Appellate Advisory Committee Annual Agenda¹—2023-2024

Approved by Rules Committee: October 26, 2023

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Louis R. Mauro, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Third District
Lead Staff:	Kendall W. Hannon, Attorney, Legal Services

Committee's Charge/Membership:

<u>Rule 10.40</u> of the California Rules of Court states the charge of the Appellate Advisory Committee (AAC), which is to make recommendations to the Judicial Council for improving the administration of justice in appellate proceedings and to make proposals on training for justices and appellate support staff to the Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee. <u>Rule 10.34</u> sets forth additional duties of the committee.

Rule 10.40 sets forth the membership positions of the committee. The AAC currently has 21 members. The current committee <u>roster</u> is available on the committee's web page.

Subcommittees/Working Groups²:

- 1. Rules Subcommittee
- 2. Appellate Division Subcommittee
- 3. Legislative Subcommittee
- 4. Appellate Efficiency Ad Hoc Subcommittee
- 5. Joint Appellate Technology Subcommittee [Recommend this subcommittee remain inactive in the coming year.]

Meetings Planned for 2023-2024³ (Advisory body and all subcommittees and working groups)

Full committee meetings:

• February/March 2024 (in person in San Francisco to make final recommendations on winter cycle proposals and to review spring cycle proposals)

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

² California Rules of Court, <u>rule 10.30 (c)</u> allows an advisory body to form subgroups, composed entirely of current members of the advisory body, to carry out the body's duties, subject to available resources, with the approval of its oversight committee.

³ Refer to *Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies* for governance on in-person meetings.

- July 2024 (videoconference to make final recommendations on spring cycle proposals)
- September 2024 (videoconference to make recommendations on annual agenda)

Subcommittee meetings: one or more teleconference or videoconference meetings of each subcommittee before each full committee meeting, to work on rules and forms proposals. Appellate Efficiency Subcommittee to meet once a month to work on rules and forms proposals.

Check here if exception to policy is granted by Executive Office or rule of court.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

objectives.

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
1.	Rules and Forms Implementing the Racial Justice Act	Priority 1(a) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ I, III
	Project Summary: This is a joint project with the Criminal Law Advisory Committee to develop a proposal to amend various habeas corpus rules and revise certain forms used in post-conviction proceedings to implement the Racial Justice Act (AB 2542 from 2020) and AB 256 from 2022 (which made the Racial Justice Act apply retroactively).	
	Status/Timeline: Anticipate circulating for public comment in winter cycle, and effective September 1, 2024.	
Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff		
	☐ This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial and appellate courts, justice system partners; all draft proposals will circulate for public comment	
	AC Collaboration: Joint proposal with Criminal Law Advisory Committee	

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or *a program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.
⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to or accurately reflect the law; 1(b) Council or an internal committee has directed the committee to consider new or amended rules and forms; 1(c) Change is urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; 1(d) Proposal is otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk. 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement changes in law; 2(b) Responsive to identified concerns or problems; 2(c) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California's Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

#	New or One-Time Projects⁴	
2.	Appellate procedure rules and forms	Priority 1(b) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV
	Project Summary: Consider rules and forms relating to appeal procedures, from the recommendations of the Ap Workgroup ⁷ and which the council's Executive and Planning Committee directed the Appellate Advisory Comm	
	 Consider revising the Civil Case Information Statement (form APP-004) and the applicable rules of cour workgroup encouraged the Judicial Council to consider revising form APP-004 to allow litigants to iden for an appeal to be given priority. In addition, a committee member has noted that it is often impossible requiring form APP-004 to be filed with the reviewing court within 15 days after the superior court clerk filing of a notice of appeal because the appeal has not been docketed within that time frame. 	tify nonstatutory grounds to comply with the rule
	 Consider amending the rules of court to require litigants who request extensions of time without using the to include in their request some or all of the information contained on the request forms, or making the r 006, APP-106, CR-126, JV-816, and JV-817) mandatory. The workgroup encouraged the council to con provide certain information in extension of time requests to enable courts to better evaluate whether the demonstrated good cause. 	request forms (forms APP- asider requiring litigants to
	 Consider revising the INFO sheets applicable to various types of appeals (e.g., forms APP-100-INFO an any other rules and forms as needed to reflect the above changes. 	nd APP-101-INFO), and
	Status/Timeline: Anticipate spring cycle invitation to comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any pr	roposal.
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff ☐ This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate to	for public comment.
	AC Collaboration: N/A	

⁷ The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup was appointed by Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye in June 2022, and made its report to her in December 2022. It may be viewed at https://newsroom.courts.ca.gov/sites/default/files/newsroom/2022-12/Appellate%20Caseflow%20Workgroup%20Report_Final.pdf .

