's attorney travels to Trinity for in-person assistance and is available by telephone when needed. The attorney also spends an afternoon each week providing assistance at the Child Support Services Office in Shasta County. Self-help services have been expanded to include guardianship and landlord-tenant disputes in addition to family law matters.

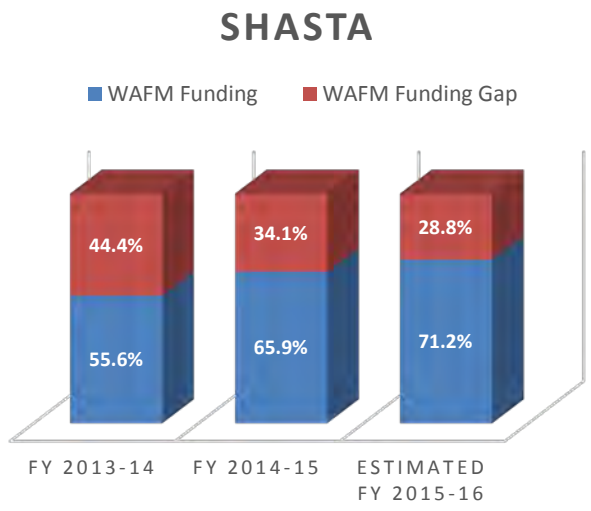
Implemented Recidivism Reduction Grant program to address increases in crime and failures to appear
The program created a partnership between the court and county agencies to reduce crime and more efficiently utilize jail bed space. "Risk to reoffend" research is used to evaluate newly arrested individuals and submit recommendations immediately/electronically to on-call judges for release after hours. Higher risk individuals are released with GPS devices, and compliance checks are regularly conducted in the field to ensure offender accountability.

Technology improvements
The court's website was updated and expanded to provide much more information online to better assist the public. Many links have been added, including a new application that allows persons seeking a career in the courts to apply online.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Recruiting and retaining qualified employees has been a major obstacle throughout the past year. Many of the positions that were vacated due to layoffs or retirements/resignations have proven very difficult to fill, resulting in continued workload backlogs.
- Inadequate facilities continue to plague our operations and ability to provide service to the public. An entire unit of staff had to be permanently moved to newly leased space at significant cost due to HVAC crash and OSHA complaints pertaining to mold.

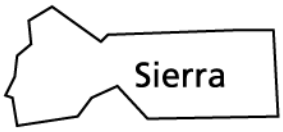
Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	177,412
Square Miles Covered	3,847
Total Number of Court Facilities	4

February 2016



Superior Court of California
County of Sierra
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Charles H. Ervin, Presiding Judge Lee Kirby, Court Executive Officer (530) 289-3698

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Broadened services for Laura's Law Collaborative Court**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program

In September 2015, our Court contracted with the Shasta Superior Court Collections Department to provide all legislated services for the traffic amnesty program including local newspaper ads and notices to eligible violators. To date, we have expended $3,600 for set up and collection expenses and have recovered a mere $193 in fines plus $250 in amnesty fee revenue. So far, $1,369 in fine and $2,400 in civil assessment revenue has been forgiven under the amnesty program rules.

Broadened services for Laura's Law Collaborative Court

In early 2015, we began exploring options available for treatment of individuals who present mental health issues in our Court system. Sierra Court personnel and judicial officers attended training in Nevada County, hosted by Hon. Thomas Anderson and their Forensic Task Force on Mental Health and the Court. We are in the process now of working with Sierra County's Human Services and Mental Health director toward establishing a protocol for referral, treatment and supervision should the need arise. Sierra's population and incidence of non-custodial mental health cases does not support a fully functional Laura's Law protocol, however we wish to be prepared and able to review cases on a case by case basis.

Other court services

We have expanded our Drug Court model to serve the rehabilitation of Post-Release Community Supervisions parolees which in turn has provided Drug Court participants with an excellent incentive toward their goals to successfully complete their program and not re-offend or violate probation.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Sierra Court receives the minimum court funding allocation that, provides sufficient revenue to operate without court closures and service interruptions.

However, the 1% cap on fund balances is problematic because it limits our ability to undertake and plan a large purchase such as a case and document management system. Ours is showing signs of failure and we do not have the necessary funds to purchase and implement a new one. We are exploring a collaborative budget change request with 9 other courts to acquire a new system to provide greater efficiencies, public access and preservation of court records.

With Judicial Council support, we successfully negotiated modification of our Joint Operating Agreement with the County to pay for a new building roof, replacement windows, and repairs to the exterior. An ADA restroom for the Court portion of the building has been approved and will be installed this year. Given that we voluntarily removed our court from the courthouse replacement list, we appreciate Judicial Council's efforts to rehabilitate our historic courthouse.

