

Superior Court of the County of Santa Clara

This document contains the court's responses to the questions we included in a survey regarding the services that the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) indicates providing to the courts. Our survey asked each of the trial courts, the courts of appeal, and the Supreme Court to indicate which services that each court has used. In addition, our survey asked each court to indicate whether or not it values each service. Other questions in the survey asked about the quality of the services that AOC provides and the importance of the services to the court's operations.

After the courts responded to our survey, we identified, in consultation with the AOC, eight services in our survey that do not apply to the trial courts. We excluded these eight services from the analyses that support the survey-related tables and figures that appear in our audit report.

Finally, for a copy of the survey instrument please follow this [link](#).

Q3: Access Services

1. Self-Help legal, training, program, education support	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
2. Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Pilot Program	Consider service to be valuable
3. Self-Help Center, Family Law Information Centers, Model Self-Projects Funding	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
4. Equal Access Funds	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
5. Judicial Branch Self-Help Website and resources	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
6. On-line Document Assembly/Forms Completion Programs	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
7. American with Disabilities Act subject matter expertise provided in response to individual court requests for assistance with resolving a specific ADA issue, and ADA training specialized for individual trial courts	Have used this service
8. Administration and management of the JusticeCorps volunteer program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
9. Plain language forms and instructions	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
10. Support to Civics Education program to improve civic learning and public understanding of the Judicial Branch including the California Task Force on K-12 Civics Learning	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q4: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q5: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Very Important

Q6: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

70% of litigants in non-criminal cases are indigent and thus require extensive assistance from our Self-Help Center (SHC). Without these centers and the services provided, cases would be significantly delayed, access to justice denied and families and children would be put at tremendous risk. Judicial Council staff support in this area is invaluable to ensure our ability to continue to provide SHC services as well as educate the public on understanding courts, our role and how the public can access SHC resources as needed.

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Q7: Audit Services

11. Regular financial, operational, and compliance audits

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

14. Technical advice regarding audit, accounting compliance, and operational requirements

Have used this service

Q8: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label)

Good

Q9: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label)

Very Important

Q10: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

No Change

Additional Comments

Auditing ensures compliance with state and local statutes, policies and practices. Monitoring ongoing practices is critical to any organization to sustain success and be effective and ethical as stewards of public funds. Public trust and confidence is instilled when courts are performing at a high rate. Judicial Council auditors assist in that review; for without their assistance and expertise, the court may miss vital areas of potential non-compliance. Regardless of the budget situation, it is important that regular audits are performed to ensure that each court is complying with established Financial Policies and Procedures. However, with limited funding and reductions in staffing, the chance for non-compliance increases with increased workloads. It is important that audits are conducted on a regular basis.

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Q11: Capital Projects and Facilities Services

16. Fiscal management, oversight and accountability functions for the judicial branch capital outlay program including cash flow projections for various construction funds	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
17. Site selection, due diligence and negotiation of acquisition agreements for capital projects and staff services to Project Advisory Groups comprised of court and justice partner stakeholders	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
18. Management of California Environmental Quality Act responsibilities to comply with regulatory statute, including community hearings on capital project impacts	Have used this service
19. Creation, management and implementation of related procedures reflecting best practices for new courthouse design and construction	Have used this service
20. Preparation of fiscal data for Five Year Infrastructure Plan and fiscal documents	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
21. Selection of capital building systems and equipment based on life-cycle analysis of long-term costs	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
22. Development and implementation of risk management for capital projects and court facilities	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
23. Development and implementation of property and commercial insurance programs for judicial branch entities, and as requested assistance with their property and liability insurance needs	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
24. Oversight of the design and installation of audio-visual low voltage technical infrastructure in court facilities, and development of statewide standards for use of video over the technical infrastructure	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
25. Subject matter expertise on health and safety issues and technical assistance relating to fire prevention	Have used this service
26. Operations and maintenance of court facilities which includes physical, financial, and contractual management and delivery of routine operations and maintenance services, and provision of utilities and insurance	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
27. Management of 24/7 call center for maintenance of branch facilities	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
28. Monitoring of ongoing compliance with state and local environmental regulations which pertain to the operational life of a facility	Have used this service

