Judicial Council of California
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

455 Golden Gate Avenue • San Francisco, California 94102-3688

Telephone 415-865-4200 • Fax 415-865-4205 • TDD 415-865-4272

MEMORANDUM

Date
December 14, 2010

To
Members of the Judicial Council

From
William C. Vickrey
Administrative Director of the Courts

Subject
Report on Activities of the
Administrative Office of the Courts

Action Requested
For Information Only

Deadline
N/A

Contact
Tina Carroll
Executive Office Liaison
415-865-4242 phone
Tina.Carroll@jud.ca.gov

The following information outlines some of the many activities taking place to further the Judicial Council's goals and agenda for the judicial branch. (It does not address issues on which the council has been briefed through other information sources).

Issues and activities highlighted include the following:

- Budget *(p. 2)*
- Legislation *(p. 2)*
- Judicial Appointments and Vacancies *(p. 3 & 17)*
- Administrative Infrastructure Initiatives *(p. 6)*
- Advisory Committees, Task Forces, and Working Groups *(p. 8 & 10)*
- Judicial and Court Employee Education *(p. 8 & 12)*

Attachment: DataPoints: Improving Asbestos Case Management in the Superior Court of San Francisco County.

Summary

* Please note: Page numbers next to summary items reference more detailed information.

Budget:

- **Trial Court Funding for Increased Retirement and Healthcare Costs:** The trial courts confirmed increased costs for the above items in the amount of $44 million. The state Department of Finance has approved the necessary funding for these costs for the current 2010–2011 fiscal year.
- **Impact on Fiscal Year 2011–2012 budget of the $30 million reduction to trial court funding in the current year:** At a previous Judicial Council meeting, questions were raised as to whether or not the $30 million reduction would be ongoing. After meetings with the state Department of Finance (DOF) on budget revenues and planning assumptions, DOF has confirmed that the budget reduction is one-time for the current fiscal year (2010–2011) and that a planned adjustment will be made for fiscal year 2011–2012 to restore funding.
- **Fiscal Outlook:** The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released its report on California's fiscal outlook for the 2011–2012 budget in November. The report identified a budget problem of $25.4 billion. The budget problem consists of a $6 billion projected deficit for 2010–11 and a $19 billion gap between projected revenues and spending in 2011–2012. The LAO also projects annual budget problems of about $20 billion each year through 2015–2016 and recommended that the Legislature initiate a multiyear approach to solving California's recurring structural budget deficit. In 2011–2012, such an approach might involve $10 billion of permanent revenue and expenditure actions and $15 billion of temporary budget solutions. In 2012–2013, 2013–2014, and 2014–2015, another few billion of permanent actions each year could be initiated, along with other temporary budget solutions, until the structural deficit is eliminated.
- **Special Session of the Legislature:** After the incoming legislators were sworn into office, Governor Schwarzenegger declared a fiscal emergency and a special session of the Legislature to act upon the fiscal emergency. He proposed a package of budget solutions and called upon the Legislature to act upon them. Budget committees in both legislative houses convened to look at the Governor's special session proposals and then adjourned with no indication that they would take any action before the new Governor takes office on January 3, 2011.

Legislation:

- Both houses of the Legislature convened the 2011–2012 regular session in December. Chief Justice George swore in the senators and senate leader and Chief Justice-elect Cantil-Sakauye swore in the assembly members and their leadership.
- Chief Justice-elect Cantil-Sakauye and representatives from the AOC later met with legislative leaders and members to discuss the upcoming legislative session and budget year.

New Judgeships and Vacancies (*Page 17)*:

- Twelve new judicial appointments were made by the Governor: Fresno (1), Imperial (1), Los Angeles (7), Orange (2), and Stanislaus (1).
- Currently, there are 23 trial court vacancies and no appellate court judicial vacancies.

New Court Interpreter Language Designated for Certification: Under authority previously delegated by the Judicial Council and with the recommendation of the Court Interpreters Advisory Panel, the Administrative Director of the Courts approved the designation of the language of Farsi for the certification of court interpreters.

