



**Superior Court of the State of California**  
**In and For The County of Placer**  
**Roseville, California**

COURT ADMINISTRATION  
(916) 408-6186 FAX (916) 408-6188

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

*Posted -- August 3, 2022*

**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF PLACER SEEKS  
PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED BASELINE BUDGET FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 68511.7 and California Rules of Court, rule 10.620(f)(1), the Superior Court of California, County of Placer is providing 1) notice of the annual budget allocation to the trial court by the Judicial Council and 2) a summary of the proposed baseline budget for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 for public review and comment.

The court's fiscal year runs from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The court will accept written comments on the proposed FY 2022/2023 baseline budget until 12:00 pm on Wednesday, August 10, 2022. All comments received by the court prior to the August 10, 2022 deadline will be reviewed and considered. It is not anticipated that any formal response to the comments received will be provided to the contributing party.

Comments may be submitted electronically to [courtadmin@placer.courts.ca.gov](mailto:courtadmin@placer.courts.ca.gov) or be mailed to:

Superior Court of California, County of Placer  
Attn: Court Administration  
P.O. Box 619072  
Roseville, CA 95661

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Superior Court of California, County of Placer  
**PUBLIC NOTICE: PROPOSED FY 2022/2023 BASELINE BUDGET**  
 Posted August 3, 2022  
 PAGE 2

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF PLACER  
 PROPOSED FY 2022/2023 BASELINE BUDGET SUMMARY**

<i>Revenue and Reimbursements</i>	30,956,775
<i><u>Prior Year Encumbrances and Restricted Fund Balance*</u></i>	<u>1</u>
<b>Total Revenue and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>30,956,776</b>
<i><b>Total Personal Services**</b></i>	<i><b>24,713,490</b></i>
<i><b><u>Total Operating Expenses &amp; Equip.</u></b></i>	<i><b><u>6,243,286</u></b></i>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>30,956,776</b>
<b>Preliminary FY Surplus/(Deficit)***</b>	<b>-0-</b>

\* Prior year funds held on behalf of the court by the Judicial Council of California are reflected in current year revenue and reimbursements.  
 \*\* Personal Services includes 2.0 Court Reporter positions created in FY 2021/2022 based on funding from Senate Bill 170 (2021). The court has retained these positions with the assumption this funding will again be allocated for FY 2022/2023. If funding is not allocated, these positions will be eliminated.  
 \*\*\* Totals may not foot due to rounding.

The Superior Court of California, County of Placer’s proposed baseline budget reflects funding allocations made by the Judicial Council on July 15, 2022. These allocations included (rounded to nearest 1000):

- An allocation increase of \$2.33 million to address case-related workload.
- Funding to offset current year employee health and retirement cost increases.
- An increase of \$775,000 to address inflationary cost increases based on the consumer price index.
- An increase of \$30,000 in Dependency Court Appointed Counsel funding.
- Funding of \$359,000 to provide staffing for the court’s new judgeship. The State Budget Act added the 11<sup>th</sup> Superior Court Judge for Placer County.
- Backfill funding of roughly \$733,000 to address the shift of civil assessment revenue away from the Trial Court.

More information on these items can be found in reports submitted to the Judicial Council, specifically the Trial Court Trust Fund Allocations and Juvenile Dependency Court Appointed Counsel Funding Allocations. Reports on these items can be obtained by reviewing the [July 15, 2022 Judicial Council Meeting Agenda](#). Allocations made by the Judicial Council also reflect a significant change in the revenue distributions related to civil assessment fines. This change, made as part of Assembly Bill 199, shifts civil assessment revenue to the State of California General Fund rather than providing it directly to the trial courts. The State Budget replaces these funds with an allocation to the Trial Court Trust Fund that is not associated with the imposition, payment, or collection of civil assessments. For more information on civil assessment backfill, see the [Judicial Council’s report on its Civil Assessment Backfill Methodology](#).

**Superior Court of California, County of Placer**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE: PROPOSED FY 2022/2023 BUDGET**  
**Posted August 3, 2022**  
**PAGE 3**

---

The court's Proposed FY 2022/2023 Budget reflects a historic recognition of need for equitable funding of the California Trial Courts. As a court historically funded below the statewide average for trial courts, the Placer Superior Court received a portion of the \$100 million in Trial Court Equity Funding included in the FY 2022/2023 State Budget Act. This funding, combined with increases for inflationary pressure, Dependency Court Appointed Counsel, and funding to support a new judgeship in Placer County, the court anticipates a net increase in revenue of \$5,611,788 compared to the Revised FY 2021/2022 Budget. The majority of these funds are ongoing.

With this historic funding increase, the court will make significant improvements to its service offerings and service levels. The Proposed Budget includes:

- **Expansion of available hearings in family law and for criminal and civil trials.**

The FY 2022/2023 State Budget includes funding for 23 additional judges statewide. Placer County has been among those with the greatest need for judges and will receive one of these new judge positions. The Proposed Budget also includes filling a 0.5 vacant Subordinate Judicial Officer position held vacant since 2011, and additional staffing to support the court's eleventh judgeship and fifth commissioner.