Court Demographics

Population Served	3,089
Square Miles Covered	962
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Siskiyou
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. William J. Davis, Presiding Judge | Mary Frances McHugh, Court Executive Officer | (530) 842-8218

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Sponsorship of collaborative court through realignment legislation**
- **Circuit riding in Siskiyou County with the Family Law Facilitator and new case management system**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implementation of the mandated traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program:
Implementing the traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program has been a challenge. Our case management system does not allow us to use the financial codes created at the time the original liability was incurred – it requires new financial codes be created once the amnesty reduction has occurred because the distributions are affected. Unless the distributions are done properly, local agencies, the state and the county may not receive their appropriate share of the amounts collected. ALL this work must be done manually. In the first 3 months of the program, our criminal/traffic/fiscal staff of just 11 people has expended over $26,000 of time to recover $7,400.

Collaborative court as a function of realignment:
Through the Community Corrections Partnership Committee we are sponsoring a collaborative court program that will serve vulnerable populations, such as people struggling with mental health issues, veterans, and people who are homeless, who have cases with the Superior Court. Our goal is to reduce recidivism in these populations, many of which have histories of repeat offending due to substance abuse. Our approach will allow the judge to modify sanctions at appropriate times to support the individuals' recovery and reduce the likelihood of recidivism. Historically, judges at sentencing too often have only the basic background probation reports. This program will enhance the tools available to judges, allowing them to address these issues.

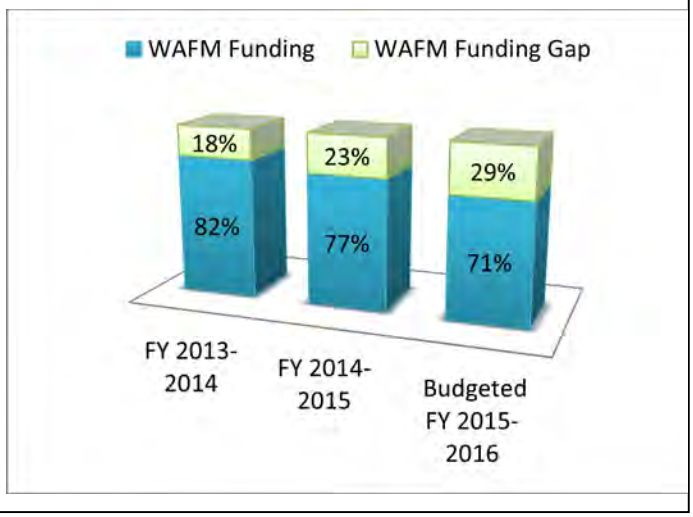
Other court services
The Family Law Facilitator (FLF) travels circuit with representatives from Social Security, Child Support, Domestic Violence, and sometimes Legal Aid, regularly stopping at sites around the County, allowing people to access many services in one visit. This collaboration is funded from the agencies' own resources. 2015 marked the highest customer count ever in the FLF office, attributed to providing services to people where they live, particularly in rural Tulelake, CA.

The Court case management system (CMS) upgrade is newly online. We encumbered reserves to acquire a $230,000 upgrade of a web-based platform to allow for greater efficiencies in court operations like calendars and collections.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Living with the Workload Allocation and Funding Methodology (WAFM).
There are some faulty factors in WAFM that have nothing to do with filings, but are tied to the relative poverty of each county. A review of the 2015-16 FY Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) [cite: *2015-16 WAFM for TCBAC $20m 20160114*] shows that all courts with a BLS factor <1 are non-urban, smaller, more economically challenged courts. To support access to justice in all trial courts, the impacts of these faulty factors need to be examined.

WAFM as compared to FY 2012-13 Trial Court Funding



Court Demographics

Population Served	45,231
Square Miles Covered	6,347
Total Number of Court Facilities	1.05*

*Dorris Courtroom operates once per month.

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Solano
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Robert C. Fracchia, Presiding Judge Brian Taylor, Court Executive Officer (707) 207-7467

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented a Document Management System and E-filing in Child Support Cases**
- **Expanded Interpreters into all case types and broadened language access**
- **Broadened Collaborative Courts to include Integrated Domestic Violence Court and Re-Entry Court**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implemented a Document Management System and E-filing in Child Support Cases

A document management system (DMS) allows the court to go paperless. This requires a review of all business processes and a configuration allowing paper processes to be turned into electronic processes. This effort was fully implemented for all Department of Child Support Services cases, allowing the Court to implement e-filing for this case type. The Court is now working on a DMS for Traffic and Family Law, with the goal to expand to all case types once funding is available.

Expanded Interpreters into all case types and broadened language access

Solano expanded language interpreters in all case types in 2015. The court developed a local form and ensures an interpreter is available for not only criminal and juvenile matters, but for all family and civil case types. The Court translated its Child Custody Recommending Counseling Program into Spanish and placed the program on the website to expand language access.