Judicial Branch Audit Program:

- Audits initiated: Regular cycle comprehensive audit for the Superior Court of Mono County.
- Audit reports completed and pending submission to the Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch: Regular cycle comprehensive audit for the Superior Court of Shasta County.
- Audit reports completed and submitted to the committee: Regular cycle comprehensive audit for the Superior Court of Lassen County.
- Audit reports pending acceptance of the Judicial Council:
  - Regular cycle comprehensive audit: Superior Court of Colusa County.
  - Performance audit: Merced Superior Court - Limited Review of the New Downtown Courthouse Construction, Costs and Other Related Matters
- California Case Management System: Monthly Independent Project Oversight and Independent Validation and Verification reports for October and November.

Farewell to the Chief: AOC staff members at each regional office were given the opportunity to bid farewell to outgoing Chief Justice Ronald M. George. The program consisted of a viewing of a film on the Chief Justice's tenure and personal speeches from staff expressing their appreciation for his leadership and strong support of the AOC.

International Visitors: A group of 25 visitors from China visited the AOC in collaboration with the U.S. China Exchange Council for presentation and discussion on the California courts' Alternative Dispute Resolution program.

Update of Staff Workload Model for Trial Courts:

- Approximately 4,500 staff from 24 trial courts completed a time study to provide empirical data for updating the staff workload case weights for various case types; the previous staff workload study was conducted more than five years ago.
- Staff workload case weights are used to assist courts in evaluating their staff allocation by providing comparative data on staff allocation in other courts. The current study is also focused on linking staff allocation to the quality and level of court services to determine where more resources are needed and meet case-processing targets mandated by the Legislature.

Community Corrections Program:

- More than 100 participants attended Senate Bill 678/Evidence-Based Practices regional trainings to learn about county probation department efforts in support of the new law and its potential impact on the judiciary.
- The program hosted a two-day training for the California Risk Assessment Pilot Project probation departments as they developed tactical plans to become more evidence-based.
- Over 200 judges, prosecution, and defense attorneys in San Francisco attended Community Corrections Program trainings on both programs.
- Yolo County joined the risk assessment pilot project.
- Community Corrections staff presented to the Criminal Law Advisory Committee on SB 678 and the responsibilities of the Judicial Council outlined in the legislation.
- The six California Parolee Reentry Courts began operations.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Evaluations: AOC staff conducted evaluations of CASA programs in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties to ensure compliance with California Rules of Court and National CASA Association Standards.

National Activities

Federal Outreach:

- Several new Judicial Council members and AOC directors met with representatives from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) on policy and programmatic issues affecting federal and state court systems, including the legislative agenda for state courts, judicial salaries, judgeships, and court construction and facilities management programs.
- Several council members, AOC staff, and NCSC representatives met with the staff of several Congress members to discuss pending federal legislation that impacts the California courts and courts throughout the country. The legislation and issues included:
  - The Crime Victim Restitution and Court Fee Intercept Act (HR 1956) which would authorize the interception of federal tax refunds to collect unpaid state court fines and fees.
  - The State Court Interpreter Grant Program Act (S 1329) which would authorize multi-year grants for state interpreter programs.
  - The reauthorization of Court Improvement Programs which provides grants to state courts to improve their handling of child abuse and neglect cases.
  - Options to support deployment of CCMS with funds included in federal fiscal year 2012 budget requests.
- Additionally, meetings were held with representatives of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to discuss CCMS implementation issues and other issues of joint interest to the DOJ and the Judicial Council, such as the pending federal legislation.

- The delegation also represented California at the national gathering of state court leaders for the presentation of the William H. Rehnquist Judicial Excellence Award. (Three members of California's judiciary previously have been honored with this prestigious award: Chief Justice George, Judge Veronica McBeth, and Judge Leonard P. Edwards).

Domestic Violence Summit: Members of the AOC attended the Conference of State Court Administrators' National Leadership Summit on State Court Responses to Domestic Violence in New Orleans. The two-day conference included plenary sessions, roundtable discussions in which AOC members facilitated a session on Court Assessment & Improvement, and a panel discussion on successful working models that included Judicial Council member Judge Erica Yew.

National Conference on Confidentiality and Information Sharing: The conference, co-sponsored by Stewards of Change and the Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice and Research at the University of Pennsylvania, brought together public and private program and technical experts from around the country working to overcome real and perceived barriers to sharing information about children and families among data systems such as CCMS, child welfare, education, and health care. The AOC's briefing papers on confidentiality laws and information sharing, prepared in furtherance of data sharing recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care and the Child Welfare Council, have been very well received statewide and nationally.