These additional judicial resources will fill a timely need as the court continues to address the COVID-19 influenced backlog of family law, criminal, and civil trials.

- **Expansion of available appointments for parties participating in child custody mediation.**

The court proposes an additional Family Court Services Mediator position, increasing staff mediators to 3.0 FTE. The position will reduce wait times for parties to meet with a mediator in an effort to reach agreement on child custody.

- **Expansion of available appointments for parties seeking Self-Help services.**

The court proposes an additional paralegal in its Self-Help Center to continue to expand the number of available one-on-one appointments for procedural advice and assistance for self-represented litigants. This includes expanded assistance for incarcerated individuals in Placer County who need procedural assistance in non-criminal matters.

- **Address Workload Changes Implemented During the Pandemic**

The COVID-19 Pandemic changed elements of court appearances and court processes with other agencies that resulted in additional tasks for court staff. The court proposes to use a portion of the augmented funding to improve staffing resources to address workload added by these new procedures and processes.

- **Expansion of the Court Clerk's Office Hours Until 4 pm**

The court proposes to expand its Court Clerk's Office Hours by one hour per court day. The Court Clerk's Office is currently open from 8 am to 3 pm at most locations and from 8 am to 12 pm at the Historic Courthouse. The court anticipates expanding in-person

**Superior Court of California, County of Placer**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE: PROPOSED FY 2022/2023 BUDGET**  
**Posted August 3, 2022**  
**PAGE 4**

---

public counter and telephone service hours to 4 pm at all locations, effective January 1, 2023. For context, the court reduced hours to 3 pm at its Roseville and Tahoe locations 20 years ago, on January 1, 2003.

- **Reduction of Remote Appearance Fees**

The court charges remote appearance fees as required by Government Code, section 70630 and California Rules of Court, rule 3.672. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the court added staff positions to support remote court participants. The court proposes to use a portion of the augmented State allocations to fund these positions. This would result in a recalculation of the court's remote appearance cost recovery fee, reducing the per appearance cost to parties. Remote appearances will remain free for those who do not pay a filing fee.

In addition to the above service changes, the court will continue in its efforts to further transition to a digital court. Planned projects include data interfaces with key justice partners to reduce redundant data entry and speed processing times.

The proposed budget includes increased funding for psychiatric expert services, guardianship and conservatorship investigations, and the recruitment and retention of court personnel.

This budget reflects a truly historic investment in the Superior Court of Placer County and includes substantial service level improvements. The court expresses its appreciation to the Legislature, Governor, and Judicial Council for their continued efforts to support accessible and equitable justice through the State's trial courts.

Presiding Judge Alan V. Pineschi and Court Executive Officer Jake Chatters further extend their thanks to the staff, judicial officers, and court security personnel for their continued commitment to public service during the ongoing challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic in the recently completed fiscal year 2021/2022.

The court is pleased to present its proposed budget for public comment. The additional detail on the following page reflects the court's commitment to its mission to be:

Open to All, Trusted by All, Justice For All.

Superior Court of California, County of Placer  
**PUBLIC NOTICE: PROPOSED FY 2022/2023 BUDGET**  
 Posted August 3, 2022  
 PAGE 5

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF PLACER  
 PROPOSED FY 2022/2023 BUDGET DETAIL**

GENERAL LEDGER ACCOUNT	FY 22-23 PROPOSED BUDGET
REVENUE	\$ 26,761,964
REIMBURSEMENTS	\$ 4,194,811
PRIOR YEAR FUND BALANCE (USE OF)	\$ 1
<b>**REVENUE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 30,956,776</b>
SALARIES, WAGES, and BENEFITS	\$ 24,713,490
<b>*PERSONAL SERVICES SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 24,713,490</b>
GENERAL EXPENSE	\$ 607,795
PRINTING	\$ 13,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$ 420,500
POSTAGE	\$ 87,000
INSURANCE	\$ 24,000
TRAVEL	\$ 43,000
TRAINING	\$ 60,000
SECURITY	\$ 5,000
FACILITY OPERATION	\$ 312,500
UTILITIES	\$ 1,000
CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$ 1,799,506
CONSULTING&PROFESSIONAL	\$ 488,000
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$ 1,234,845
MAJOR EQUIPMENT (OVER \$5,000)	\$ 1,056,610
OTHER ITEMS OF EXPENSE	\$ 26,150
<b>*OPERATING EXPENSES AND EQUIPMENT SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,178,906</b>
JURY COSTS	\$ 60,500
OTHER COSTS	\$ 1,500
<b>*SPECIAL ITEMS OF EXPENSE SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 62,000</b>
<b>*PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,380</b>
<b>**EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 30,956,775</b>
<b>****BALANCE (REVENUE LESS EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

Note: Totals may not foot due to rounding.