From: Judge Michael Raphael

To: Invitations
Subject: SEC Report

Date: Friday, July 20, 2012 1:15:57 PM

Attachments: SEC.Comment.docx

I have served as a judge on the Los Angeles Superior Court for less than a year, and I came to the Court with no particular views about, and little knowledge of, the issues identified in the SEC report. As I preside over matters in a busy civil courtroom, I have been saddened to see how our Court's crushing budget problems constrain our ability to serve my community, which badly needs us to resolve disputes justly and swiftly. I was impressed when I read about the process and diligent work that led to the unanimous SEC report, and I believe that the Judicial Council should adopt that report's recommendations. It seems to me that adopting the recommendations would be an important -- if not crucial -- step toward uniting the judiciary during these tough times.