National Leadership Summit on State Court Responses to Domestic Violence: The National Center for State Courts hosted a leadership summit to highlight the use of federal grant dollars to enhance the state court responses to domestic violence. California sent a team to the conference using grant funds. The team included Judicial Council Member Judge Erica Yew, Ronald Overholt, Diane Nunn, Bobbie Welling, and Roseann St. Clair (California Emergency Management Agency). The California team was selected to showcase its successful nine-year, on-going grant project and effective collaboration with its grant administrator, the California Emergency Management Agency. California also showcased two of its primary projects: the tribal justice project, which focuses on enhancing state and tribal court responses to domestic violence cases, and the Domestic Violence Safety Partnership project, which provides education, training, and technical assistance to local trial courts in the area of domestic violence.

Southwest Regional State Tribal Forum: California's Tribal Court/State Court Forum sent a delegation to the Southwest Regional State Tribal Forum in New Mexico, which was convened by the National Center for State Courts.

Administrative Infrastructure Initiatives

Facilities:

Capital Projects:

- ***Richard E. Arnason Justice Center Dedication:*** Chief Justice Ronald M. George, Presiding Judge Mary Ann O'Malley, and AOC Chief Deputy Director Ronald G. Overholt joined the dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new seven-courtroom facility. It is the first courthouse built by the AOC that was designed to receive the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. It is also the first courthouse in California completely funded by the state through court user fees and assessments, without reliance on the state's General Fund. Construction began in April 2009 and was completed on schedule and on budget.
- ***In-site selection/acquisition:*** 37 projects, with a total value of $4 billion. The AOC is working with many counties and cities who have offered equity swaps, exchanges, and property donations for locating these projects.

State Public Works Board Approval:

- Authorized the sale of lease revenue bonds for Calaveras' new San Andreas courthouse and San Benito's new Hollister courthouse.
- Preliminary plans funding for four SB 1407-funded construction projects: Imperial – new El Centro courthouse, Los Angeles – new Southeast Los Angeles courthouse, Shasta – new Redding courthouse, Tehama – new Red Bluff courthouse.
- Site selection for two potential sites for the new Sacramento criminal courthouse.
- Site selection approval for Tulare – new Porterville courthouse
- Site acquisition for Butte – new North Butte courthouse.
- Site acquisition for Riverside – new Indio family and juvenile courthouse
- Contingent no-cost site acquisition for the Santa Clara – new family justice center.

Facility Modifications:

- ***In progress:*** 738 active facility modifications at a value of $42.0 million.

Facilities Management Process Re-engineering: The AOC released a request for proposals to implement Job Order Contracting for facility modification projects statewide. The solicitation will result in selection of contractors to perform facility modifications, primarily between $15,000 and $500,000, representing about one third of facility management work.

Technology:

California Court Case Management System (CCMS):

- ***CCMS Cost-Benefit Analysis:*** The AOC selected Grant Thornton, LLP to perform a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis related to its statewide implementation.
- ***Liaison with State Chief Information Officer:*** Monthly meetings are continuing with the Office of the Chief Information Officer to discuss progress on approximately 20 recommendations from the report on CCMS. Nine of the recommendations have been implemented.
- ***CCMS Audit:*** The Bureau of State Audit's review process continues. A final draft of the report is expected in January; the public release is expected in February.
- ***Major CCMS Cost Saving Initiative:*** The CCMS V3 support transition project transfers application support of V3 from Deloitte Consulting to the AOC. The effort will move technical support for the V3 Case Management System (Civil, Small Claims, Mental Health, Probate) from Deloitte to the AOC Information Services Division, achieving a cost savings of at least 30 percent($5 million through 2014) in labor charges, while building in-house V3 functional and technical knowledge to be used for future technical support of CCMS
- AOC executives continue to have weekly meetings with executive management of Deloitte Consulting to track progress and development.
- The courts, AOC, and Deloitte continue the integration testing phase of the CCMS core product. Pass-rate for the vendor went up two points to 91 percent (82-83 percent for court testers remains steady) for integration scripts, which is higher than normally expected for this phase of testing.
- Preparation work for deploying CCMS to the early adopter courts continues.
- A presentation was made to the Civil Defense Bar in Los Angeles in November.

Trial Courts Network Infrastructure: This program develops and supports a standardized level of network infrastructure for the superior courts as a foundation for enterprise system applications such as Phoenix fiscal and human resource systems and CCMS via shared services at the California Courts Technology Center. The fourth technical refresh is currently under way with 23 of the 51 courts completed as of November.

