

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS**

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102-3688

Report

TO: Members of the Judicial Council

FROM: Kleps Awards Committee
Hon. Ronald B. Robie, Chair
Beth Shirk, Analyst, Executive Office Programs Division

DATE: March 6, 2005

SUBJECT: Ralph N. Kleps Awards for 2004–2005 (Action Required)

Issue Statement

The Judicial Council has annually approved the court programs selected by the Kleps Awards Committee to receive the Ralph N. Kleps Award for Improvement in Judicial Administration.

Recommendation

[*Staff note:* The Kleps Awards Committee will deliver its recommendations to the Judicial Council at the April 15, 2005, meeting due to the confidential nature of the recommendations.]

Rationale for Recommendation

This is the 15th year in which the Judicial Council will present the awards that were created in honor of Ralph N. Kleps, the first administrative director of the California courts. The purpose of the Ralph N. Kleps Award is to recognize and honor the contributions made by individual courts in California to the administration of justice.

The criteria for the award include improvements in the administration of the courts that reflect innovation, fulfill the intent of at least one goal of the Judicial Council's Strategic Plan, and can be transferred to other courts. Projects must have been in operation long enough to have shown measurable impact.

Nomination materials were made available to the courts on May 11, 2004, with a submission deadline of October 1, 2004. Courts submitted nominations in one of five categories: three based on court size as defined by authorized judicial position

equivalents (AJPs), a fourth category for the appellate courts, and a fifth category for collaborative projects submitted by two or more courts. A total of 41 nominations were received.

The Kleps Awards Committee serves as the jury for the award. Members include a diverse group of court representatives, including members of the bench and court staff. Hon. Ronald B. Robie chairs this year's committee, while Mr. Michael D. Planet serves as vice-chair. Members include Ms. Tina M. Burkhart, Ms. Yvonne Choong, Hon. Richard David Fybel, Ms. Lisa M. Galdos, Mr. Michael Glisson, Hon. Mary Thornton House, Ms. Marilyn James, Mr. Allen Jensen, Mr. Stephen M. Kelly, Ms. Sheila Kuck, Hon. Marilyn B. Miles, Ms. Sylvia White-Irby, and Hon. Erica R. Yew.

Alternative Actions Considered

Not applicable.

Comments From Interested Parties

Not applicable.

Implementation Requirements and Costs

The awards will be presented at the 2005 State Judicial Conference on September 7, 2005. Each winning court will be invited to display an overview of its project at the conference. Summary description of the nominated projects will be included in publications. Many of the projects will also be featured on Court News Online throughout the year, to enable the courts to learn more about innovations around the state.