Broadened Collaborative Courts to include Integrated Domestic Violence Court (IDVC) and Re-Entry Court

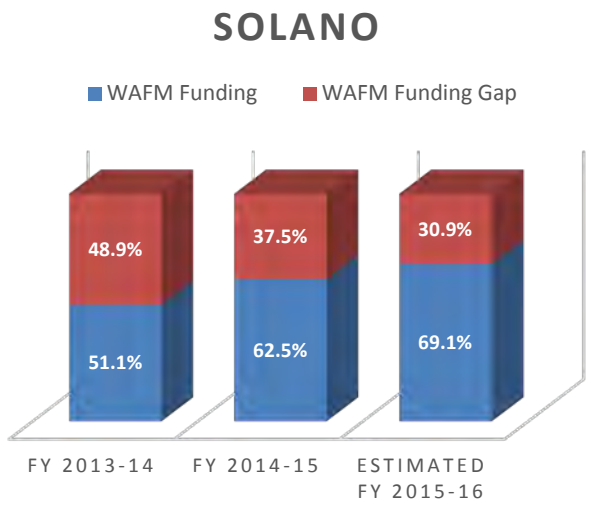
IDVC coordinates all cases involving one family before one judge, allowing the court to coordinate services to assist the family and break the cycle of domestic violence. Re-Entry Court provides for parolees to receive services as they integrate back into the community. Additionally, Solano has Adult Drug Court in Fairfield and Vallejo, as well as Dependency Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

The Court faces significant budget challenges, staffing shortages and backlogs in multiple areas of the Court, including backlogs in Civil, Family, Traffic and Criminal. Additional funding would allow the court to:

- Expand clerk's office hours from 3:00 to 4:00
- Expand office hours at the Self Help Center
- Implement DMS and E-Filing Court-wide
- Translate the Court's entire website into Spanish
- Eliminate Backlogs
- Establish a Mental Health Court

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	424,233
Square Miles Covered	907
Total Number of Court Facilities	4

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Sonoma
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Raima H. Ballinger, Presiding Judge | José Octavio Guillén, Court Executive Officer | (707) 521-6855

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Working on the implementation of new case management system for all case types**
- **Working on the design drawings for the new criminal courthouse**
- **Successfully decreased wait times in four departments from weeks to days or even hours**
- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Working on the implementation of new case management system for all case types
Twenty-three staff have been reassigned (full and part-time depending on availability) from their regular duties to work exclusively on Tyler Odyssey, the new case management system. We have launched a new collections system, credit card payment system, and electronic warrants function.

CCPOR also went live in 2015, thereby connecting Sonoma with 42 other California counties. IT has expanded to meet the growing needs of supporting a new case management, collections, and other IT projects.

Working on the design drawings for the new criminal courthouse
Design Drawings for the new local Criminal Courthouse are in progress. Construction is slated to begin in 2018.

Successfully decreased wait times in four departments from weeks to days or even hours
With the addition of seven limited term legal process clerks to support the office clerks, the times to complete purges, filing, and document processing have decreased from weeks to days or even hours. Document processing is faster thus decreasing queues and customer wait times.

Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program

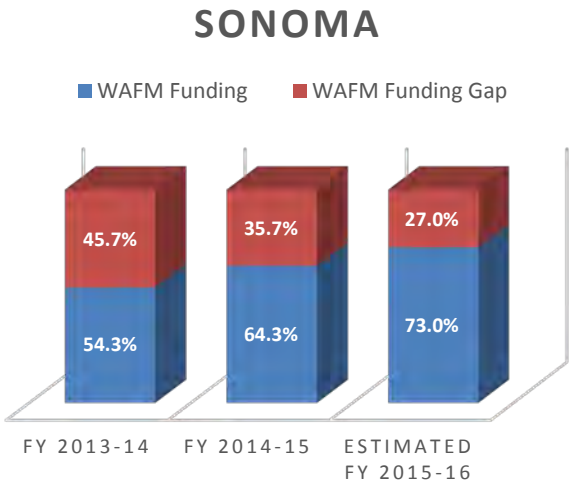
Accounts paid in full/current	589
Reinstated Driver's Licenses	556
Approx. Revenue Collected	$192,155
Total Waived Charges	$680,659

Other court services
Thanks to funding restoration, 2015 saw the addition of an Elder Abuse and a Homeless Court. Veterans Court has become a constant local effort.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- The Tyler Odyssey implementation, the courthouse project, and a continuing shortage of trained staff have not allowed us to open our lobby doors back to 4:30.
- While we have had the chance to bring in more staff, shortages remain in critical areas like the Self-Help Center and Juvenile and Family Court Services.
- Anticipated variations in staffing like illness and vacation significantly impact work completion.
- If the Self-Help Center was fully funded, it could be open full-time instead of 16 hours per week.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	490,486
Square Miles Covered	1,768
Total Number of Court Facilities	5

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Stanislaus
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Marie Sovey Silveira, Presiding Judge Rebecca Fleming, Court Executive Officer (209) 530-3111

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program October 2015**
- **Re-opened Turlock Branch Court January 2016 (closed since October 2009)**
- **Judicial and administration staff fully participating in design phase of new courthouse project**
- **Continued implementation of document management system (DMS) for paperless files**
- **Permissive Unlimited Civil e-filing to be implemented March 2016**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program. Costly re-programming of cashiering system and case management system was needed to meet reporting requirements. Reporting statistics for 1st quarter include: 1,921 applications; 756 defendants assisted; 830 cases granted reduction; and 386 driver's licenses released

Reopened Turlock. Closed since 2009 due to budget constraints, we recently reopened the court facility in Turlock, helping to serve thousands of residents in that area