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#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
3.	Reporter's transcripts in civil appeals	Priority 1(b) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV
	Project Summary: Consider amending the rules of court to reduce or streamline the superior court's responsibilitranscript process, for example by permitting parties to file transcripts directly with the Court of Appeal. The Appendix Workgroup encouraged the Judicial Council to consider this action. It noted that the Second District allows part their transcripts directly with the Court of Appeal and that this process has streamlined cases. The Executive and referred this recommendation to the Appellate Advisory Committee for consideration.	opellate Caseflow ies in certain cases to file
	Status/Timeline: Anticipate spring cycle invitation to comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any property of the comment with effective date of the comment with effec	roposal.
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.	
	☐ This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.	
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate	for public comment.
	AC Collaboration: N/A	
4.	Superior court file in criminal appeals	Priority 1(b) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV
	Project Summary: Consider adopting a rule of court that would allow litigants in criminal cases to stipulate to the use of the superior court file in lieu of a clerk's transcript. The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup encouraged the Judicial Council to consider this action. The Workgroup noted that use of the case file would eliminate delays associated with parties needing to cure omissions from, or make augmentations to, the standard criminal record. The Executive and Planning Committee has referred this recommendation to the Appellate Advisory Committee for consideration. Currently, under rule 8.128, litigants in unlimited civil appeals may stipulate to the use of the original superior court file instead of a clerk's transcript if a local rule of the reviewing court permits. This project would involve adoption of a similar rule, applicable to criminal appeals.	
	Status/Timeline: Anticipate spring cycle invitation to comment with effective date of January 1, 2025 for any proposal.	
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.	

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial and appellate courts, justice system partners; all draft proposals will circu	ulate for public comment.
	AC Collaboration: N/A	
5.	Appendixes on appeal	Priority 1(b) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV
	Project Summary: Consider amending the rules of court to not only allow, but to encourage, the parties to elect appeal. The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup ⁸ encouraged the Judicial Council to consider this action, noting that appendixes can expedite the record preparation process because appendixes are prepared by the parties, whereas compiled and transmitted by court clerks. The Executive and Planning Committee has referred this recommendated Advisory Committee for consideration.	t the parties' use of s clerk's transcripts must be ation to the Appellate
	<i>Status/Timeline:</i> Anticipate invitation to comment in 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026, to allow su with stakeholders, consider the project alongside other record-related projects, and draft proposals.	afficient time to consult
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff	
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate	for public comment.
	AC Collaboration: N/A	
6.	Preparation of the record by superior court clerks	Priority 1(b) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV

⁸ The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup was appointed by Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye in June 2022, and made its report to her in December 2022. It may be viewed at https://newsroom.courts.ca.gov/sites/default/files/newsroom/2022-12/Appellate%20Caseflow%20Workgroup%20Report_Final.pdf.

New or One-Time Projects⁴ Project Summary: Consider amending the applicable rules of court to streamline or reduce the number of tasks required by superior court clerks in preparing the record on appeal and revising related forms as necessary. Consider revising record designation forms as necessary. The Appellate Caseflow Workgroup noted that the burden of compiling the clerk's transcript can cause delays in the early stages of appeals. It thus encouraged the council to consider ways to reduce the tasks superior court clerks are required to perform in the record preparation process. The Executive and Planning Committee has referred this recommendation to the Appellate Advisory Committee for consideration. Status/Timeline: Anticipate invitation to comment in 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026, to allow sufficient time to consult with stakeholders, consider the project alongside other record-related projects, and draft proposals. Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff. ☐ This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials. *Internal/External Stakeholders:* Trial and appellate courts; appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public comment. AC Collaboration: N/A Priority 1(b)⁵ Record designation rules and forms Strategic Plan Goal⁶ III, IV**Project Summary:** Consider revising the record designation forms and, if necessary, amend the applicable rules of court to make the record designation process simpler, clearer, and more efficient. This is a recommendation from the Appellate Caseflow Workgroup and the Executive and Planning Committee has referred this recommendation to the Appellate Advisory Committee for consideration. There are currently 10 forms (including one information sheet) that litigants use to designate the record in civil and criminal cases, with the precise forms to be used depending on the circumstances of the case. Some of these forms, such as form APP-003, are multiple pages long with several instructions and options. This project will involve investigating ways that these forms can be streamlined including, if necessary, amending the relevant rules of court to simplify the record designation process. Status/Timeline Anticipate invitation to comment in 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026, to allow sufficient time to consult with stakeholders, consider the project alongside other record-related projects, and draft proposals. Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.