Phoenix Human Resources System Implementation for San Bernardino: The system was activated in San Bernardino Superior Court on August 1, marking the first HR system deployment since December 2006. The system will be fully interfaced with court vendors such as Kaiser, Health Net, and ING Retirement. To date, seven courts are benefitting from a fully integrated financial and human resources management system. Additional system deployments have been suspended due to the budget crisis, but will resume when resources become available in future fiscal years.

Advisory Committees, Task Forces, and Working Groups (*Page 10)*:

Advisory committees will hold only one in-person meeting per year until the fiscal situation improves. Other meetings will be convened using video- or audio-conferencing.

The following committees met since the Judicial Council's October meeting:

1. Access and Fairness Advisory Committee
2. Appellate Indigent Defense Oversight Advisory Committee
3. Center for Judicial Education and Research Governing Committee
4. Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee
5. Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee
6. Criminal Law Advisory Committee
7. Presiding Judge/Court Executive Officer Rules and Roles Analysis Working Group
8. Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee
9. Sergeant Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee
10. Task Force for Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues
11. Traffic Advisory Committee
12. Tribal Court/State Court Forum

Education and Training Programs *(Page 12):*

Judicial Education

1. Complex Civil Litigation Workshop
2. Domestic Violence Workshops – Juvenile Law Institute
3. Juvenile Court Domestic Violence Restraining Orders: Challenging Issues
4. Presiding Judge and Court Executive Officer Management Program
5. Qualifying Judicial Ethics Training

Judicial Officer, Court Employee, and Justice System Stakeholder Education

6. Access Laws training on the Americans With Disabilities Act and Rule 1.100
7. Assessing Requests for Dementia Powers
8. California on My Honor Civics Education Program
9. Collaborative Justice Courts Law School Externship Program
10. Court Investigator's Role in Guardianships After the Issuance of Orders and Letters
11. Effective Strategies for Conducting Investigations Involving Chemically Dependent Populations
12. Effective Visual Aids
13. High Performing Courts – Concluding Seminar
14. Facilitating Learning
15. Faculty Development Fundamentals
16. Family Dispute Resolution Training
17. Getting Foster Youth Into College Training
18. How the Courts Failed Germany: Law, Justice, and the Holocaust

19. Labor Relations Forum
20. Managing Court Financial Resources
21. Managing Court Technology Projects and Resources
22. Managing Human Resources
23. Presentation Skills
24. Trial and Appellate Court Training Coordinators Meetings
25. Working Group to Eliminate Disparities

Broadcasts

26. Continuing the Dialogue–The Neuroscience and Psychology of Decision-making, Part 3: Dismantling and Overriding Bias
27. Great Minds–Interview with Chief Justice Ronald M. George by Justice Norman L. Epstein
28. Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment for justices, judges, and subordinate judicial officers
29. Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment, compliance with Government Code Section 12950.1 for managers and supervisors

New Course

30. Indian Child Welfare

Publications

31. After Trial 2010 Update
32. DataPoints: Improving Asbestos Case Management in the Superior Court of San Francisco

Updated Benchguide

33. Probate Administration

Additional Detail on Summary Items

Advisory Committees/Task Forces/Working Groups

Access and Fairness Advisory Committee

- Determined key objectives and discussed and prioritized projects for the committee's 2011 annual agenda.

Appellate Indigent Defense Oversight Advisory Committee

- Audited 140 compensation claims.

Center for Judicial Education and Research Governing Committee

- Approved proposed recommendations on the evaluation of education rules to be reported to the Judicial Council in spring 2011. This included receiving the data from the aggregate reports on education participation by justices and judges and the results from the Survey on the Implementation of the Education Rules.
- Approved the proposed Judicial Branch Education Plan, Fiscal Year 2010–2011 and 2011–2012—the culmination of the year-long effort of nine curriculum committees and staff to create a two-year plan for judicial education.
- Approved the appointments of CJER Governing Committee liaisons to Judicial Council advisory committees and task forces, and CJER curriculum committees for 2010–2011.

Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee

- Considered the committee's proposed annual agenda for 2011.
- Reviewed proposals for rules, forms, and legislation presented to the committee.
- Considered and commented on several California Law Revision Commission Tentative Recommendations on proposed statutes concerning small claims court.

Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee

- Discussed committee roles and responsibilities to identify methods to support collaborative courts in the challenging fiscal environment.
- Discussed the implementation of a project to help veteran's courts integrate and utilize veterans as mentors.

Criminal Law Advisory Committee

- Considered various rule and form proposals, including proposals to: (1) revise the Judicial Council criminal protective orders and abstract of judgment forms; (2) recommend a new misdemeanor domestic violence plea form; and (3) amend rules 4.115 and 8.835 of the California Rules of Court in response to recent case law.
- Received an update from the AOC's Judge-in-Residence Hon. Roger K. Warren about the Judicial Council's role in implementing principles of evidence-based practices under Senate Bill 678.

Presiding Judges/Court Executive Officers Rules and Roles Analysis Working Group

- Trial Court Presiding Judges and the Court Executives Advisory Committees approved for circulation for public comment, during the December 2010–January 2011 comment cycle, draft rule proposals regarding presiding judge and court executive officer responsibilities
- The revisions are being proposed to better reflect current duties and clarify the roles and relationship of the leadership team.

Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee

- Considered various rules and forms to be proposed to circulate for public comment in winter 2010 and spring 2011.
- Reviewed recommendations from the Judicial Council's Probate Conservatorship Task Force that have not yet been implemented to determine committee recommendations concerning further action.

Sergeant Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee

- The Sergeant Shriver Civil Counsel Act provides approximately $11 million in funding, starting in July 2011, for pilot projects by qualified legal services agencies to provide representation to low-income persons for critical legal issues affecting basic human needs, such as child custody, housing and probate conservatorships.
- There will be one or more model projects in selected pilot courts, working in collaboration with local legal services programs. Each project will have a local advisory committee. Court partners also will be responsible for providing procedures, personnel, training, case management and administrative practices to ensure self-represented parties meaningful access.
- Pilot selection will be based on a competitive request for proposals process administered by the Judicial Council. Case assessment factors include the adversarial nature and complexity of the case; language, literacy, and disability issues; and the availability and effectiveness of alternative solutions.
- The committee, chaired by Justice Earl Johnson, Jr. (ret.), reviewed letters of interest from legal services programs.

Task Force for Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues

- The subcommittee chairs met to review the draft recommendations report of the task force in preparation for presentation to task force members in January.

Traffic Advisory Committee

- Recommended revision of uniform bail and penalty schedules, effective November 1, 2010, to reflect recent changes in law.
- Recommended further revision of uniform bail and penalty schedules, effective January 1, 2011, to reflect additional changes in law.

Tribal Court/State Court Forum

- Formed the following working groups:
  - *Legislative Proposal Working Group* to prepare the legislative proposal, initially drafted by Judge Marston on behalf of the Chemehuevi Tribe, for Judicial Council sponsorship. The proposal, as currently drafted, provides for the recognition of tribal court orders by state courts, and applies to all civil money and non-money judgments except for those relating to protective orders, child support, and Indian Child Welfare Act cases.
  - *Working Group on Local Rules/Protocols* to address where state and tribal court jurisdiction overlap, specifically in domestic violence and Indian Child Welfare Act cases; and develop rules/protocols to address issues that arise in the following situations:
    (1) Domestic Violence Prevention Act petitions filed in state court while there are ongoing custody or dissolution proceedings in tribal court (or vice versa);
    (2) Guardianship cases involving transfer between tribal and state court, the state court's recognition of tribal custody orders, and the state court's receipt of information relating to the existence of Indian custodians;
    (3) Juvenile dependency and delinquency cases relating to the allocation and sharing of jurisdiction between tribal courts and state courts of "juvenile case files", including information in the county social service file that predates the filing of a juvenile court petition; and
    (4) Identify and recommend when statewide solutions are more appropriate.
  - *Education Working Group* to (1) develop and plan educational events for forum members; (2) facilitate local tribal/state collaborations; and (3) review judicial educational materials and make recommendations to the AOC to incorporate P.L. 280 content into existing educational programming for judges.

Education Programs

Judicial Education

Complex Civil Litigation Workshop: Twenty-three judges attended the workshop, in addition to two judges from King County in Washington State, whose courts may establish a complex civil litigation court program.