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29. Negotiation and administration of AOC and court-funded leases, licenses, and other occupancy, and renegotiation of leases to generate space reduction and rent savings	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
30. Management of disposition for facilities no longer needed for court operations and facilities permanently and temporarily closed by court due to fiscal constraints	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
31. Provision of deferred maintenance and functional improvements	Have used this service
32. Development, implementation, and management of the preventive maintenance program for assets	Have used this service
33. Management of 22 parking facilities across the state for court, jury, and public parking spaces	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
34. Management of Facilities Event Licensing for third party use of court facilities	Have used this service
35. Administration of the delegated authority pilot project in which four courts are performing their own facilities maintenance	Have used this service
36. Maintenance and administration of the Computer Aided Facility Management (CAFM) System to dispatch Service Work Order requests and authorize lease payments	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
37. Sustainability program to manage utility resource demands, implementing energy conservation modifications to reduce long-term energy costs	Have used this service

Q16: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

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Q17: Collaborative Courts Services

54. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Community Courts	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
55. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Dependency and Juvenile Drug Courts	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
57. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Adult and Juvenile Justice Drug Courts	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
58. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Elder Courts	Have used this service
59. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Homeless Courts	Have used this service
60. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Mental Health Courts: Adults and Dependency and Juvenile Justice	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
61. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Reentry Courts for parolees and realigned populations	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
62. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Unified Courts for Families	Have used this service
63. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Veterans Courts and Military Families	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
64. Legal, training, and program assistance to support Youth/Peer Courts)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
65. Substance Abuse Focus Grants funding	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
66. Research and analysis assistance	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q18: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label)

Excellent

Q19: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label)

Very Important

Q20: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

Santa Clara Superior Court is a leader in effectively managing collaborative courts with 20 to help citizens of Santa Clara County. The Governor has given money for other courts to follow suit and begin collaborative courts. It is critical that courts have training, support and technical assistance to ensure the success of these courts at all stages - planning, development, implementation and monitoring.

Q21: Communications Services

68. Communications support to the Chief Justice in her Supreme Court, Judicial Council, Judicial Branch, and Commission on Judicial Appointments roles	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
69. Coordination of Judicial Council Meeting communications activities, including the drafting and dissemination of pre- and post-meeting summaries to the judicial branch, drafting of leadership remarks, coordination of photography, video, and audio requirements, and web updates and tweets to promote the meeting	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
70. Research, drafting and distribution of the weekly email briefing (Court News Update) on judicial administration and related topics, and urgent updates and briefings as requested (Court News Alerts, Court News Briefs) to the judicial branch	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
72. Communications strategy, consulting, and implementation to Judicial Branch Capital Program and the Office of Real Estate and Facilities Management Program and their Judicial Council oversight committees—the Court Facilities Advisory Committee and the Trial Court Facility Modification Advisory Committee	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
73. Management and content updates on the California Courts, Serranus, and AOC Intranet websites for programs, projects, and initiatives	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
74. Consultation and counsel on media strategies for programs, projects, and initiatives	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
75. Research and response to inquiries from the courts, media, and the public, as well as tracking and reporting on interactions	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
76. Input on strategy for news releases, drafting and dissemination and monitoring and reporting on coverage	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
78. Photography support for judicial council and judicial branch programs, projects, and initiatives	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q22: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label)	Good
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Q23: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label)	Neutral
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Q24: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

Serranus and CNU are two vital and effective means of communication for all courts to be able to know what is happening within the Branch, communicate with each other and share ideas and programs especially at a time when court budgets have been drastically reduced. Other exceptional communication tools include the Innovation Knowledge Center, online training, legal updates and statistical information which remains important to courts as the funding to the Branch continues to decrease.