This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of

relevant materials.

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Trial and appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate and AC Collaboration: N/A	for public comment.
8.	Excerpts of record on appeal	Priority 1(b) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV
	Project Summary: Consider amending the rules of court to encourage or require appellants to submit, along wit the record containing those parts of the record that are relevant and useful to the court in deciding the appeal. The Workgroup encouraged the council to consider this amendment, and the Executive and Planning Committee refet to the Appellate Advisory Committee for consideration. Submission of excerpts of record alongside a party's briguistices' review of the party's arguments on appeal by providing an easily accessible and clearly citable subset of record. At the same time, such a requirement would likely increase the cost and burden on appellate litigants. The not only considering whether to encourage or require this practice, but also determining what should be included. Status/Timeline: Anticipate invitation to comment in 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026, to allow suproposals and consider the project alongside other record-related projects. Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff. This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials. Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public AC Collaboration: N/A	ne Appellate Caseflow erred this recommendation ief may aid the judges' or of the key parts of the nis project would involve d in any excerpt. Afficient time to draft to ensure their review of
9.	Form briefs on appeal	Priority 1(c) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goals ⁶ I, IV
	Project Summary: Consider the development of fillable form appellate briefs for use in the Court of Appeal and Form briefs that are formatted and organized appropriately and contain required content may assist litigants in fi	* *

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴	
	the courts to the extent that they receive briefs that are more helpful in evaluating the merits of an appeal. It is likely that fewer briefs would be rejected for not meeting filing requirements. This project was proposed by the California Lawyer Association, Litigation Section, Committee on Appellate Courts.	
<i>Status/Timeline:</i> Originally approved on 2023 annual agenda. Anticipate invitation to comment in 2024 and effective date 2025.		ective date of January 1,
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.	
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public	e comment.
	AC Collaboration: N/A	
10.	Respondent's designation of reporters' transcripts in Code of Civil Procedure section 1294.4 appeals	Priority 2(b) ⁵
		Strategic Plan Goals ⁶ I, IV
	Project Summary: Appeals under Code of Civil Procedure section 1294.4 from an order dismissing or denying a arbitration must be decided within 100 days. Under rule 8.713, appellants must file a record designation with the reporter's transcript must be filed within 10 days. However, the rule does not provide for respondent to designate transcript. This project would consider amending the rule to provide for respondent's designation and to establish project was recommended by a committee member to close a gap in the rule that is reported to have been problem	e notice of appeal and any e any additional reporter's th the time for doing so. The
	<i>Status/Timeline:</i> Originally approved on 2023 annual agenda; anticipated invitation to comment in 2025 with a 1, 2026.	completion date of January
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.	
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public	e comment.
	AC Collaboration: N/A	