Domestic Violence Workshops – Juvenile Law Institute: The AOC, in collaboration with the Violence Against Women Education Project, presented the following workshops at the Juvenile Law Institute in November: (1) Domestic Violence and Dependency: A Judge's Guide, (2) Reasonable Efforts in Cases Involving Domestic Violence, and (3) Nuts and Bolts of Juvenile Restraining Orders.

Effective Strategies for Conducting Investigations Involving Chemically Dependent Populations: A two day regional session for probate court investigators included course

topics on signs of substance abuse, impact of substance abuse on care giving, and successful treatment options.

High Performing Courts: Concluding Seminar: Twenty-five managers and supervisors attended the Institute for Court Management course at the National Center for State Courts, which was held at the Sacramento Regional Office. Course content included instruction on implementing management processes for a high performance court, leading a court through times of organizational stress, and maintaining the legitimacy of the courts as an institution.

Juvenile Court Domestic Violence Restraining Orders–Challenging Issues: The Violence Against Women Education Project sponsored an interactive forum on challenging issues in juvenile court restraining orders. The forum resulted in recommendations for possible changes to rules, forms, publications, or educational materials.

Presiding Judge and Court Executive Officer Management Program: Eighty presiding and assistant presiding judges, executive and assistant executive officers attended this three-day program. The effective use of assigned judges, case management issues, and budgetary considerations affecting the Assigned Judges Program were discussed, including the use of Government Code section 69740, which allows courts to move cases to adjoining counties.

Qualifying Judicial Ethics Training: Six core ethics classes were held in Irvine, San Diego, Bakersfield, Ventura, and Sacramento.

Judicial Officer, Court Employees, and Justice System Stakeholders Education

California on My Honor Program: The program hosted a follow-up session for teachers who attended the summer Leadership Institute to increase civic education in schools with a focus on the judicial branch. The 12 teachers shared the civic education curricula they piloted in their classrooms this fall, celebrated the success of their first Court Connection teacher workshop at the Orange County Superior Court, and prepared for five more Court Connection teacher workshops throughout the state. They also met with Chief Justice George and Supreme Court Clerk Fritz Ohlrich to learn more about the Supreme Court special sessions, and explore ways to support this valuable program.

Effective Visual Aids: A two day regional session for court and AOC employees explored various ways to give presentations with a more powerful visual impact.

Facilitating Learning: A day-long regional session for AOC and court employees included topics on effective teaching in a computer laboratory, working with co-facilitators, effective room arrangement, and effective pacing and visual aids.

Faculty Development Fundamentals: Appellate, Trial, and AOC faculty developed courses to be offered at local courts and the AOC. Additionally, judges and subordinate judicial officers attended a program that included demonstrations of courses to be added to the local court training catalog.

Family Dispute Resolution Training:

- In November, the final regional Family Dispute Resolution (FDR) Directors training was held in Burbank. In December, a two-hour orientation training for new FDR directors was held via conference call addressing topics such as how the AOC provides support, assistance, and education services to courts, as well as issues of concern to new managers.
- A one-day regional training for child custody mediators and evaluators was held in Burbank. The training addressed children's voices and participation in family court, domestic violence topics, and mental health interdisciplinary issues. Family Court judicial officers served as faculty and panelists together with Family Court Services faculty and mental health professionals.

Getting Foster Youth Into College Training: The AOC, in association with the Northern California Association of Counsel for Children, conducted a multidisciplinary training on getting foster youth into, and through, the pipeline to higher education at its San Francisco office.

How the Courts Failed Germany: Law, Justice, and the Holocaust: Dr. William Meinecke from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum examined the pressure faced by German jurists under the Nazis and its implications. He encouraged discussion about the Holocaust through the interpretation of images from the 1930s and 1940s with special emphasis on the role played by the law and judges in the destruction of democracy and the establishment of the Nazi German state. The program was held in three locations (Sacramento, U.C. Irvine, and San Francisco) for judicial officers, clerk administrators, court executive officers, and justice system partners, and it was partially funded by the State Bar Foundation, local bars, and U.C. Irvine.

Labor Relations Forum: The AOC held its 2010 Statewide Labor Relations Forums in three regions. The Forum served as a platform for discussing issues, such as bargaining, cost savings measures, labor-related communications to court staff, grievances/arbitrations, unfair practice charges, and writ petitions, and financial/legal updates from the AOC. Forty-two courts were represented at the forum program.

