

Attachment A: Letter to State of California, Director of Finance, Legislative Analyst's Office, and Joint Legislative Budget Committee with Backfill Allocation Spending Report enclosure

DAS WILLIAMS

First District

LAURA CAPPS

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Third District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

December 17, 2024

Sent Via Electronic Correspondence Only

Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Hans.Hemann@sen.ca.gov

Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO)
Anita.Lee@lao.ca.gov

Director of Finance
backfillreports@dof.ca.gov

Reference: AB 143 Backfill Allocation Spending Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24
from Criminal Justice Fees Eliminated in AB 1869

Dear Mr. Hemann, Ms. Lee, and Mr. Stephenshaw:

Please find attached the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors (Board) submission of the above referenced report. As required by Government Code section 29553, the attached report details the County of Santa Barbara's spending of the State backfill allocated for revenues lost from fees repealed by Chapter 92 of the Statutes of 2020.

Sincerely,

Steve Lavagnino, Chair
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Enclosure: FY 2023-24 Backfill Allocation Spending Report

CC: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

County of Santa Barbara
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

AB 143 (Chapter 79, Statutes of 2021) Backfill Allocation Spending Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24
for Criminal Justice Fees Eliminated in AB 1869 (Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020)

Total annual budget for each county department that receives any backfill allocation.	Share of allocation received for all recipients and allocation amounts.	Expenditures of the allocation for each county department that receives a share of the total allocation.	A detailed description of the programs, services, strategies, and enhancements supported by or made with the allocation by county department.
The FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget for Probation Department is \$84,244,300.	The Probation Department received \$650,000 (77%) of the total \$846,777.76 backfill.	The Probation Department spent the entire allocation of \$650,000 on staff salaries and benefits for adult supervision and investigation.	<p>The allocation was used to fund current salaries and benefits of adult investigation and supervision staff that were previously partially funded by the fees repealed under AB 1869. The use of these funds reduced the need to eliminate positions due to the loss of revenue.</p> <p>Historically, the monies collected from fines and fees were used in part to support salaries and benefits for officers assigned to complete reports for the courts and to officers who supervise non-realigned clients (those for whom the department does not receive AB 109 realignment funding). With the implementation of AB 1869, most fines and fees were eliminated and the debts associated with them were discharged. The resulting decrease in the department’s budget would have meant the elimination of numerous positions in court services and supervision, diminishing the ability of the department to provide pre- and post-sentence and pre-plea reports to the courts, as well as reducing the amount of community supervision the department could perform, which would impact public safety.</p>
The FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget for Sheriff’s Office is \$199,278,400.	The Sheriff’s Office received \$196,777.76 (23%) of the total \$846,777.76 backfill.	The Sheriff’s Office spent the entire \$196,777.76 on adult supervision programs, including staff salaries and benefits for staff processing alternative sentencing applications as	<p>The allocation was used to offset the loss of revenues for program fees and to maintain the staffing that was partially funded by program revenue.</p> <p>The Sheriff’s Office Alternative Sentencing Bureau (ASB) provides a means for sentenced offenders to serve their jail sentences outside of physical incarceration within the jail. ASB staff review and process applications for inmates currently in the county jails who may have just been sentenced or have been sentenced previously, but may not have initially qualified for alternative sentencing at the start of their sentence. ASB staff actively recruit the sentenced inmate population and encourage those</p>

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		well as other program costs such as GPS electronic monitoring services.	who may be eligible for alternative sentencing to apply. This process requires staff inside both county jail facilities to speak with potential applicants on a weekly basis. Staff also work with the County's Probation Department to actively monitor the behavior of those currently out on the EM (electronic monitoring) program, as well as those actively serving their sentences on SWAP (Sheriff Work Alternative Program).
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