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴		
11.	Amicus brief deadline where respondent does not file an answering brief	Priority 2(b) ⁵	
		Strategic Plan Goals ⁶ IV	
	Project Summary: Rule 8.200(c) provides that an application for permission to file an amicus curiae brief must be filed within 14 days after the last appellant's reply brief is filed or could have been filed under Rule 8.212, whichever is earlier. Where a respondent fails to file an answering brief, however, no reply brief will be, or can be, filed. Rule 8.200(c) does not provide a deadline which would apply in these situations. It has been reported that this situation arises often in family law cases and courts have interpreted Rule 8.200 differently in these situations. This project was recommended by the Family Violence Appellate Project and a committee member.		
	<i>Status/Timeline:</i> Priority 2 project responsive to an identified concern or problem. Anticipate invitation to compeffective date of January 1, 2025.	ment in 2024 with an	
ı	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.		
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.		
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, appellate litigants; all draft proposals will circulate for public	e comment.	
	AC Collaboration: N/A		
12.	Application of Rule 8.416 to dependency appeals statewide	Priority 2(c) ⁵	
		Strategic Plan Goals ⁶ I, III, IV	
	Project Summary: Rule 8.416 provides fast track procedures in appeals from (1) all terminations of parental rights, regardless of county of origin, and (2) all judgments or appealable orders in juvenile dependency cases originating out of the Superior Courts of Orange, Imperial, and San Diego Counties (or other superior courts where both the superior court and District Court of Appeal have agreed to have Rule 8.416 govern). This project would consider whether to amend the rules of court (and revise forms as necessary) to expand these fast-track procedures to all dependency appeals in the state. This project was suggested by an Administrative Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeal. Status/Timeline: Priority 2 project to improve access and quality of justice and service to the public. Anticipate invitation to comment in 2024 with an effective date of January 1, 2025.		

#	New or One-Time Projects⁴		
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff.		
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of	
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Appellate courts, litigants in dependency proceedings; all draft proposals will comment.	circulate for public	
	AC Collaboration: Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee; Administrative Presiding Justices Advisory	Committee	
13.	Update rules regarding oral argument in the appellate divisions	Priority 1(a) ⁵ DEFERRED	
		Strategic Plan Goal III, IV ⁶	
	<i>Project Summary:</i> Consider amending rules 8.885 and 8.929 to remove outdated provisions that are inconsistent with Code of Civil Procedure section 367.75 and to facilitate remote appearances. Updating these rules has been a priority for the committee for several years; the project was deferred while emergency rules regarding remote appearances were in place. It is the understanding of the committee that efforts to facilitate remote appearances remain a priority for the judicial branch. Origin: Superior Court of Riverside County and AAC member.		
	Status/Timeline: Originally approved on 2023 annual agenda) and circulated for public comment Spring 2023. I rulemaking establishing standards for when a judicial officer may preside over a remote court proceeding from a courtroom (Code of Civ. Proc., § 367.10).		
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff		
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.		
	Internal/External Stakeholders: All draft proposals will circulate for public comment.		
	AC Collaboration: N/A		
14.	Publication and posting of appellate division opinions certified for publication	Priority 1 PLACEHOLDER	

New or One-Time Projects⁴ Strategic Plan Goals I, **Project Summary:** This item is on hold pending action by the Supreme Court to revise the California Style Manual and consider changes to publication rules and procedures for posting opinions on the website. Currently, appellate division opinions certified for publication are posted on the California courts website after the time for the Court of Appeal to order transfer and only if transfer is not ordered. The current procedures were developed in part based on provisions in the California Style Manual (CSM), which is now under review. This project involves considering amendments to the rules on transfer and providing subject matter expertise as requested to the Supreme Court and the Reporter of Decisions regarding publication rules, posting, and updates to the CSM. The goals are to clarify publication status upon transfer, close any gaps in the rules, improve transparency and access, and ensure that practices and procedures are coordinated, consistent, and accord appropriate status to these opinions. This is a priority 1 project because it will improve access to the development of the law in unlawful detainer, debt collection, and fee waiver cases, among others. Status/Timeline: Deferred pending action by the Supreme Court. Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff ☐ This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials. Internal/External Stakeholders: The Supreme Court, Reporter of Decisions, JC Information Technology; all draft rules proposals will circulate for public comment AC Collaboration: N/A