Managing Court Financial Resources: Twenty-five managers and supervisors attended this ICM course at Superior Court of Fresno County. Course content included instruction on financial reporting, budget practices, policies, how to justify budget proposals, and strategies for fiscal management during difficult fiscal situations.

Managing Court Technology Projects and Resources: Over 25 managers and supervisors attended this course at the Superior Court of Orange County. Course content included instruction on understanding court functions and operations, how technology can be used in all of the National Association for Court Management's core competencies, and the role technology should play in organizational performance.

Managing Human Resources: Course content included instruction on HR laws, practices, policies, and procedures; how to develop good employee relations and the importance of organizational development and mentoring; and succession planning.

Presentation Skills: A two day regional session for court and AOC employees included topics on presentation organization, effective delivery techniques, and tips to gain confidence when presenting in front of a full room of attendees.

Working Group to Eliminate Disparities: AOC staff attended the Working Group to Eliminate Disparities meeting. The working group will produce a quarterly newsletter for the State Interagency Team for Children and Youth outlining the efforts of state agencies to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities.

Publication

DataPoints: Improving Asbestos Case Management in the Superior Court of San Francisco: Asbestos litigation creates unique challenges for the Superior Courts: they require almost twice as much judge time; over four times as much staff time; and use jurors at a rate ten times that of other unlimited civil cases. This issue of *DataPoints*, produced by the AOC, explains why asbestos cases are so different from other unlimited civil cases, and even other complex civil cases, and describes the measures taken in the San Francisco Superior Court to improve the management of asbestos litigation. New case management procedures have cut the number of asbestos cases awaiting trial by 32 percent; reduced the average number of days spent in trial by 65 percent; and reduced the use of jurors for asbestos cases by 58 percent.

JUDICIAL VACANCY REPORT

Number of Judgeships Authorized, Filled and Vacant as of **December 10, 2010**

TYPE OF COURT	NUMBER OF COURTS	NUMBER OF JUDGESHIPS					
		Authorized	Filled	Vacant	Vacant (AB 159 positions)	*Filled(Last Month***)*	*Vacant(Last Month***)*
Supreme Court	1	7	7	0	0	*7*	*0*
Courts of Appeal	6	105	102	3	0	*102*	*3*
Superior Courts	58	1661	1588	23**	50*	*1559*	*102*
All Courts	**65**	**1773**	**1697**	**76**		***1668***	***105***

* Authorized January 1, 2008, 50 new (AB 159) judgeships are added. Funding for these positions has been deferred.

** Includes 15 of the 16 newly converted positions, except for one in Alameda. That subordinate judicial officer position will be vacant on December 31, 2010**.** Twelve of the newly converted positions have been filled.

***As of November 31, 2010.

JUDICIAL VACANCIES: APPELLATE COURTS

Appellate District	Vacancies	Reason for Vacancy	Justice to be Replaced	Last Day In Office
TOTAL VACANCIES	0			

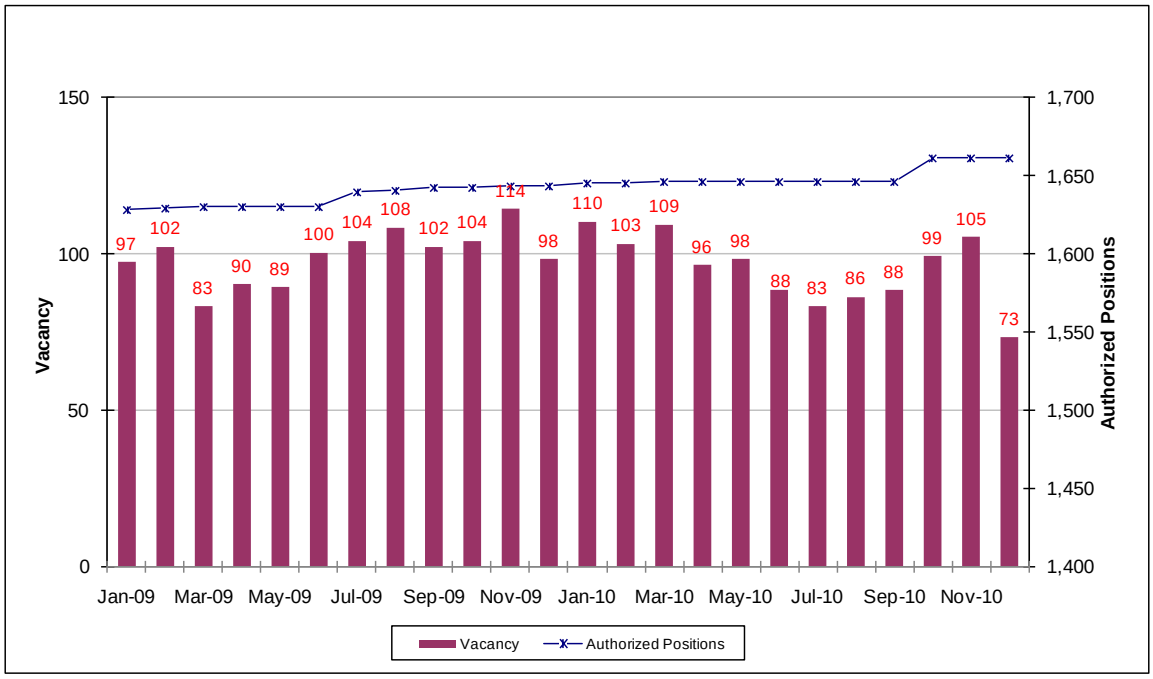
*Associate Justice Vance W. Raye (Third Appellate District) was appointed on November 23, 2010, to replace retired Presiding Justice Arthur G. Scotland. The appointment was confirmed on December 10, 2010.

