CALIFORNIA JUDICIAL BRANCH

OVERVIEW
- Largest court system in the nation, serving more than 39.5 million people—approximately 12 percent of the U.S. population
- Approximately 500 court locations
- Approximately 18,000 court employees
- An estimated 4 million Californians representing themselves
- Approximately 1.6 percent of the state General Fund allocated for the judicial branch in fiscal year 2020–2021

BRANCH POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
- Is the constitutionally created policymaking body of the California courts
- Guides fiscal policy and adopts court rules and procedures
- Carries out much of its mission and work through the hundreds of volunteers on its internal committees, advisory committees, and task forces
- Is assisted by its staff to implement its policy and serve the courts, justice partners, and the public through a variety of programs and services

CALIFORNIA JUDICIAL BRANCH—BY THE NUMBERS
- Cases: Court filings per year in the superior courts ≈ 6,000,000; Courts of Appeal ≈ 18,000; and Supreme Court ≈ 7,000
- Jury service: Approximately 9 million Californians are summoned for jury service each year
- Self-represented litigants: Self-help centers in every county, serving more than 2 million people each year
- Language access: Court interpreters certified in 16 languages

THREE COEQUAL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT
- EXECUTIVE
  Enforces laws
- LEGISLATIVE
  Makes laws
- JUDICIAL
  Interprets laws