New courthouse project. A team of judges and staff are currently working on a multitude of responsibilities required in the detailed court planning process to ensure functionality of the future building which will consolidate 7 courthouse locations into one building consisting of 27 courtrooms and all case types except juvenile delinquency

Document management. The Court has implemented DMS in child support cases, family law and traffic, and is working to implement DMS for misdemeanor criminal cases, as well

E-filing is coming. Permissive unlimited civil e-filing is anticipated to begin on or before March 1, 2016

Other court services

- Although we have a Mental Health Court, we have not made adjustments specific to Laura's Law.
- A Veteran's Treatment Court began February 1, 2016 after months of planning with the VA, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation and Behavioral Health Services in order to serve qualified veterans
- Implemented Spanish and English online orientation for mediation services, and online orientation for non-professional supervisors (re. supervised visitation)
- Continued implementation of Language Access Plan expansion to civil case types

Budget Challenges and Priorities

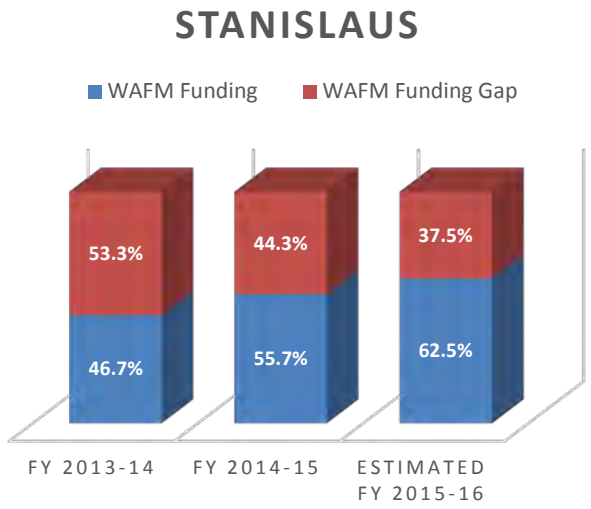
Lack of Judgeships Three (3) unfunded at this time

High Security/Multi-Defendant Courtroom Lack of space to hold multi-defendant trials (currently hearing an 8-defendant murder prelim) forces the court to continue leasing off-site court space

Technology Funding Lack of dedicated funding stream makes it difficult to plan the purchase of an IT system

Cash Flow/Lack of Reserves 1% reserve neither allows for implementing technology needs nor planning for future projects

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	526,042
Square Miles Covered	1,515
Total Number of Court Facilities	8

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Sutter
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Brian R. Aronson, Presiding Judge | Stephanie M. Hansel, Court Executive Officer | (530) 822-3309

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Moved into new courthouse**
- **Implementing new case management system**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

New courthouse allows public to conduct business in a safer and more secure environment with adequate space and accommodations

On January 19, 2016 the Court moved in to our new facility. In addition to consolidating our operations into one location, the new courthouse is adjacent to City Hall, the County Jail, and the Veterans Center. The building, with six of seven court rooms completed, will significantly improve public service, security, court operational efficiency, and access to justice.

New case management system will enhance efficiency and the public's ability to access court information

The Court continues to work towards implementation of a new case management system (CMS). Project delays have put pressure on the project funds which are allowed to be encumbered for only a limited time. Implementation of the new CMS is planned for this May. Better access to court files by court users, and a reduced reliance on paper files which could potentially eliminate the need to store the paper files are just two of the anticipated benefits.

Other court services

Proactive implementation of amnesty program

We continue to reach out to the public to provide information about the amnesty program by way of our website. Traffic and collections clerks work with people to make sure they have an understanding of their eligibility.

Ongoing public service

We continue to maintain our public counter and filing hours from 8:30-4:30 with the restoration of one clerk position this year. Coverage of counters and courtrooms are priorities that impact processing operations and timelines.

Taking a number, please

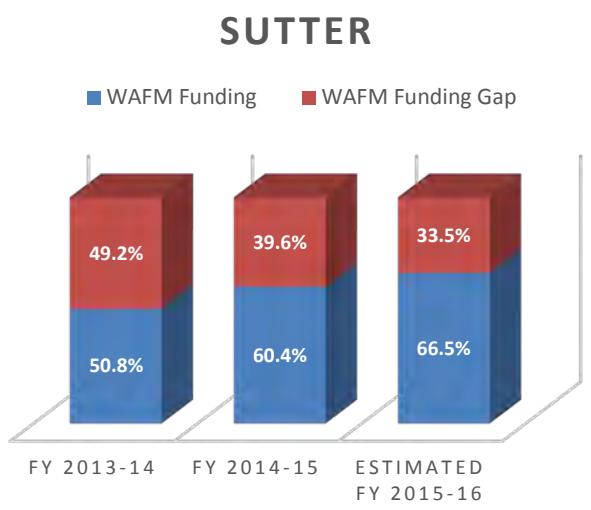
Our new public queuing system more efficiently directs court users to the services they come to court for.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

The new courthouse brought with it unexpected new expenses. Maintenance contracts for the sophisticated audio visual services and externally controlled lighting were not fully disclosed during construction. Difficult decisions will need to be made about what systems we can feasibly maintain. The new larger courthouse was designed with glass, chrome and light tile in public areas requiring a substantial increase in janitorial services.