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities ⁴	
1.	Improve Rules and Forms	Priority ⁵ 1
		Strategic Plan Goals ⁶ I, III, IV
	Project Summary: Working through the Rules Subcommittee and the Appellate Division Subcommittee, review impact appellate courts and appellate procedure and suggestions from committee members, judicial officers, coupublic concerning appellate rules and forms and appellate administration. Make recommendations to the Judicial changes to appellate rules, standards, and forms (rule 10.21).	art staff, the bar, and the
	Status/Timeline: Ongoing	
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff; potentially others depending on the project	
	☐ This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: Depends on the project; all draft proposals circulate for public comment	
	AC Collaboration: As appropriate, depending on the project	
2.	Review Pending Legislation	Priority ⁵ 1
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV
	Project Summary: Working through the Legislative Subcommittee, review pending legislation affecting appella administration and make recommendations to the Legislation Committee as to whether the Judicial Council show legislation (rule 10.34).	
	Status/Timeline: Ongoing	
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff, Governmental Affairs	
	☐ The project includes allocations or distributions of funds to the courts, which have been reviewed and approved by Bu	dget Service.
	Internal/External Stakeholders: California Legislature	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities ⁴	
	AC Collaboration: N/A	
3.	Review Enacted Legislation	Priority ⁵ 1
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁶ III, IV
	Project Summary: Review all enacted legislation referred to the committee by the Judicial Council's Governme have an impact on appellate procedure and court administration, and, where appropriate, propose to the Judicial implement the legislation or to bring rules and forms into conformity with it.	5
	Status/Timeline: Ongoing	
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff, Governmental Affairs	
	This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A	
	AC Collaboration: As appropriate, depending on the legislation	
4.	Provide Subject Matter Expertise	Priority ⁵ 2(b)
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁵ III
	Project Summary: Serve as subject matter resource for other advisory groups to avoid duplication of efforts and development of recommendations for council action. Such efforts may include providing appellate procedural exworking groups, advisory committees, and subcommittees as needed.	
	Status/Timeline: Ongoing	
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff	
	☐ This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services relevant materials.	to ensure their review of
	Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities ⁴	
	AC Collaboration: As appropriate, depending on the project for which advice or consultation was requested	
5.	. Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes	Priority ⁵ 2(a)
		Strategic Plan Goal ⁵ III, IV
Project Summary: Develop rule and form changes as necessary to correct technical errors meeting the criteria of rule 10.2 nonsubstantive technical change or correction or a minor substantive change that is unlikely to create controversy "		` / ` /
	Status/Timeline: Ongoing	
	Fiscal Impact/Resources: Committee staff	
	☐ The project includes allocations or distributions of funds to the courts, which have been reviewed and approved by Bud	lget Service.
	Internal/External Stakeholders: N/A	
	AC Collaboration: N/A	

III. LIST OF 2022-2023 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	Costs on appeal. Amended the rule regarding costs on appeal to provide an exception to the general rule that the prevailing party is entitled to costs for statutes that require a different analysis before awarding costs. Approved by the Judicial Council on May 12, 2023; changes took effect September 1, 2023.
2.	Update rules regarding reporter's transcripts. Amended several rules to facilitate the use of electronic reporter's transcripts. Approved by the Judicial Council on May 12, 2023; changes will take effect on January 1, 2024.
3.	Notice of appeal forms. Revised the civil notice of appeal forms to include an item by which an attorney could expressly indicate they were joining the appeal to challenge a sanctions order and revise other items for clarity. Approved by the Judicial Council on September 19, 2023; changes will take effect on January 1, 2024.
4.	Extension of time forms . Revised the four forms litigants can use to request an extension of time to file their appellate briefs to ensure that they provide the information the reviewing courts need to determine whether an extension is warranted. Approved by the Judicial Council on September 19, 2023; changes will take effect on January 1, 2024.
5.	Time to elect and file an appendix. Amended two rules of court to allow appellants to file an appendix before filing an opening brief and allowing respondents to elect an appendix when their other record designations are due, thus giving them more time. Revised four forms to reflect these rule changes. Approved by the Judicial Council on September 19, 2023; changes will take effect on January 1, 2024.
6.	Attachment of trial court order to petition for review of summary denial of writ petition. Amended rule of court governing petitions for review in the Supreme Court to permit for attachment of the entire trial court order when the petitioner is seeking review of a Court of Appeal summary denial of a writ petition. Approved by the Judicial Council on September 19, 2023; changes will take effect on January 1, 2024.
7.	Rules for streamlined CEQA review. Joint project with Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to amend rules to implement legislation adding new projects for CEQA review. Will be presented to the Judicial Council at its November 2023 meeting; if adopted, will be effective January 1, 2024.