

Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee
Annual Agenda¹—2023

Approved by Executive and Planning Committee: [Date]

I. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Chair:	Hon. Terry B. Friedman, (Ret.)
Lead Staff:	Ms. Laura Brown, Senior Analyst, Center for Families, Children & the Courts
Committee's Charge/Membership: The Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee is required by Government Code section 68651(b)(5) to implement the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act (Assem. Bill 590 [Feuer]; Stats. 2009 ch. 457) which was amended by the Appointed Legal Counsel in Civil Cases Act (Assem. Bill 330 [Gabriel]; Stats 2019, ch. 217). The statute requires the Judicial Council to develop one or more model pilot projects in selected courts for three-year periods. The projects will provide legal representation to low-income parties on critical legal issues affecting basic human needs. At the direction of the Judicial Council, the implementation committee will make recommendations on which pilot projects will be selected from a competitive grant application process and provide input into the design of the pilot projects' evaluations. With the adoption of AB 330, evaluations of the pilot projects must be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature every five years, commencing June 1, 2020. The Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee currently has 9 members. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 retired appellate justice• 1 retired judge• 1 active judge• 1 law professor• 4 attorneys with experience in legal aid programs• 1 attorney with the State Bar of California The current committee roster is available on the committee's web page.	

¹ The annual agenda outlines the work a committee will focus on in the coming year and identifies areas of collaboration with other advisory bodies and the Judicial Council staff resources.

Subcommittees/Working Groups²:

None.

Meetings Planned for 2023³ (Advisory body and all subcommittees and working groups)

January/February:

- Full committee videoconference to welcome new committee members, introduce new staff to the committee, present the 2023 annual agenda, and provide an update on the 2023-2026 grant cycle application process.

Week of February 27:

- Full committee videoconference to discuss grant applications received, the process for scoring applications, and making award recommendations.

Week of March 13:

- Subcommittee videoconferences for initial discussion of grant applications and identify issues for follow-up.

Week of March 27:

- Full committee videoconference to discuss applications and make recommendations (preliminary or final).

Week of April 10 or 17:

- Full committee videoconference to determine final recommendations for the Judicial Council (if necessary).

November/December:

- Videoconference to review status of pilot projects operating during 2020-2023 grant cycle that ends September 30, 2022.

Check here if exception to policy is granted by Executive Office or rule of court.

² California Rules of Court, rule 10.30 (c) allows an advisory body to form subgroups, composed entirely of current members of the advisory body, to carry out the body's duties, subject to available resources, with the approval of its oversight committee.

³ Refer to [Operating Standards for Judicial Council Advisory Bodies](#) for governance on in-person meetings.

II. COMMITTEE PROJECTS

#	New or One-Time Projects ⁴ [Group projects by priority number.]	
1.	Project Title: Make recommendations to the Judicial Council for the 2023–26 Grant Cycle	Priority⁵ 1
<p>Strategic Plan Goal⁶ I</p> <p>Project Summary⁷: To make recommendations to the Judicial Council regarding pilot projects to award funding for the 2023–2026 grant cycle as required by statute, a Request for Applications (RFA) was developed in late 2022 and will be posted in January 2023. Grant applications will be due in February 2023. The committee will review pilot project applications and make recommendations to the Judicial Council at its July 2023 business meeting.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) staff and committee expenses are covered by an administrative allocation of grant funds.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials. Budget Services has reviewed and determined that this is not within their purview since the allocations are governed by statute.</p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The legal services community and partner courts are the external stakeholders.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None.</p>		

⁴ All proposed projects for the year must be included on the Annual Agenda. If a project implements policy or is a program, identify it as *implementation* or a *program* in the project description and attach the Judicial Council authorization/assignment or prior approved Annual Agenda to this Annual Agenda.

⁵ For non-rules and forms projects, select priority level 1 (must be done) or 2 (should be done). For rules and forms proposals, select one of the following priority levels: 1(a) Urgently needed to conform to the law; 1(b) Urgently needed to respond to a recent change in the law; 1(c) Adoption or amendment of rules or forms by a specified date required by statute or council decision; 1(d) Provides significant cost savings and efficiencies, generates significant revenue, or avoids a significant loss of revenue; 1(e) Urgently needed to remedy a problem that is causing significant cost or inconvenience to the courts or the public; 1(f) Otherwise urgent and necessary, such as a proposal that would mitigate exposure to immediate or severe financial or legal risk; 2(a) Useful, but not necessary, to implement statutory changes; 2(b) Helpful in otherwise advancing Judicial Council goals and objectives.