Demands for Self-Help increased, in numbers of people and the complexity of the issues for which litigants seek assistance. Any additional services the court provides would be to the detriment of current courtroom operations, all of which impacts access to justice for court users.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	95,733
Square Miles Covered	609
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Tehama
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. C. Todd Bottke, Presiding Judge Caryn A. Downing, Court Executive Officer (530) 527-6198

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Services for Tehama County Behavioral Health Court (TC-BHC) broadened**
- **Technology improvements**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program

This one-time program provides relief to qualified individuals who have found themselves in default of court-ordered fines and penalties. The Program may also provide relief to those who have had their driving privileges suspended. Since inception, we have provided relief to 247 individuals who have received fine reductions, and 118 who have received relief from suspended driving privileges.

Services for Tehama County Behavioral Health Court (TC-BHC) broadened

TC-BHC is a comprehensive, court-based program that serves a minimum of 25 moderate to high risk felons annually with a primary mental health diagnosis. The 20-month, four-phase program is designed to produce measurable outcomes for targeted offenders, including increases in mental health functioning, successful community reintegration, and lower recidivism.

Technology improvements

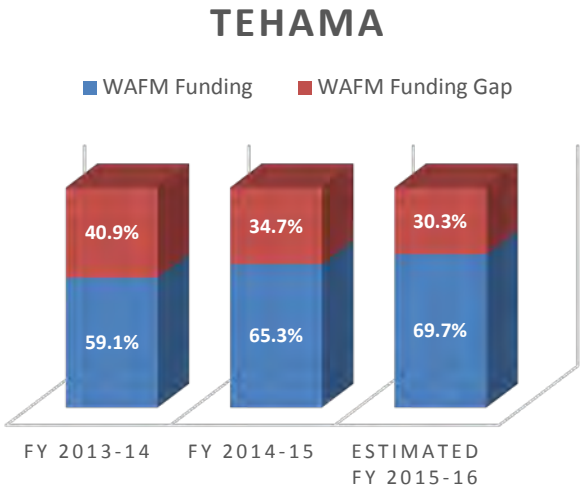
- Implementation of a new case management system called Odyssey by Tyler will provide staff and judicial officers with seamless access to case files and information. This will encourage efficiency across the entire justice process. The Odyssey system will also provide modern technology to enhance public access to court information and services.

- Interactive Web Response (IWR) will allow Tehama Court staff to meet the increasing demand of our jury management responsibilities. This new technology will allow jurors to reschedule jury service, check reporting and payment status, print employer work certifications, and much more via the internet. By IWR, the Court will be able to provide more timely and accessible communication resulting in better service to the public.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- New and/or increased costs associated with our relocation to the new Tehama County Courthouse. Specifically, we are experiencing a janitorial cost increase of approximately $100,000/year, and maintenance contract increases of approximately $75,000/year.
- Current unreimbursed costs in the amount of $226,000 associated with the cyber intrusion that occurred on July 3, 2015. Our inability, due to budget constraints, to fill vacant positions is compounding the delay in data recovery.
- We are experiencing delayed implementation of the remaining phases of the language access program.
- Long term planning is hindered by the 1% fund balance limitation.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	63,717
Square Miles Covered	2,962
Total Number of Court Facilities	3

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Trinity
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Elizabeth W. Johnson, Presiding Judge (530) 623-1369 www.trinity.courts.ca.gov

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Our Youth Peer Court has been an effective bridge between the court and area schools**
- **Court Services hours have increased**
- **The Self-Help Center is now available to the public through a cost-sharing provision with Shasta Court**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Our Youth Peer Court has been an effective bridge between the court and area schools
A Youth Peer Court was established in 2015 with the help of grant funds. Due to the success of this program, we continue to see increased need and interest in collaborative courts. We hope to find a wider range of case types and community services for our advocates to participate in. For example, we are actively considering a veterans court and a mental health court.

Court Services hours have increased
Operating hours in court services have partially been restored. The long term goal would be to fully restore the hours and be open from 8am - 5pm as soon as possible.

Our Self-Help Center is now available to the public through a cost-sharing provision with Shasta Court
Legal aid through our Self-Help Center is now available to the public one (1) day a month through shared services with Shasta Superior Court. We now are able to offer assistance in landlord/tenant disputes and certain probate matters such as guardianships. The assistant to the Family Law Facilitator helps with paperwork in the remote areas of Hayfork and Mad River on the regularly scheduled court days in those outlying facilities.

Other Court Services
We now accept credit/debit card payments over the phone, at the counter, and through our website for non-delinquent fines and filing court documents. This is a popular service for the public.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

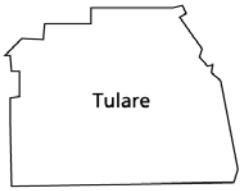
Trinity is a very small court which has been chronically understaffed; after years without positive support, morale is suffering.