**Judge William J. Murray, Jr. (Superior Court of San Joaquin County) was appointed on November 23, 2010, to replace retired Associate Justice Rodney Davis. The appointment was confirmed on December 10, 2010.

***Judge Carol D. Codrington (Superior Court of Riverside County) was nominated on August 11, 2010, to replace retired Associate Justice Barton C. Gaut. She was confirmed on August 25, 2010, and won the November 2010 election. She will begin her term on January 3, 2011.

JUDICIAL VACANCIES: SUPERIOR COURTS

County	Vacancies	Reason for Vacancy	Judge to be Replaced	Last Day In Office
Alameda	2	Converted	New Position	10/08/10
Alameda		Retirement	Hon. Stephen Allen Dombrink	03/31/10
Colusa	1	Retirement	Hon. John H. Tiernan	06/25/10
El Dorado	1	Converted	New Position	10/08/10
Imperial	2	Retirement	Hon. Joseph Zimmerman	11/10/10
Imperial		Deceased	Hon. Barrett J. Foerster	11/10/10
Los Angeles	1	Retirement	Hon. Emily A. Stevens	05/11/10
Marin	1	Retirement	Hon. Michael B. Dufficy	02/18/10
Mono	1	Retirement	Hon. Edward Forstenzer	03/31/10
Sacramento	1	Elevated	Hon. Louis R. Mauro	08/24/10
San Bernardino	4	Retirement	Hon. Barry L. Plotkin	12/03/10
San Bernardino		Retirement	Hon. Michael A. Smith	06/30/10
San Bernardino		Retirement	Hon. Raymond Paul Van Stockum	05/10/10
San Bernardino		Dis Retirement	Hon. Linda M. Wilde	05/10/10
San Diego	2	Resigned	Hon. DeAnn M. Salcido	11/10/10
San Diego		Retirement	Hon. Yuri Hofmann	10/08/10
San Francisco	1	Retirement	Hon. Donna J. Hitchens	11/07/10
Santa Clara	2	Retirement	Hon. Mary Jo Levinger	10/21/10
Santa Clara		Retirement	Hon. Gregory H. Ward	10/15/10
Solano	1	Retirement	Hon. William C. Harrison	11/03/10
Sonoma	1	Converted	New Position	10/08/10
Stanislaus	1	Retirement	Hon. Donald E. Shaver	08/10/10
Yuba	1	Retirement	Hon. James L. Curry	07/09/10
SUBTOTAL:	23			
Butte	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Contra Costa	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Del Norte	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Fresno	4	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008

Kern	3	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Kings	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Los Angeles	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Madera	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Merced	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Monterey	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Orange	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Placer	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Riverside	7	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Sacramento	6	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
San Bernardino	7	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
San Joaquin	3	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Shasta	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Solano	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Sonoma	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
Stanislaus	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Tulare	2	(AB 159)*	New Positions	1/1/2008
Yolo	1	(AB 159)*	New Position	1/1/2008
TOTAL VACANCIES	**73**			

Trial Court Authorized Positions and Vacancies