



Judicial Council of California

Court Facilities Advisory Committee

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COURT FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTHOUSE NAMES

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

August 11, 2023

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Public Videocast

Subcommittee Hon. Brad R. Hill, CFAC Chair
Members Present: Hon. Keith D. Davis (Ret.), Chair
Hon. Donald Cole Byrd
Mr. Anthony P. Capozzi
Hon. Gary R. Orozco
Hon. David Edwin Power (Ret.)

Subcommittee
Members Absent: Mr. Thomas J. Warwick, Jr.

Others Present: The following Judicial Council staff were present:
Mr. Chris Magnusson, Supervisor, Facilities Services
Ms. Pella McCormick, Director, Facilities Services
Ms. Sadie Varela, Facilities Analyst, Facilities Services
Mr. John Wordlaw, Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Office

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM, introductions were made, and roll was taken.

Public Videocast

A live videocast of the meeting was made available to the public through the advisory body web page on the California Courts website listed above.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEM 1)

Item 1

Requests to Name New Courthouse in Downtown Sacramento

Summary: Judicial Council Facilities Services is currently managing the construction of a capital outlay project in downtown Sacramento to provide a new courthouse for the Superior Court of Sacramento County. The subcommittee reviewed three names proposed for this future new courthouse currently under construction, which were:

1. After its location—*Downtown Courthouse*;
2. After former Sacramento Court Judge, Third Appellate District Justice, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California, *Tani Cantil-Sakauye*; and
3. After former Sacramento Court Judge and Court Executive Officer, *Lloyd George Connelly, Jr.*

Mr. Chris Magnusson presented this item consistent with the meeting materials, which were posted online for public viewing in advance of the meeting and available at www.courts.ca.gov/documents/cfac-20230811-cn-materials.pdf.

Judge Keith D. Davis, subcommittee chair, proposed that the names under consideration should be discussed in a two-step process to determine:

Step 1: Should the new courthouse under construction be named?

Step 2: If so, what should the name be?

In response, the subcommittee was unanimous that the new courthouse should be:

Step 1: Identified specifically rather than generally because of its special significance in terms of prominence, statewide presence, nature of its cases, and locale in the state capital, as the Sacramento Superior Court is always in the public eye and at the forefront in dealing with critical statewide legal issues stemming from actions of the Legislature; and

Step 2: Named after former chief justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye—an exceptionally inspiring and accomplished individual and jurist with strong ties to Sacramento and the Sacramento legal community including service and contributions as both a former municipal and superior court judge as well as appellate court justice; a trailblazer as the first Asian-Filipina American and second woman Chief Justice of California; an inspiring role model for a generation of young people; a reformer who has made a real difference to the statewide system of justice; and a leader who represents California and the judicial system.

In addition, the subcommittee made the following comments:

- There is a precedent that Superior Court of Sacramento County courthouses are named after a person, as five of its seven existing court facilities are named after persons:
 - B.T. Collins Juvenile Justice Center;
 - Carol Miller Justice Center;
 - Gordon D. Schaber Sacramento County Courthouse;
 - Lorenzo E. Patino Hall of Justice; and
 - William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse.
- Another part of the courthouse, such as the Jury Assembly Room, or even the public plaza in front of the building, could be named after Lloyd Connelly:

- This could allow his contributions to be recognized and his service to Sacramento County in various capacities honored, particularly as a former judge and court executive officer, as he's been an outstanding California citizen; and
- This would be something the Sacramento Superior Court could determine, as it is within its purview to do so without action needed by the subcommittee, the full CFAC, or the Judicial Council.

Action: With respect to the two-step process described above, the subcommittee—with exception of judge Donald Cole Byrd, Ex-Officio non-voting member, and the member absent as shown above—voted to approve the following motions:

1. The superior courthouse under construction in downtown Sacramento should be named.
(Motion: Orozco; Second: Power)
2. For recommendation to the full CFAC, the new courthouse should be named after former chief justice of the Supreme Court of California, Tani Cantil-Sakauye.
(Motion: Capozzi; Second: Orozco)

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Approved by the subcommittee on August 24, 2023.