New courthouse construction projects are on hold due to budget constraints despite critical needs, and court security remains at risk. Serious crime is increasing, making court security deficits alarming. Trinity lacks a secure location to separate in-custody male and female defendants. Inmates are brought into the courthouse from a busy highway with complete visibility by citizens, jurors and government staff.

The 1% cap on fund balances is insufficient to pay for any unplanned expenditures, such as an increase in CalPers rates, or planned expenditures such as employee payouts upon retirement and the costs associated with upgrading to a web based case management system.

Court Demographics

Population Served	13,448
Square Miles Covered	3,208
Total Number of Court Facilities	1



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Tulare
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Gary L. Paden, Presiding Judge | LaRayne Cleek, Court Executive Officer | (559) 730-5000

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Implemented final stages of new Case Management System for Criminal/Traffic/ and Juvenile**
- **Providing more services at the South County Justice Center**
- **Improving online access for the public**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Implemented Criminal, Traffic and Juvenile Modules of the new case management system
We implemented the final eCourt case management system on September 28, 2015. This system is already improving efficiency in case processing. All case types are now on the same case management system.

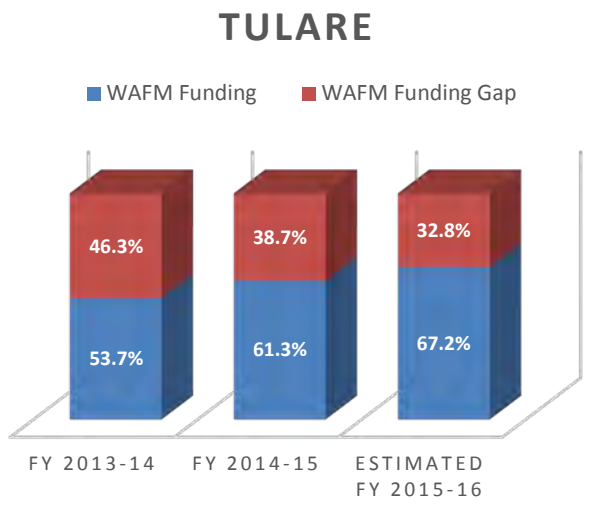
Providing more services at the South County Justice Center
The Court has returned all case types to the South County Justice Center. This provides significantly more access for residents and law enforcement in the south county region. In addition, the Court also opened a full service Family Law division in the south county, and added a Family Law mediator, which means that south county residents no longer have to travel to Visalia for these services.

Improving online public access
The court now accommodates e-filing for certain civil documents. Moreover, the public can now search case data from home or wireless devices. We have added functionality to our website that allows it to be viewed in a mobile version for smartphones and tablets, and we are also adding functionality to the Court's web portal to simplify search and remote payment options for court users.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

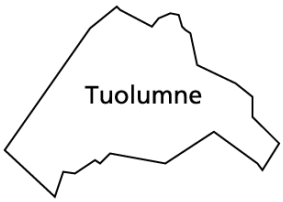
- The entire 3rd floor of the South County Justice Center is not opened due to a lack of staff and judicial resources, making it sorely underutilized.
- The Court continues to deal with the ongoing weekly challenges of securing certified court interpreters for criminal case types, slowing our ability to provide interpreters in Civil matters.
- The Court does not have the resources to adequately implement a new court records management system.
- Positions remain vacant or frozen due to a lack of funding.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	454,143
Square Miles Covered	4,863
Total Number of Court Facilities	4



February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Tuolumne
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Donald Segerstrom, Jr., Presiding Judge | Jeanine D. Tucker, Court Executive Officer | (209) 533-5556

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Expanded services for Adult Drug Court participants through Recidivism Reduction Grant program**
- **Enhanced the Cooperative Parenting Workshop to support hurting families in Tuolumne County where child custody is at issue**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Expanded services for Adult Drug Court participants through Recidivism Reduction Grant
As a result of the grant, the Court was able to expand live-in residential treatment for Drug Court participants, provide funding for incentives (e.g., bus passes and gas cards), and provide reimbursement to justice partners for costs of electronic monitoring.

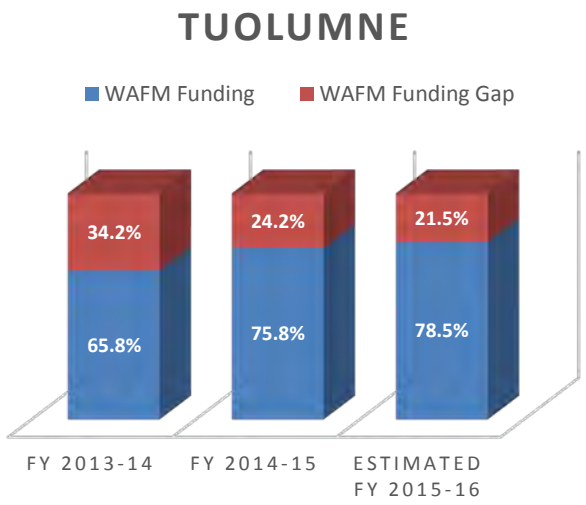
The Cooperative Parenting Workshop
Facilitators educate parents going through divorce, separation and child custody negotiations on the dynamics of parenting. Using role-play, they demonstrate how to prevent or manage conflict, and how to communicate positively with one another. Parents receive information on home care responsibilities for children, household economics, discipline, keeping children away from parental conflict, the Court's role and how parents can retain control of the mediation process.

