



Judicial Council of California
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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RONALD M. GEORGE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

WILLIAM C. VICKREY
Administrative Director of the Courts

RONALD G. OVERHOLT
Chief Deputy Director

September 8, 2010

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine
Legislative Counsel
State of California
State Capitol, Room 3021
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Gregory P. Schmidt
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 400
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Report to the Legislature on Electronic Recording Equipment Purchased and
Leased by the Superior Courts, as Required Under Government Code Section 69958

Dear Ms. Boyer-Vine, Mr. Schmidt, and Mr. Wilson:

Attached is the Judicial Council report on the purchase and lease of recording equipment by superior courts for the period January 1 through June 30, 2010, as required under Government Code section 69958 (Stats. 2004, ch. 227). Also attached is an amended report for the period July 1 through December 30, 2009, reflecting an increase in the amount spent on electronic recording equipment during the reporting period by just under \$1,000. The revision is due to the Superior

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Court of Monterey County's discovery that the court had inadvertently omitted an invoice in its submission to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

If you have any questions related to these reports, please contact Stephen Nash, Director, AOC Finance Division, at 415-865-7584 or stephen.nash@jud.ca.gov, or Christine Patton, Regional Administrative Director, AOC Bay Area/Northern Coastal Region, at 415-865-4099 or christine.patton@jud.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



William C. Vickrey
Administrative Director of the Courts

WCV/VM

Attachment

cc: Members of the Judicial Council

Ronald G. Overholt, AOC Chief Deputy Director

Brian Brown, Consultant, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review

Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office

Joe Stephenshaw, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee

Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office

Sheila Calabro, Regional Administrative Director, AOC Southern Region

Jody Patel, Regional Administrative Director, AOC Northern/Central Region

Christine Patton, Regional Administrative Director, AOC Bay Area/Northern Coastal Region

Stephen Nash, Director, AOC Finance Division

Donna Hershkowitz, Assistant Director, AOC Office of Governmental Affairs

Henry Sepulveda, Senior Governmental Affairs Analyst, AOC Office of Governmental Affairs

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Report title: Report on Purchase and Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2010)

Statutory citation: Government Code section 69958

Date of report: September 8, 2010

The Judicial Council has submitted a report to the Legislature in accordance with Government Code section 69958.

Government Code section 69958 requires the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature, on a semiannual basis, regarding all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. The report must specify the name of the court, the types of proceedings for which the equipment will be used, the cost of the equipment, and the types of equipment purchased.

The following summary of the report is provided under the requirements of Government Code section 9795.

Administrative Office of the Courts staff recently surveyed all 58 superior courts to obtain the information required for the period January 1 through June 30, 2010. Three courts indicated that they had purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items, at a total cost of \$189,390, to create an official record in various court proceedings or to monitor subordinate judicial officers in certain types of cases during this period. All the purchases are for usage of electronic recording equipment permitted by Government Code section 69957. Information about these transactions is discussed in the report.

A revised report for the period July 30 through December 31, 2009 is also attached. Both reports can be accessed on the following Web site:

www.courtinfo.ca.gov/reference/legislaturereports.htm

Report on Purchase and Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2010)

Government Code section 69958 requires superior courts to provide information to the Judicial Council and for the council to report, on a semiannual basis, to the Legislature regarding all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. For each purchase or lease of equipment, the report must specify the name of the court, the types of proceedings for which the equipment will be used, the cost of the equipment, and the types of equipment purchased.

Administrative Office of the Courts staff surveyed all 58 superior courts to obtain the information required for the period January 1 through June 30, 2010, and reviewed all requests for authorization to purchase electronic recording equipment. Based on the survey and review, it has been determined that three courts purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items for use in court proceedings during this period. All the purchases are for usage of electronic recording equipment permitted by Government Code section 69957.

The Superior Court of Fresno County reported spending \$123,723 to purchase 16 FTR Touch four-channel digital recording devices with USB M-audio, playback switches and accessories, associated hardware, and connectors. The price also included design, project management, installation, training, and shipping and handling. This was not an upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make a record of proceedings in limited civil and small claims cases and to monitor subordinate judicial officers in limited civil, small claims, family law, and family support cases.

The Superior Court of Imperial County reported spending \$15,540 to purchase four Liberty Court Recorder four-channel LCR V6.0 software licenses, four USB encoder mixers, and four external digital clock displays. These items were upgrades of existing equipment and will be used for creating the official record in misdemeanor cases.

The Superior Court of Marin County reported spending \$50,127 to purchase 12 copies of Liberty Digital Recorder software version 5.1 and 12 USB audio input devices, audio mixers, headsets, microphone cables, and USB sound-card cables. This equipment was not an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. It will be used to create an official record in misdemeanors, contested infractions, and limited civil cases and to monitor subordinate judicial officers, hearing officers, or temporary judges in infraction and misdemeanor cases.

The total amount spent by these three superior courts on the purchase or lease of electronic recording equipment during this reporting period was \$189,390.

**Report on Purchase and Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by
Superior Courts (July 1–December 31, 2009)**
(Revised August 2010)

Government Code section 69958 requires superior courts to provide information to the Judicial Council and for the council to report, on a semiannual basis, to the Legislature regarding all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. For each purchase or lease of equipment, the report must specify the name of the court, the types of proceedings for which the equipment will be used, the cost of the equipment, and the types of equipment purchased.

Consistent with the statutory requirement, Administrative Office of the Courts staff surveyed all 58 superior courts to obtain the information required for the period July 1 through December 31, 2009. Six courts indicated that they had purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items for use in court proceedings during this period. Information about these transactions is discussed below.

The Superior Court of Kern County spent \$124 to purchase an external hard drive to upgrade its recording equipment. The equipment will be used to create an official record in traffic, misdemeanor, and limited civil cases.

The Superior Court of Lake County spent \$4,733 to purchase FTR Reporter 2.2 software and an Antex 74-channel USB mixer. This equipment was not a replacement or an upgrade. This equipment will be used to create the official record in limited civil unlawful detainer, small claims, and infraction proceedings.

The Superior Court of Monterey County spent \$4,571 to purchase FTR Reporter 5.3 audio-only software, a Digigram VXpocket 440 sound card, four Shure VP64A microphones, four Quiklok A-188 desktop microphone stands, four Audio-Technica 3-pin cables, and four Windtech 300 Mic-Muffs. The items were upgrades of existing hardware and software and will be used to create an official record of proceedings in small claims, infraction, misdemeanor, and limited civil cases and in misdemeanor drug court progress reviews.

The Superior Court of San Benito County spent \$3,982 to purchase a Dell Precision T5400 workstation. The equipment was an upgrade and will be used to create an official record in misdemeanor and traffic proceedings.

The Superior Court of San Bernardino County spent \$9,238 to purchase two FTR Reporters with an FTR USB external clock display. The equipment is a replacement and a spare for existing equipment and will be used to create an official record in traffic and small claims cases.

The Superior Court of Sonoma County spent \$28,582 to purchase five four-channel Liberty Court Recorders. The equipment was not an upgrade and will be used for creating the official record in misdemeanor proceedings.

The total amount spent by all superior courts on the purchase or lease of electronic recording equipment during this reporting period was \$51,230.