



Judicial Council of California

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688
Tel 415-865-4200
TDD 415-865-4272
Fax 415-865-4205
www.courts.ca.gov

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HON. STEVEN JAHR
Administrative Director of the Courts

January 24, 2014

Hon. Mark Leno
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Attn: Ms. Peggy Collins
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: *Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for Fiscal Year 2012–2013*, as required by Government Code section 68086(c)

Dear Senator Leno:

The Judicial Council respectfully submits this report, as required by Government Code section 68086(c), concerning court reporter fees collected under Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and 68086.1 and expenditures on court reporter services in superior court civil proceedings statewide in fiscal year (FY) 2012–2013.

In FY 2012–2013, \$25,454,498 was remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as required by Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and 68086.1. The breakdown of the remitted funds is as follows:

- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(1)(A), \$3,700,530 came from fees paid by parties to civil proceedings for the services of an official court reporter in each proceeding lasting less than one hour.
- Under Government Code section 68086(a)(1)(B), \$5,848,725 came from fees paid by parties to civil proceedings for the services of an official court reporter in proceedings lasting more than one hour on the first day and each succeeding judicial day the services are provided.
- The amount of \$15,905,243 is attributable to the fee required to be deposited in the Trial Court Trust Fund by Government Code section 68086.1 from the following: first paper filings and responses for civil proceedings, other than proceedings under the Probate Code, in the

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superior court where the amount demanded is more than \$10,000; family law filings and responses; and marriage dissolution filings and responses. This amount reflects the distribution to the Trial Court Trust Fund from total revenues collected for first paper, family law, and marriage dissolution filings and responses from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013.¹

In FY 2012–2013, the estimated amount spent for the services of court reporters in superior court civil proceedings was \$77,252,376. The expenditure amount is an estimate because most courts do not track the time court reporters spend in proceedings by case categories. The estimate of \$77,252,376 was made by taking the sum of total FY 2012–2013 budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2012 (\$218,773,159), and total FY 2012–2013 expenditures on contract court reporters (\$5,146,772), and multiplying by the estimated proportion of time court reporters spend on civil cases (civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family) versus all cases, 34.5 percent. The time percentage estimate is based on the most recent time study survey, which was conducted by the National Center for State Courts in September 2003 and involved nine California superior courts—Amador, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, and Stanislaus Counties—representing about 51 percent of statewide authorized court reporter positions.²

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Mr. Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Fiscal Services Office, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), at 916-263-1397.

Very truly yours,



Steven Jahr
Administrative Director of the Courts

SJ/CS

cc: Members, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Members of the Judicial Council

¹ Of the amount collected, \$9,405,243 was available to be used for services of an official court reporter in civil proceedings, because a \$6.5 million ongoing redirection of this revenue to offset trial court funding reductions was approved by the Judicial Council at its July 22, 2011, business meeting as authorized by Government Code section 68086.1(c).

² Per FY 2012–2013 Schedule 7As, as submitted by the courts, 892 of 1,744 authorized court reporter full-time equivalent positions as of July 1, 2012.

Diane F. Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel
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Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office
Peggy Collins, Principal Consultant, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Madelynn McClain, Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
Anita Lee, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office
Jody Patel, Chief of Staff, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
Curtis L. Child, AOC Chief Operating Officer
Curt Soderlund, AOC Chief Administrative Officer
Cory T. Jaspersen, Director, AOC Office of Governmental Affairs
Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, AOC Fiscal Services Office
Steven Chang, Manager, AOC Fiscal Services Office
Andi Liebenbaum, Senior Governmental Affairs Analyst, AOC Office of Governmental Affairs
Colin Simpson, Senior Budget Analyst, AOC Fiscal Services Office