Other Court Services
- Proactive implementation of traffic and infraction amnesty program; user-friendly application form and coordinated effort between the Court and County to assist the public in participation
- With more stable funding, the Court has filled critical position vacancies as they occur, allowing us to maintain previously reduced staffing levels
- Expanded number of courtrooms hearing jury trials, reducing trial delays
- Labor negotiations successfully concluded with 2% COLA (COLA's last negotiated in 2008)
- Expanded interpreter services to all case types
- Implementation of the Juvenile Justice Commission
- Updates and improvements to Court's website

Budget Challenges and Priorities

- Funding technology infrastructure modernization
- Reducing increased backlogs and public service wait times due to reduced staffing levels (12.5 FTE's = 27% reduction) impeding the Court's ability to provide adequate levels of public access to justice
- Goals to replace antiquated telecommunications system, implement new case management system, lease space for a jury assembly room, expand self-help services and upgrade jury services IVR/IWR software cannot be realized due to 1% cap on reserves
- Difficulty retaining experienced staff in court service

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	53,604
Square Miles Covered	2,274
Total Number of Court Facilities	2

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Ventura
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Donald D. Coleman, Presiding Judge | Michael D. Planet, Court Executive Officer | (805) 289-8512

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Ventura Superior Court implemented a jury system upgrade to better serve the public.**
- **The Court continued its leadership with the Language Access Plan Implementation Task Force.**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

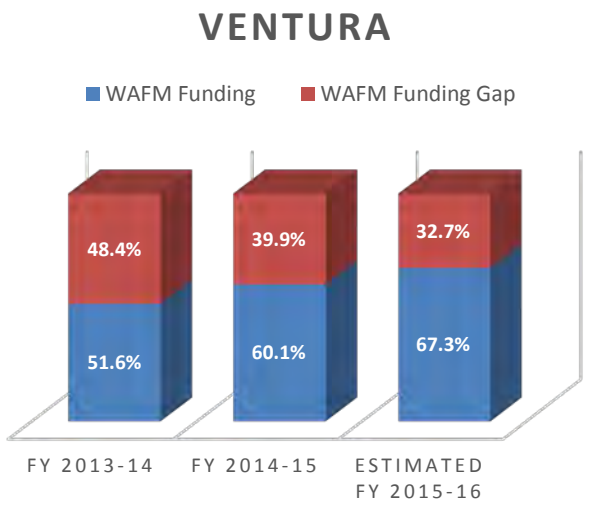
Jury System Upgrade
Through a one-time technology grant from the Judicial Council, Ventura Superior Court implemented an interactive voice response system (IVR) for prospective jurors and updated the Jury Services internet access webpage. Prior to these technology improvements, prospective jurors were required to return their paper summons via mail to Jury Services, or to call Jury Services over the phone during limited public phone hours and speak directly with a clerk. With the new technology in place, prospective jurors may now call an automated system or go online to postpone their report date, check the status of a summons, verify information, or determine if they have been excused. The new systems are available for the public to use 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Language Access Plan
Ventura Superior Court continued its leadership role on the statewide Language Access Plan Implementation Task Force (LAPITF) by:
• Participating on the "Technology Solutions" Committee that has a major focus on video remote interpreting.
• Serving as a panelist for the LAPITF at a presentation in Los Angeles in October 2015.
• Expanding Interpreter Unit services according to the priorities in Evidence Code 756 to serve interpreter requests for all case types, except civil.
• Updating and simplifying Court Interpreter Brochures and translating the Family Law Mediation Template into Spanish, Mandarin and Tagalog.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Access to programs and services
Ventura Superior Court is not yet able to return staffing and service levels to provide public access 8 hours a day, 5 days a week.
Reinvesting in children and families
We would like to restore sufficient family law mediation, self help, and court appointed dependency counsel services to meet public demand.
Replacing a legacy case management system (V3)
Such an investment is needed to support e-filing and greater electronic access to court records and information.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	842,967
Square Miles Covered	2,208
Total Number of Court Facilities	3

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Yolo
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. David Rosenberg, Presiding Judge | Shawn C. Landry, Court Executive Officer | (530) 406-6838

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Successfully completed construction and moved to the new courthouse under budget and on time.**
- **Increased hours at service windows and Family Law Facilitator/Self Help Center by 1 hour.**
- **Transitioned to new case management system.**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Yolo successfully completed new courthouse construction under budget and on time, and we have now moved our court operations to the new 163,000 sq. ft. courthouse.
The new facility allows for greater public access through physical layout and technology. The new courthouse features critical technology improvements that increase public access including:

- Kiosks for quicker, more efficient service at Public Windows.
- Public Service Announcements (PSA) including court calendar changes and other pertinent information.

We increased hours at service windows and in the Family Law Facilitator/Self Help Center by 1 hour.
Although public access is still reduced by one hour daily in each division, Yolo was able to increase public service hours one hour per day in all divisions including the Family Law Facilitator's Office/Self Help, and the walk-up payment windows.