⁶ Indicate which goal number of The Strategic Plan for California’s Judicial Branch the project most closely aligns.

⁷ A key objective is a strategic aim, purpose, or “end of action” to be achieved for the coming year.

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities⁴ [Group projects by priority number.]	
1.	Project Title Research and Data Collection	Priority⁵ 1
		Strategic Plan Goal⁶ II, III
	<p>Project Summary⁷: Government Code section 68651 required that an evaluation of the pilot projects be submitted to Legislature on or before January 31, 2016. That evaluation was completed, and a supplemental report was submitted in August 2017. AB 330 added a requirement that an evaluation be completed every five years with the first evaluation due to the Legislature in June 2020. The next report will be due in June 2025. The committee will review project data and provide input on the design of the evaluation and the draft evaluation prior to submission to the Judicial Council.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: CFCC staff, committee, and contractor expenses are covered by an administrative allocation under the grant. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The project includes allocations or distributions of funds to the courts, which have been reviewed and approved by Budget Services.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The Judicial Council will work closely with the pilot projects and research firm contractor to assist in data collection and analysis.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: None.</p>	
2.	Project Title Implementation and Oversight of Pilot Projects	Priority⁵ 1
		Strategic Plan Goal⁶ I, IV
	<p>Project Summary⁷: The committee will provide continuing oversight of the pilot projects that were approved by the Judicial Council. The work is required by Government Code section 68651 which requires the Judicial Council to establish pilot projects and to form an advisory committee to review applications and oversee those projects. If additional funds become available, the committee will make recommendations to the Judicial Council on distribution.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Ongoing.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: CFCC staff and committee expenses are covered by an administrative allocation of the grant. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: The pilot programs – legal services and their court partners are stakeholders.</p>	

#	Ongoing Projects and Activities⁴ [Group projects by priority number.]	
	<i>AC Collaboration:</i> None.	
3.	Project Title: Serve as a Resource	Priority⁵ 2 Strategic Plan Goal⁶ I, IV
<p>Project Summary⁷: In its report to the Judicial Council regarding the Evaluation of the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Pilot Project, the Committee made recommendations for consideration by the Judicial Council. At the Judicial Council meeting on July 27, 2017, these recommendations were referred back to the committee for further development and referral to the appropriate subject matter committees. Subject matter committees and Judicial Council staff also request information on updated evaluation data.</p> <p>Status/Timeline: Provide information as requested by other committees on the results of the Shriver evaluations as needed for their work.</p> <p>Fiscal Impact/Resources: CFCC staff time and that of outside researchers is covered by the administrative funds set aside for the project. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project may result in an allocation or distribution of funds to the courts. We will coordinate with Budget Services to ensure their review of relevant materials.</i></p> <p>Internal/External Stakeholders: Staff to the Shriver project will work with staff for the subject matter committees to which recommendations may be made.</p> <p>AC Collaboration: The committee will work with the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness, the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee, and the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee as appropriate regarding these recommendations.</p>		

III. LIST OF 2022 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#	Project Highlights and Achievements
1.	The committee recommended that the Judicial Council approve additional grant funding for a period of June 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 to the Justice and Diversity Center and the Superior Court of San Francisco. This was approved by the Judicial Council at its meeting on March 11, 2022.
2.	The committee provided information, as requested, to Judicial Council staff and committees on the results of the <i>Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Evaluation</i> which was submitted to the Legislature on June 30, 2020, as required by Assembly Bill 330 (Gabriel) .
3.	Comprehensive evaluation is ongoing.
4.	The committee continues to monitor grants awarded that provide representation and make court services more efficient and effective for those who remain unrepresented.
5.	Committee staff developed the RFA and application for the 2023–2026 grant cycle.
6.	Out-of-cycle nominations for three new committee members were submitted and approved by the Executive and Planning Committee at its November 28, 2022 meeting.