Q25: Criminal Justice Services

79. Technical assistance, training, legal advice, and subject matter expertise on criminal justice realignment including data collection, analysis, and information dissemination	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
80. Written and oral legal advice provided to individual trial courts on a case-by-case basis on a wide array of criminal law and procedure issues, including new statutory requirements and responsibilities	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
81. Resource identification and liaison activities with outside justice partners (which include sheriffs, probation departments, District Attorneys, public defenders, county supervisors, the legislature, the Governor's office, the Department of Finance, CDCR, and the Department of Justice) on criminal justice realignment implementation	Have used this service
82. Defining outcome-based criminal justice related metrics in collaboration with justice partners	Have used this service
83. Data collection and reporting on probation revocations, sentencing outcomes, and other criminal law related issues (California Corrections Performance Incentive Act and criminal justice realignment)	Have used this service
84. Subject matter expertise, legal advice, and technical assistance with issues relating to traffic related matters	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
85. Technical and program assistance and training as part of the California Risk Assessment Pilot Project (CalRAPP)	Have used this service
86. Legal advice and technical assistance with emerging statewide issues related to criminal law and procedures (e.g., implementation of pretrial programs, Affordable Care Act, and prohibited and armed persons with mental illness reporting requirements)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
87. Fulfillment of mandates related to the evaluation of certain criminal justice programs	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q26: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q27: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Somewhat Important

Q28: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

With the passage of AB109, ongoing support for realignment courts is critical to ensure compliance, consistency and continuity.

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Q29: Education and Training Services

88. Judicial ethics training as required for participants in the Commission on Judicial Performance Insurance Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
89. Institute for Court Management certification program for court managers	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
90. Court Clerk Training Institute	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
91. Court manager and supervisor training	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
92. ADA Annual Statewide Training and consulting for ADA coordinators	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
93. Statewide broadcasts for Trial and Appellate Court judicial officers, CEOs and court staff	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
94. Statewide and regional education (i.e., Beyond the Bench)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
95. Development of customized training for the courts (e.g., judicial education, management training, cultural competency training)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
96. Collaborative statewide, regional, and distance education and multi-disciplinary programs with state and national partners	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
97. Training on use of the Computer Aided Facility Management (CAFM) application for requesting, monitoring, and evaluating building services	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
98. Development of online educational resources for judges, court staff, supervisors and managers	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

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99. Technical support and video production for Supreme Court outreach and oral argument, Commission of Judicial Appointments hearings, Chief Justice or judicial argument, Commission of Judicial Appointments hearings, Chief Justice or Judicial Council communications, and provision of AV signals to rooms for the public and media	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
100. Judicial publications: Benchguides, Bench Handbooks, Benchbooks, Civil Proceedings Benchbooks	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
101. Development of online benchtools for judges to use, including scripts, flow charts and checklists	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
102. Development of public guides for children in court, victims' services, and court proceedings for families	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
103. Job Aids for court staff, supervisors, and managers	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
104. Web Ex programmatic instructional support	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
105. Faculty development program, webinars and online resources to prepare and support statewide and local court faculty	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
106. Meeting planning, registration and conference services for all education programs, Judicial Council meetings and other AOC meetings	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
107. Audio visual support for education and meetings in conference centers, off-site education and outreach, including audio for public broadcast of Judicial Council	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
108. Jury education materials in support of successful jury participation	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q30: Statewide training for new Judicial Officers, including:

109. New Judge Orientation	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
110. Primary Assignment Orientations (civil, criminal, probate, dependency, delinquency, family)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
111. B.E. Witkin Judicial College	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q31: Statewide education for experienced Judicial Officers and Judicial Attorneys, including:

112. Appellate Justices Institute	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
113. Criminal Assignment Courses	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
114. Qualifying Ethics Training	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
115. Complex Civil and Advanced Civil	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
116. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
117. Domestic Violence courses	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
118. Institutes (in civil, criminal, juvenile, family, probate, and rural courts)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
119. Institutes for Appellate and Trial Court Attorneys	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q32: Statewide Education for Judicial Leaders, including:

120. PJ/CEO Court Management Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
121. Supervising Judges Institute	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q33: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label)	Excellent
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Q34: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label)	Very Important
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Q35: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

Due to the lack of internal training expertise, education and training services are invaluable for the courts to ensure a professional and well-trained workforce and judiciary. Judges rely heavily on the publications and live orientation programs which provide resources to those that are new to the bench and/or assignment. For training to continue at all levels is especially critical due to the severe and ongoing budget reductions courts face. If we do not have these services, courts will be unable to attract and retain the best and brightest workforce and fulfill their mission to provide qualified, component and effective access to justice. The quality of customer service to all court users will suffer.

