

STRATEGIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In the past few years, the Court has made numerous improvements to make it more convenient for court users to access services. Focus has also been made to encourage them to conduct business **online rather than in line**. By embracing the use of technology, the Court can continue to work smarter, despite funding challenges, to better serve the public.

Improving Access to Justice

My Court Card Portal is accessible 24/7 to provide online help to self-represented litigants. Users can



download needed forms, sign up for free workshops, keep track of case progress, access online tutorials and e-learning

content, and receive expedited services when visiting Self-Help Centers at the courthouses.



Expanded service for the 600,000 residents in the southern part of the County at the **Superior Court Service Center**. While this location does not hear cases, it enables the public to make payments for criminal, traffic, and collection cases. Self-represented litigants can continue to receive assistance at the self-help center.

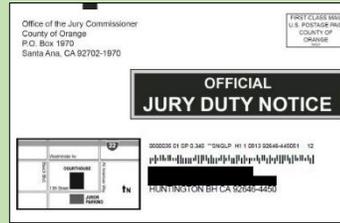


Reserve a Court Date

allow users to make online appointments for traffic and

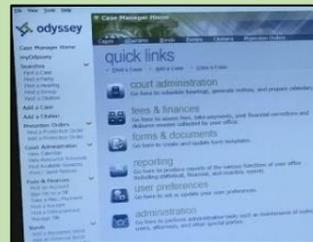
minor offense cases. This eliminates the need for court users to go to courthouses and wait in line.

Prospective jurors receive **Jury Postcard Summons** which indicate when and where they are to appear for jury service. Prospective jurors can respond to their summons using **eJuror**, an online application that is available 24/7.



Embracing Technology

One of the Court's recent focus has been to ensure continuity of business through the retirement of antiquated case management systems. By implementing **Odyssey – Family Law and Juvenile**



in 2016, the Court can stop using a 20-year old system. The Court can now completely support a paperless, file free, environment for Family Law, Juvenile, Criminal, and Civil case types. Judicial officers have immediate access to case files at their fingertips.

The public can obtain information about their cases and jury service anytime by using the enhanced, automated

Interactive Voice

Response (IVR) system.

If needed, callers can request to be routed to a live person during business hours. By using IVR, users avoid the need to come to the courthouses and spend time standing in line.



Superior Court of California, County of Orange

Fiscal Year 2016-17 BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE



Picture: Courtesy of Orange County Archives

The mission of the Superior Court of California, County of Orange is to serve the public by administering justice and resolving disputes under the law, thereby protecting the rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitutions of California and the United States.

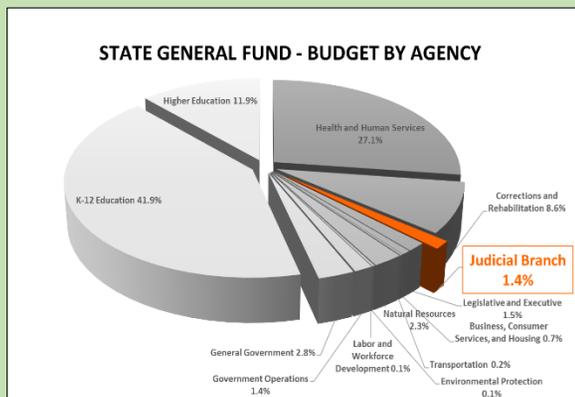
Presiding Judge
Hon. Charles Margines

Assistant Presiding Judge
Hon. Kirk Nakamura

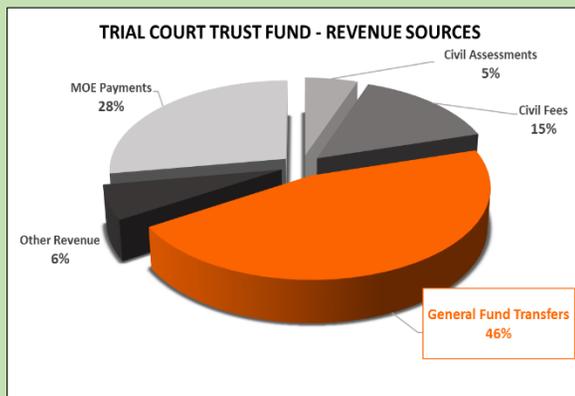
Chief Executive Officer
Alan Carlson

STATE BUDGET

Trial courts are primarily funded by the State. In FY 2016-17, the Judicial Branch is **1.4%** of the State General Fund Budget.



