ACTIVITY REPORTING AND PROPOSAL FORM

JUDICIAL COUNCIL DIRECTIVES AOC RESTRUCTURING

DATE	3/29/2013
PREPARED BY	Mary M. Roberts
OFFICE NAME	Legal Services Office
JUDICIAL COUNCIL DIRECTIVE NUMBER	119
JUDICIAL COUNCIL DIRECTIVE	E&P recommends that the Judicial Council direct the Administrative Director of the Courts to place emphasis on reducing bottlenecks for advice, contracts, and other projects. More effective tickler and tracking systems for opinions, contracts, and other documents should be put in place.
SEC RECOMMENDATION	This office must place greater emphasis on being a service provider and in improving how it provides services, including as follows: (d) Emphasis must be placed on reducing bottlenecks for advice, contracts, and other projects. More effective tickler and tracking systems for opinions, contracts, and other documents should be put in place.

RESPONSE (check applicable boxes)

This directive has been completed and implemented:

To address resource constraints office-wide, ensure appropriate supervision and allocation of work, and provide a more effective tickler and tracking system for opinions, contracts, and other documents, the Legal Services Office (LSO) developed a matter tracking system that was implemented on February 1, for a 90-day trial and evaluation period. The matter tracking system tracks matters from assignment to completion date, assigns a level of complexity for each matter, and provides a uniform tickler system for review of open matters. As part of the system, attorneys log all legal services matters (e.g., requests for legal advice and contracts) and LSO management receives weekly updates about open and closed matters and may review the assignment log at any time.

The LSO has made minor changes to the matter tracking form since February 1 to improve ease of use and effectiveness of the form (see attached Matter Log). LSO has found the matter tracking system to be an effective way to track the workload of all legal services units, including requests for opinions, contracts, and other documents.

In addition to implementation of the matter tracking system, the LSO has taken other actions to reduce bottlenecks for advice, contracts, and other projects. Within the Legal Opinions Unit, to help address the impact of reduced attorney staff and meet client needs, attorneys in other units are regularly assigned advice matters, thereby expediting delivery of requested legal guidance. In addition, to speed review of opinions, a senior attorney now shares with the supervising attorney the responsibility to review draft opinions. With respect to contracts and other documents, LSO also is working closely with the Business Services Unit of the Fiscal Services Office (FSO), including meeting monthly with the FSO Assistant Director responsible for the Business Services Unit, in an effort to assist the Business Services Unit in timely delivery of completed contracts.

It is important to note that LSO does not consider the activities above to be one-time solutions as LSO will continue to monitor the services provided an ongoing basis. The LSO is currently proactively working with its Judicial Council liaisons on several LSO related-activities (i.e., potential

will be happy to provide service at the council's r	rgeting the June 2013 council meeting to report back on these efforts and future updates to the council on LSO's ongoing commitment to customer equest.
MatterLog.pdf Adobe Acrobat Docume 562 KB	ent
This directive is f	orwarded to the Judicial Council with options for consideration:
File Attachment	
Other:	
File Attachment	
TI	MELINE AND RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTATION
IMPLEMENTATION DATE OR PROJECTED IMPLEMENTATION DATE	
RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR IMPLEMENTATION	
ADDITIONAL IMF	LEMENTATION INFORMATION (complete only applicable sections)
PROCEDURES/ POLICIES UPDATED OR DEVELOPED	File Attachment
TRAINING UPDATED OR DEVELOPED	File Attachment
	File Attachment

	File Attachment		
	File Attachment		
SERVICE LEVEL	File Attachment		
	File Attachment		
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS (ADOC) REVIEW AND APPROVAL			
ADOC REVIEW	Administrative Director of the Courts Review Date: 4/10/2013		
EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING (E&P) COMMITTEE REVIEW			
E&P REVIEW	Executive and Planning Review Date: 4/17/2013		

MATTER LOG FOR:	#: Assigned by database
Requestor:	End date:
 Supreme Court 1 DCA (SF) 2 DCA (LA) 3 DCA (Sac) 4 DCA (SD) 5 	DCA (Fresno) 🦳 6 DCA (SJ)
AlpineHumboldtMariposaPlumasSanta BarbaraAmadorImperialMendocinoRiversideSanta ClaraButteInyoMercedSacramentoSanta CruzCalaverasKernModocSan BenitoShastaColusaKingsMonoSan BernardinoSierraContra CostaLakeMontereySan DiegoSiskiyou	
Response and/or product <i>(brief description</i>): Type of advice:	Reference #(LOU, LEU etc.)
Level of effort: CLASS I: Minimum effort; quickly addressed; initial response sufficient; no follow-up expected; up to 1 hr Any other AOC, including LSO, staff involved: CLASS II: CLASS II: Medium effort; initial response and some research/follow-up; 1-8 hrs CLASS III: Substantial effort; major research/follow-up; 1-8 hrs CLASS III: Substantial effort; major research/follow-up; complex; 8-40 hrs	CLASS IV: Time intensive or long- term project; 40+ hrs
Any other notes:	
Open matter Close matter	Reset Form