From: Judge Allen J. Webster

To: Invitations

Subject: Item SP 12-05 Strategic Evaluation Committee Report

Date: Friday, July 20, 2012 12:53:50 PM

To Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye and Members of the Judicial Council:

As a long standing member of various Access and Fairness Committees I commend the Judicial Council's Access and Fairness Advisory Committee for its continued efforts to assist the Council in implementing and supporting Goal 1 of your Strategic Plan which focuses on diversity, access and fairness in the justice system. I also support CJER's education and training programs on fairness for judges, attorneys and the State Bar Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (JNE). This ongoing support is critical in achieving the goals and objectives of building, promoting and supporting a more diverse profession in this nation's most ethnic diverse state.

Moreover, we have another important goal of ensuring access, fairness, objective and impartial treatment for all court users especially those from diverse backgrounds, cultures and communities such as the communities served by the South Central Judicial District of the Los Angeles Superior Court.

It is understandable that the charge of the SEC was to conduct a thorough, complete and objective examination of the role, function, organizational and staffing practice of the AOC focusing on areas of concern and providing recommendations to address same. Yet it is important that the Council be mindful of the positive work, leadership and tireless efforts in the areas of diversity and fairness and that the Council extends Goal 1 as part of your new strategic plan earmarking the allocation of resources to ensure successful implementation of these programs.

If California is to be considered "The Golden State" we must maintain the public's trust and confidence in the judicial system, build pipelines to the profession and utilize the talents of all of its citizens whose lives are intertwined like branches on its multitude of grape vines.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege and opportunity to share my comments with you.