



# The State Bar of California

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## Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) CARE Court Grants Committee Meeting Teleconference

Open Session Minutes  
Thursday, March 14, 2024  
2:00–4:00 p.m.

**Time Meeting Commenced:** The LSTFC CARE Court Grants Committee meeting commenced in open session at 2:03 p.m.

**Time Meeting Adjourned:** 3:48 p.m.

**Chair:** Eric Isken

**Committee Coordinator:** Christopher McConkey

**Members Present:** Catherine Blakemore, Venetta Campbell, Efrain Escobedo, Eric Isken, Jodi Prior

**Liaisons Present:** Laura Brown, Judicial Council of California  
Lorin Kline, Legal Aid Association of California  
Melanie Snider, Judicial Council of California

**Members Absent:** Maria Morales  
Hon. Clifford Klein

### OPEN SESSION

#### 1. Call to Order

The LSTFC CARE Court Grants Committee was called to order by Chair Isken.

#### 2. Roll Call

Roll was called and a quorum was established.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

##### 3.1 Open Session Minutes: September 28, 2023

Commissioner Blakemore moved to approve the September 28, 2023, minutes.

*Moved by Blakemore, seconded by Escobedo.*

*Ayes – (5) Blakemore, Campbell, Escobedo, Prior, Isken*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (2) Klein, Morales*

*Motion carried.*

#### 4. CARE Court Grants

The Chair explained that the committee would deviate from the order of the agenda to accommodate commissioner availability.

##### 4.3 Recommend Delegation of Authority to Approve the 2024–2025 CARE Court Grant Request for Proposals

Program Supervisor Christopher McConkey presented an example Request for Proposals (RFP) for 2024–2025 CARE Court grants, including a recommended timeline, eligibility requirements, and estimated funding allocations. The Governor’s January 2024 budget proposal earmarked \$51.7 million to support legal services for CARE participants. All estimates are based on the Governor’s proposal, with final amounts subject to the forthcoming Budget Act of 2024, which might provide less funding. Data about funding needs in 2024–2025 is still emerging. Program Supervisor Christopher McConkey recommended that the RFP use the same scoring rubric and reporting requirements as the 2023–2024 grant cycle.

Following discussion, the committee heard the following motion:

**RESOLVED**, that the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) CARE Court Grants Committee (Committee) recommends that the LSTFC delegate to the Committee authority to approve a request for proposals including award timeline, application topics, scoring rubric, and reporting requirements, for 2024–2025 CARE Court grants and to recommend awards to the LSTFC.

*Moved by Blakemore, seconded by Isken.*

*Ayes – (5) Blakemore, Campbell, Escobedo, Prior, Isken*

*Noes – (0)*

*Abstain – (0)*

*Absent – (2) Klein, Morales*

*Motion carried.*

##### 4.1 Update on 2023–2024 Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Funds

Senior Program Analyst Helen Yu reported on data from the first quarterly report (for October 1–December 31, 2023) for Glenn, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne Counties. The report included data on, e.g., the number of cases, petitioner types, respondent demographics, legal resolutions, and training and technical assistance services.

#### **4.2 Update on the 2024 CARE Court Convening**

Senior Program Analyst Helen Yu reported on the State Bar's 2024 CARE Court convening on February 13, 2024. The report included an overview of the event's goals, attendance, and programming.

There being no other business to discuss, Chair Isken adjourned the meeting.

**ADJOURN**