

**2000-2001 GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT**  
**COURT REPORTER TRANSCRIPT FEES**

Respondent: County Executive Officer

Recommendation (R-1):

*The CAO office should formally designate the Trial Court Funding (TCF) account as the budget account to be used for Court Reporter charges and associated expenses to eliminate the confusion and conflict that has existed in prior years.*

Response: Partial concurrence

This office agrees that it is appropriate for the TCF budget unit to absorb the reporter and transcript expenditures, on the basis that this unit represents the County's obligations related to the overall support of Justice Administration. However, it is not appropriate or necessary to "formally designate" the recommended budgetary treatment.

The formal document that incorporates the budget principles, policies and guidelines is the "Budget Development Manual" which is updated annually for each budget cycle. This would be the only logical place for the recommended designation to be registered. Budgetary recommendations are ultimately the responsibility of this office. Determination of the placement of specific charges is reviewed as needed, and a formal designation would not preclude changing the treatment.