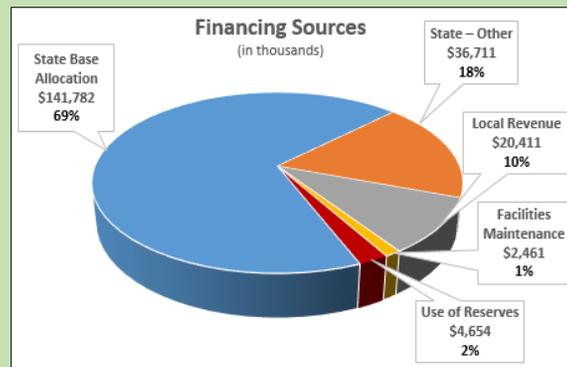
The Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF) is the main funding source for trial court operations and activities. The figure below shows the budgeted sources of revenue for the TCTF in FY 2016-17.



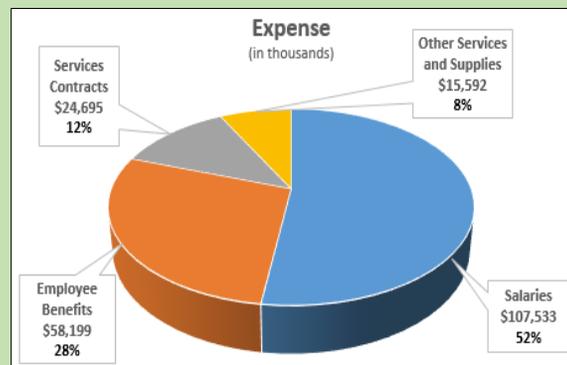
Over 86% of the Orange County Superior Court's funding comes from the TCTF. The majority of this funding is allocated via the Workload-based Allocation and Funding methodology (WAFM) as the base allocation. Under WAFM, the Court receives less funding for FY 2016-17 than in previous fiscal years.

FY 2016-17 APPROVED BUDGET

The Court's FY 2016-17 budget is \$206.0 million, which includes the use of \$4.7 million in reserves (or fund balance).



The largest portion of the expense budget (80%) is for Court staff salary and benefits. Another 12% of the expense budget is for contractual services.



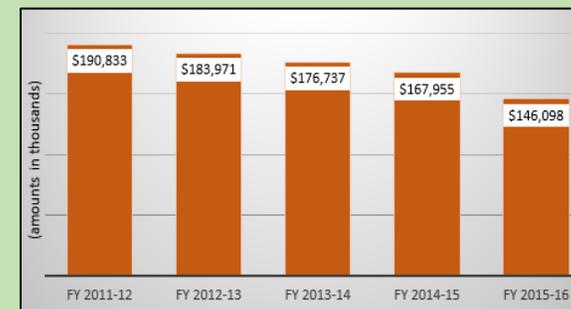
Over the last few years, the Court's available reserves have decreased significantly due to statutory restrictions. This limits the Court's ability to accumulate reserves that can be used for large-scale projects, or make plans for the future. It also creates cash flow challenges which makes it necessary for the Court to borrow money in order to make payroll and meet all contractual obligations.

FEES AND FINES

How much is collected?

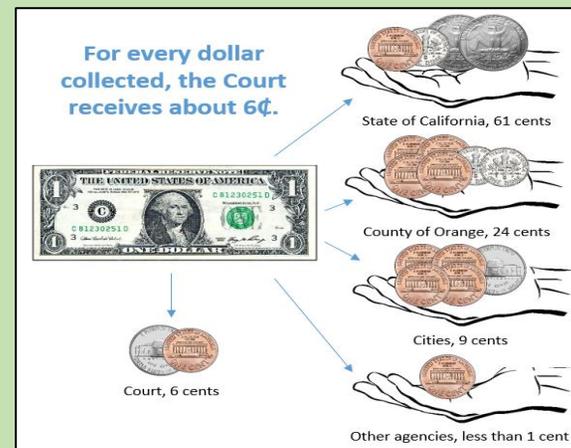
In FY 2015-16, the Court collected and distributed almost \$146.1 million in fines and fees. The decrease in collections is mainly due to a decrease in case filings and the recent amnesty program.

Total Fines and Fees Distributed
Fiscal Years 2011-12 through 2015-16



Who gets this money?

The Court distributes all monies collected to the State of California, the County of Orange, local cities, and various other agencies as required per statute. The Court receives only about six cents of every dollar collected (the money retained locally is for cost recovery).



Other agencies include the Air Quality Management District (AQMD), universities, colleges, school police, domestic violence shelters, the OC Transportation Commission, and others.