- Self-Help services are provided on a first-come, first served basis. We served 6,017 people in person, 3,065 by phone, and 1,403 for brief consultation and referral in 2015.
- Agency referrals increased from 350 calls in 2014 to 785 calls in 2015.
- FLF/SH still turned away approximately 80 people a week, an increase of 20 people; and the average wait time is still 1-2 hours.

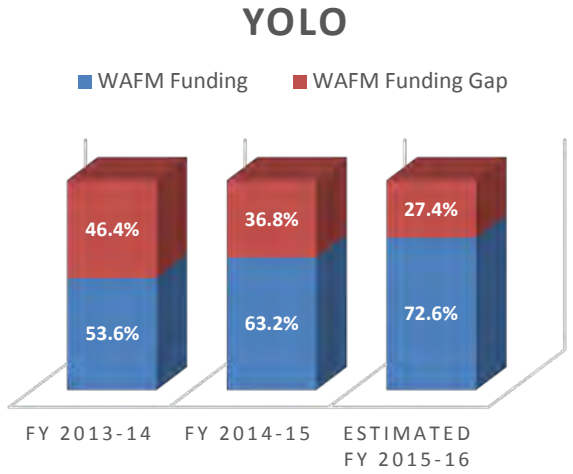
We went live with a new case management system which allows for scanning of documents upon filing. The new system brings us one step closer to a paperless system. It also allows the public to access their case and other court information online.

Budget Challenges and Priorities

Staff Impacts: Yolo remains 28% understaffed for case processing, and 18% of our case processing staff is hired on a limited term basis. Understaffing has resulted in the court not being able to fully serve the public or keep pace with case filings and backlogs. Low pay and high turnover due to funding restrictions also make staffing and training difficult. Increased funding and the elimination of the 1% cap on reserves would allow the court more flexibility to address staffing concerns and maximize public access.

Court Services: Yolo is only able to provide court reporters for mandated case types due to budget restrictions. Yolo has not been able to expand court interpreter services due to a shortage of certified and registered interpreters.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	206,381
Square Miles Covered	1,023
Total Number of Court Facilities	1

February 2016

Superior Court of California
County of Yuba
BUDGET SNAPSHOT

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Hon. Debra L. Givens, Presiding Judge Steve Konishi, Court Executive Officer (530) 749-7610

Court Service Highlights in the Current Year

- **Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program**
- **Participation in Pretrial Services Grant**
- **Implementation of new case management system**

Court Service Highlights in Detail

Proactive implementation of traffic ticket/infraction amnesty program
Yuba has provided relief to more than 250 amnesty applicants from October through December 31, 2015.

Pretrial Services Grant
In an effort to reduce recidivism, Yuba is participating in a Judicial Council Pretrial Services Grant partnership with our local probation and sheriff's departments. Yuba probation has completed over 260 pretrial assessments, resulting in successful case dispositions for 26 supervised defendants.

CMS Implementation
We are in the process of implementing a new computer case management system, Tyler Odyssey, which will increase operational efficiencies including increased public access to case information and enhanced collections of outstanding court-ordered debt.

Family Court Services
Yuba has one of the shortest wait times for scheduling family mediation appointments in the state. In 2015, Yuba conducted 319 mediations and 216 fast track investigations. The self-help center and family law facilitator assisted 2,156 individuals as well as 2,464 phone calls, 2,652 brief information and referral contacts, and 1,873 customers served in the courtroom.

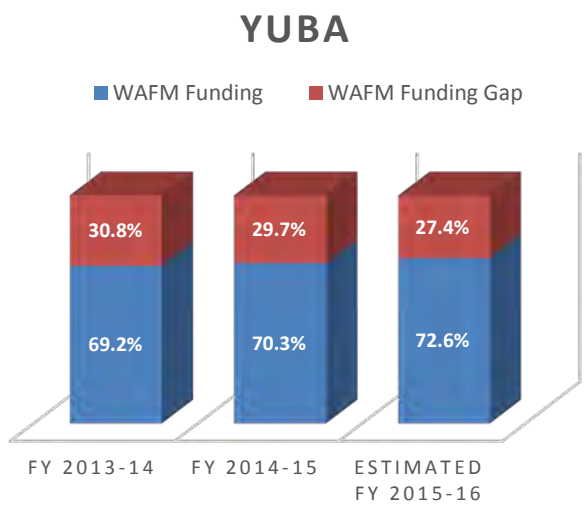
Budget Challenges and Priorities

Court management positions have been reduced by 60% since 2014.

We have reduced staff by 8 positions since 2007. Despite efforts to increase efficiencies, the criminal division backlog is severe. Priorities have been shifted to handling current prison sentencings, including local, split and mandatory supervision, as well as parole violations and Prop 47 cases.

The implementation of the amnesty program has resulted in a reduction in the courts operations revenue from civil assessments.

Workload Allocation & Funding Gap (see reverse)



Court Demographics

Population Served	73,682
Square Miles Covered	644
Total Number of Court Facilities	2