



Judicial Council of California · Administrative Office of the Courts

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on: June 25, 2010

Title	Agenda Item Type
Criminal Law: Judicial Council Appointment to the California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision	Action Required
Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected	Effective Date
None	June 25, 2010
Recommended by	Date of Report
Executive and Planning Committee Hon. Richard D. Huffman, Chair	June 21, 2010
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Executive Summary

The Executive and Planning Committee recommends the appointment of Judge Ronald S. Coen of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County to the California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision. The seven-member council must include a superior court judge appointed by the Judicial Council. The California Council is required by the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision, which governs state administration of the transfer across state lines of the supervision of adult parolees and probationers.

Recommendation

The Executive and Planning Committee of the Judicial Council recommends that the Judicial Council appoint Judge Ronald S. Coen of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County to the California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision, as provided in Penal Code section 11181(c).

Previous Council Action

On February 22, 2008, the council appointed Presiding Judge Steve White, Superior Court of Sacramento County, to the California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision. Presiding Judge White recently resigned, requiring the council to make an appointment at this time. On April 15, 2005, the Judicial Council appointed Judge Rebecca S. Riley, Superior Court of Ventura County. On December 5, 2003, the Judicial Council appointed Judge J. Richard Couzens, Superior Court of Placer County.

Rationale for Recommendation

The California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision was created by Senate Bill 2023 (Stats. 2000, ch. 658). The Judicial Council is required to appoint one superior court judge to serve on the council. (Pen. Code, § 11181(c).)

The council meets on a quarterly basis in Sacramento. Its primary responsibility is to “exercise oversight and advocacy concerning its participation” in national efforts pertaining to interstate adult offender supervision and to develop “policy concerning operations and procedures of the [interstate] compact within the state.” (Pen. Code, § 11181(b).)

It consists of seven members and must include the Director of Corrections or his or her designee, three members appointed by the Governor, one member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, one member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, and one superior court judge appointed by the Judicial Council. (Pen. Code, § 11181(c).) With the exception of the Director of Corrections or his or her designee, who also serves as California’s representative to a national commission on this topic, each member of the council is to serve a term of four years. (Pen. Code, § 11181(c)–(d).) Council members are not compensated except for reasonable per diem expenses. (Pen. Code, § 11181(d).)

The primary role of the judicial member of the California Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision is to act as an informational and educational liaison to the judicial branch. The judicial member also helps the council develop administrative and procedural policy regarding California’s implementation of the interstate compact. As such, a judge with advisory committee or judicial education experience is desirable.

Judge Ronald S. Coen was appointed to the bench in 1985 after serving as a deputy district attorney in Los Angeles County for more than 12 years. Judge Coen has made significant contributions in the area of statewide judicial education, including developing curricula as a faculty member of the Administrative Office of the Courts, Education Division/Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER). Judge Coen served as chair of the Criminal Law Education Committee (2007–2009), vice-chair of the Criminal Law and Procedure Education Committee (2002–2006), a member of the Continuing Judicial Studies Education Committee (2009), and a faculty member of the National Judicial College and CJER’s Continuing Judicial Studies Program. He also has served as a faculty member for numerous CJER and local court

institutes, conferences, and seminars. Judge Coen is a member of the Criminal Law Curriculum Committee and the Judicial Council's Criminal Law Advisory Committee.

Comments, Alternatives Considered, and Policy Implications

The Executive and Planning Committee considered several excellent candidates and supports the appointment of this candidate. A discussion of alternatives would not be appropriate.

Implementation Requirements, Costs, and Operational Impacts

The costs and operational impacts of this appointment will be negligible.