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Q36: Family Services

122. AB 1058 Legal, Program Support and Funding and Administration for Child Support Commissioners and Family Law Facilitators	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
123. Access to Visitation Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
124. Information and technical assistance to Family Courts	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
125. Family and Juvenile court judicial and staff workload study and needs assessment	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
126. Family Law websites (including Families Change and Parent Orientation video) content, maintenance and administration	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
127. Family Dispute Resolution support, technical assistance, and education	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
128. Domestic Violence Courts	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
129. Domestic Violence Safety Planning Project	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
130. Violence Against Women Education Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
131. California Courts Protective Orders Registry	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q37: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q38: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Very Important

Q39: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) Much more important

Additional Comments

Keeping families and particularly, children safe from harm is critically important. AB1058 is vital to ensure non-custodial parents meet their financial obligations to their children and to help provide the custodial parents, who may be indigent, with necessary financial assistance.

Q40: Fiscal Services

132. Budgeting	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
133. Centralized Treasury	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
134. Payroll and controller services	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
135. Master contracts/procurement assistance	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
136. Financial Management - accounting and reporting	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
137. Accounts Payable support	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
138. Trust Accounting support	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
139. Financial policies and procedures	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
140. Fiscal training and assistance	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
141. Grants Administration	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
142. Enhanced Collections guidelines and assistance for courts and counties	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
143. Provision and maintenance of financial information available through the judicial branch website	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q41: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Good

Q42: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Very Important

Q43: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

The implementation of the statewide SAP system (Phoenix) has been invaluable. The majority of the Quarterly Financial and Comprehensive Annual Financial reports are now generated by AOC staff from Phoenix. The fiscal staff are quick to provide budget and legislative information to the courts when needed. The court works closely with fiscal staff in processing vendor payments, juror payment, trust disbursements and payroll through file uploads. The treasury manages the investments for the courts. Although the interest rates are low; we can feel assured that our funds are being managed. The treasury has handled the bank account reconciliations and assisted our court in the reconciliations of court trust funds. The Financial policies and procedures are updated regularly and provide guidance in handling fiscal matters. Fiscal training is provided throughout the year in various areas.

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Q44: Human Resources Services

144. Labor relations and collective bargaining services	Have used this service
145. Employee relations/investigations/progressive discipline/leave management	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
146. Judicial payroll and benefits	Have used this service
147. Pay and benefits management and administration for employees	Have used this service
148. Trial court payroll services through Phoenix or ADP	Have used this service
149. Recruitment, classification and compensation assistance	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
150. Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation program oversight and administration	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
151. Integrated Disability Management	Have used this service

Q45: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label)

Good

Q46: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label)

Very Important

Q47: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

85% of the court budgets are spent on personnel related expenses. It is vital that Judicial Council staff is available to train, provide technical assistance and support for a variety of human resource needs ranging from labor relations to recruitment to classification studies to workers' compensation.

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Q48: Information Technology Services

152. California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR)

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

153. Judicial Branch Statistical Information System (JBSIS)

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

154. Phoenix Financial, procurement and HR/Payroll System

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

155. Computer- Aided Facilities Management System (CAFM)

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

159. California Courts Technology Center (CCTC) including disaster and security services and data integration services

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

161. Technology hardware updates program

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

163. Support to California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS)

Consider service to be valuable

164. Development and maintenance of the judicial branch public website, Serranus, and other judicial branch websites

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

166. Programmatic, technical and logistical support for WebEx programs

Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q49: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label)

Fair

Q50: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label)

Very Important

Q51: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) No Change

Additional Comments

The court relies on IT services to ensure the systems (JBSIS, Phoenix, Serranus, WebEx) are readily available on a day-to-day basis.

