



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING
ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

September 16, 2020

12:15-1:15 p.m.

By Conference Call

Advisory Body**Members Present:**

Hon. Luis Lavin, Hon. Kevin Brazile, Hon. Sue Alexander (Ret.), Hon. Mark Cullers, Ana Maria Garcia, Hon. Mary Greenwood, Janet Hudec, Hon. Victoria Kolakowski, David Levin, Hon. Elizabeth Macias, Hon. Lia Martin, Sasha Morgan, Jr., Julie Paik, Michael Planet, Michael Powell, Hon. Mickie Reed, Hon. Victor Rodriguez, Hon. Sergio Tapia, Hon. Bobbi Tillmon, Hon. Terry Truong, Twila White, Hon. Erica Yew.

Advisory Body**Members Absent:**

Guinder Aujla, Kim Bartleson, Gina Cervantes, Hon. Manuel Covarrubias, Mary Hale, Hon. William Murray, Janice Schmidt, Hon. Juan Ulloa.

Others Present:

Hon. Louis R. Mauro, Lisa Chavez, Irene Balajadia, Douglas Denton, Charli Depner, Diana Glick, Danielle McCurry, Catherine Ongiri, Elizabeth Tam, Greg Tanaka, Amanda Morris

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m. Quorum achieved

Approval of Minutes

Judge Victoria Kolakowski motioned to approve the draft minutes from the August 20, 2020 PAF meeting seconded by Judge Bobbi Tillmon. The August 20, 2020 minutes (open portion) are approved.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1)

Item 1**Review and approve proposed awards for the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program, Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021.**

Presenter: Judge Victor Rodriguez

Judge Rodriguez provided the committee with an update on the Language Access Signage and Technology Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2020–21. After providing a brief background and the objectives of the grant program, Judge Rodriguez reported that a total of 23 courts requested funding in the current cycle: three (3) courts requested funding in the signage category only; ten (10) courts requested funding in the technology category only; and ten (10) courts requested funding in both signage and technology categories. Judge Rodriguez shared fewer courts applied in Cycle 2 (23 courts), compared to 29 courts in the 2019–20 first cycle. However, there was a significant increase in the number of technology projects requested for Cycle 2.

The total amounts requested for both signage and technology categories are under the yearly allocation:

Signage Requests: For signage requests, the total allowable requests including any augmentations were under the \$1,000,000 allocation for signage, which resulted in remaining funds totaling approximately \$251,000. Thus, all of the signage requests can be fully funded. The remaining funding will be set aside as a contingency fund in case of need, and this approach is consistent with how remaining funds were distributed in the 2019–20 cycle.

Technology Requests: For technology requests, the total allowable requests including any augmentations were under the \$1,350,000 allocation for technology, which resulted in remaining funds totaling approximately \$406,000. The remaining funding will be set aside as a contingency fund to be used in case of need by the awarded courts. Again, this approach is consistent with how remaining funds were distributed in the 2019–20 cycle.

Judge Rodriguez noted that ten (10) of the 20 courts requested funding for Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) or VRI-related equipment, which is an increase from the number of requests in the FY 2019–20 cycle when there were only three (3) requests for VRI/VRI-related equipment. The increase in the number of requests for funding for VRI represents the desire and need to leverage technology to maintain court operations and language assistance, and the COVID-19 pandemic has made this a priority.

In conclusion, Judge Rodriguez informed the committee the grant program can fund all 23 courts that requested funding for the current FY 2020–21 cycle.

Judge Lia Martin moved that the committee adopt the proposed award 1-23 for signage and technology for the grand total of \$1,692,876.20

Judge Erica Yew seconded the motion.

Motion Carries.

Members who abstained from voting for their court:

- Judge Mark Cullers abstains from voting for Fresno Superior Court
- Judge Erica Yew abstains from voting for Santa Clara Superior Court
- Mr. Mike Planet abstains from voting for Ventura Superior Court

I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on **enter date**.