



The State Bar of California

Legal Services Trust Fund Commission Teleconference

Open Session Minutes
Friday, October 13, 2023
3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Time Meeting Commenced: Legal Services Trust Fund Commission meeting commenced in open session at 3:01 p.m.

Time Meeting Adjourned: 3:33 p.m.

Chair: Erica Connolly

Committee Coordinator: Doan Nguyen

Members Present: Amin Al-Sarraf, Jacqueline Alikhanni, Louise Bayles-Fightmaster, Catherine Blakemore, Venetta Campbell, Jason Galkin, Eloina Gonzalez, Eric Isken, Angie King, Judge Clifford Klein, Tammy Mahoney, Patience Milrod, Maria Morales, Jonathan Sandville, Milan Sundaresan, Xavier Vargas

Members Absent: Efrain Escobedo, Diana Kruze, Joseph Lee

Advisors Present: Judge Brad Seligman, Judge Bryant Yang

Advisors Absent: Justice Victor Rodriguez

Liaisons Present: Zach Newman (LAAC), Salena Copeland (LAAC), Melanie Snider (Judicial Council), Laura Brown (Judicial Council)

Staff Present: Rocío Avalos, Christopher McConkey, Danielle MacRae

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order

The commission was called to order by Chair Connolly.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Call for Public Comment

Chair Connolly called for public comment, inquiring as to whether there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item. No public comments were made.

3. Grants Administration

3.1 Approve Recommendations for 2023 CARE Court Grants (CARE Court Grants Committee)

Presenter: Christopher McConkey, Program Supervisor, OA&I

McConkey reported on the 2023 CARE Court Grants which provide funding to qualified legal services projects (QLSPs) and public defenders to represent CARE Court respondents, and support centers and “other entities” to provide training, support, and coordination to those QLSPs and public defenders. “Other entities” were added to the Budget Act of 2023 as an allowable funded organization via Senate Bill 104 (SB 104) on September 13, 2023. No support centers applied for a 2023-2024 CARE Court grant in response to the June Request for Proposals (RFP), but after the passage of SB 104, an “other entity” applied for funding.

The “other entity” applicant was the Indigent Defense Improvement Division of the Office of the State Public Defender (OSPD). The CARE Court Grant scoring team scored the application in accordance with the rubric approved in the RFP; the applicant scored a 62. The scoring team recommended a minimum score of 56 points to receive funding, so the applicant is recommended for funding at the full amount requested (\$254,850).

The Budget Act provides \$1,020,000 for support centers and other entities to provide legal training and technical assistance to implement the CARE Act. If the commission approves an award to OSPD, the remaining \$765,150 will be distributed to the participating counties via the existing formula allocation for QLSPs and public defenders.

The following motion was then proposed:

RESOLVED, that the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) approves the 2023-2024 CARE Court Grant recipient and amount as described in the LSTFC CARE Court Grants Committee’s memo dated October 13, 2023.

Moved by Isken, seconded by Blakemore.

Ayes – (18) Al-Saraf, Alikhaani, Ball, Bayles-Fightmaster, Blakemore, Campbell, Connolly, Galkin, Gonzalez, Isken, King, Mahoney, Milrod, Morales, Sandville, Sundaresan, Vargas

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (1) Klein

Motion carries.

4. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.