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Q52: Juvenile Services

168. Local Blue Ribbon Commissions training and technical assistance	Have used this service
169. Court appointed dependency counsel funding, budgeting, and program management	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
170. Dependency Representation, Administration, Funding, and Training (DRAFT) program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
171. Juvenile Dependency Counsel Collections Programs	Have used this service
173. Judicial Resources and Technical Assistance Program for dependency cases	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
174. Information and technical assistance to juvenile courts	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
175. Technical assistance with juvenile court management system data and analytics	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
177. California Dependency Online Guide (CalDog)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q53: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q54: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Very Important

Q55: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) Much more important

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Q60: Legal Services

189. Legal support with claims including investigations and responses	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
190. Management of labor-related matters (such as Public Employment Relations Board hearings and arbitrations)	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
191. Management of affirmative litigation	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
192. Litigation management, including selection and direction of outside counsel to defend courts, judicial officers, court employees, and council members	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
193. Legal advice and guidance to courts and education of court staff regarding evolving law affecting employment and labor issues	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
194. Legal advice and consultation on a broad spectrum of judicial administration matters	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
195. Legal advice and consultation on transactional business issues, including real estate transactions, solicitations, contracting and the procurement of goods and services, and Court/County MOUs	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
196. Legal advice and representation regarding external audits/investigations	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
197. Assistance with responding to subpoenas and disqualification statements	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
198. New and amended Local Court rules review and assistance with requests for alternative effective dates	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
199. Assistance with evaluation of need for and preparing requests for emergency orders	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
200. Legal advice and assistance with petitions for complex civil case coordination	Have used this service
201. Provision of legal support for acquisition, financing, construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance of court facilities	Have used this service

Q61: Subject matter expertise and technical assistance with issues, including:

203. Access and fairness	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
209. Family and juvenile law	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
210. Judicial administration	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
211. Judicial ethics	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
212. Subject matter expertise	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q62: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q63: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Very Important

Q64: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) Somewhat more important

Additional Comments

Unfortunately, legal issues arise hourly for courts due to vexatious litigants, sovereign citizens and general disgruntled parties and attorneys. Legal Services plays a vital role in assisting courts who must respond to the multitude of complaints. Legal Services provides consultation which is something courts cannot afford on their own, especially in light of the severe budget reductions. Additionally, this unit does an exceptional job in responding timely, providing expert, knowledgeable and sound advice and strong support when needed at legal proceedings.

Q65: Legislative and Budget Advocacy Services

215. Advocacy for Judicial Council positions on pending legislation and technical assistance to legislators, staff, and justice partners, on court-related legislative issues	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
216. Expertise and assistance with strategy, advice, and recommendations on judicial branch budget discussions	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
217. Tracking of statutory mandates on the Judicial Council to adopt rules, forms, and reports to the legislature	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
219. Coordination of legislative information and investigatory hearings that impact branch programs and projects	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
220. Staff support to the Bench-Bar Coalition	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q66: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Good

Q67: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Somewhat Important

Q68: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) Much more important

Q69: Mandated Reporting

221. Access To Visitation Grants Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
222. Semi-Annual Report on Contracts for the Judicial Branch	Have used this service
223. Trial Court Interpreters Program Expenditure Report	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
224. Court Reporter Fees Collected & Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings	Have used this service
225. Demographics of the Bench	Have used this service
227. Judgeship Needs in the Superior Courts	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
229. Annual Special Funds Expenditure Report	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
230. Annual Trial Court Allocations Report	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
231. Phoenix System Status Update Report	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
232. Purchase and Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
233. Trial Court Revenue, Expenditure, and Fund Balance Constraints	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
234. 2 Percent Trial Court Trust Fund State-Level Reserve Funding Requests	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
235. Statewide Collections of Court-Ordered Debt	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
236. Receipts and Expenditures from Local Courthouse Construction Funds	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
238. Special facilities program reports requested by the legislature	Have used this service
239. 5-Year Language Use and Needs Study	Have used this service
240. Criminal Justice Realignment Data	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q70: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Good

Q71: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label)

Very Important

Q72: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label)

Much more important

Additional Comments

Specifically with fiscal data, the office provides a secondary history of expenditure and allocation information to further assist with budget management. Workload summaries are also helpful projecting workload trends to better determine workload distribution.

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Q73: Operations Support Services

243. Assigned Judges Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
246. Administration of Special Masters assignment	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
247. Civil Case Coordination	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
248. Management of Petitions for Coordination of Complex Civil Cases	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
250. Vexatious Litigants List administration	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
251. Jury improvements in support of initiatives that enhance the utilization of jurors and the jury process	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
253. Trial Court Business Processing Reengineering expertise and training	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
254. Consultative services, technical and complex analytical assistance for court administration and operational matters	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
255. Data gathering and recommendations for court operational and administrative issues	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
256. Assistance to court leaders with addressing internal governance, management and operational issues	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
257. Information-sharing through meetings of court leaders	Have used this service

Q74: Analytical and administrative support to:

261. Trial Court Presiding Judge Advisory Committee	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
262. California Court Clerk Association	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
264. Court Executives Advisory Committee	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q75: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q76: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Very Important

Q77: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) Much more important

Additional Comments

The Assigned Judges Program is vital to the courts due to the severe budget reductions and lack of judicial appointments. Centralizing this practice statewide is most practical.

Q78: Research and Data Services

265. Annual Court Statistics Report	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
266. Judicial Branch Statistical Information System technical assistance, maintenance and reporting	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
267. Workload-based Allocation Funding Methodology research support	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
268. Judge and staff workload measures and analysis	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
269. Authorized and filled judgeships data and reporting	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
270. Conversion of Subordinate Judicial Officer positions to judgeships	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
271. Technical support to evaluate staffing or judicial officer allocations against workload model projections	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
272. Responses to requests for branch data from internal users, members of the public, researchers, and law firms	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
273. Data review and reporting	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
274. Production of the annual Jury Data Report	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q79: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q80: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Very Important

Q81: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) Much more important

Q82: Security Services

275. Judicial Online Privacy Protection Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
276. Threat and incident coordination and consultative services	Have used this service
277. Emergency planning and preparedness/continuity of operations planning	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
279. Screening Equipment Replacement Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable
280. Trial Court Security Grant Program	Have used this service, Consider service to be valuable

Q83: Please select the rating that best reflects the overall quality of service that you have received for this group of services. If you have not used any of the above services, please select the "no opinion" option.

(no label) Excellent

Q84: How important, overall, is this group of services to your trial court operations?

(no label) Somewhat Important

Q85: Have cuts to your budget made this group of services, overall, more important or less important to your operations?

(no label) Somewhat more important

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Q86: Were you aware that the AOC provides to the trial courts all of the services included in this survey? Yes

Q87: Are there any services that the AOC does not provide that you believe would be useful to the trial courts? Yes

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Q88: Please list any additional services, not currently offered by the AOC, that you believe would be useful to the trial courts.

Recommend Judicial Council provide Assigned Clerk Program services. Assigned Judges are important, but often courts do not have local resources to meet the needs of the assigned judge. Having an assigned clerk travel with the assigned judge would assist expeditious delivery of services.

Q89: So that we can better understand the extent to which trial courts are currently obtaining support services from entities other than the AOC, please tell us: do you contract with other courts, or have any other working relationships with other courts, in order to receive services? No

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Q90: Please list all of the services that you receive through a contract, or other working relationship, with another court(s):

Respondent skipped this question

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Q91: The following is an alphabetized list of all AOC offices. Please evaluate the services that each office provides according to their overall importance to the operations of your court.

Center for Families, Children & the Courts	Somewhat Important
Center for Judiciary Education and Research	Very Important
Court Operations Special Services Office	Very Important
Criminal Justice Court Services Office	Very Important
Executive Office	Neutral
Fiscal Services Office	Somewhat Important
Human Resources Services Office	Somewhat Important
Information Technology Services Office	Somewhat Important
Internal Audit Services	Somewhat Important
Judicial Branch Capital Program Office	Very Important
Judicial Council Support Services	Neutral
Legal Services Office	Very Important
Office of Administrative Services	Very Important
Office of Appellate Court Services	Somewhat Important
Office of Communications	Very Important
Office of Governmental Affairs	Very Important
Office of Real Estate and Facilities Management	Very Important
Special Projects Office	Very Important
Trial Court Administrative Services Office	Very Important
Trial Court Liaison Office	Neutral

Q92: Additional Comments

The topics identified in this section are of varied levels of criticality. This section may be much more descriptive if it were ranked by level of need...most important to last perhaps.