

ACTIVITY REPORTING AND PROPOSAL FORM

JUDICIAL COUNCIL DIRECTIVES AOC RESTRUCTURING

| | |
|---|---|
| DATE | 3/27/2013 |
| PREPARED BY | Chad Finke |
| OFFICE NAME | <u>Court Operations Special Services Office</u> |
| JUDICIAL COUNCIL DIRECTIVE NUMBER | 68 |
| JUDICIAL COUNCIL DIRECTIVE | E&P recommends that the Judicial Council consider whether to continue support for the Civics Education Program after the conclusion of the 2013 summit. The California On My Honor Program has been suspended for 2 years due to the lack of funding. |
| SEC RECOMMENDATION | The Promising and Effective Programs Unit functions are largely discretionary and should be considered for reduction or elimination, resulting in position savings. Consideration should be given to the following: (d) Once the 2013 summit has concluded, the Administrative Director and Judicial Council should evaluate continuing support for the Civics Education Program/California On My Honor program. |
| RESPONSE (check applicable boxes) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This directive has been completed and implemented: | |
| As detailed in the attached memorandum, the Chief Justice has requested the Administrative Director of the Courts to direct that the AOC continue to provide the necessary staffing to support the Chief Justice's civics education plan for 2013 and beyond. | |
|  Memo to Judge Jahr re directive 68 (civics ed) - FINAL.docx Microsoft Office Word Document 106 KB | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> This directive is forwarded to the Judicial Council with options for consideration: | |
| <input type="text"/> | |
|  File Attachment | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
| <input type="text"/> | |

 File Attachment

TIMELINE AND RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION DATE OR PROJECTED IMPLEMENTATION DATE

March 21, 2013

RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR IMPLEMENTATION

One FTE Senior Court Services Analyst, with the possibility of additional analyst or administrative staff support as specific projects require.

ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION (complete only applicable sections)

PROCEDURES/ POLICIES UPDATED OR DEVELOPED

 File Attachment

TRAINING UPDATED OR DEVELOPED

 File Attachment

SAVINGS

 File Attachment

COST

The only AOC-related cost associated with the Chief Justice's civics education programs is the cost of salary and benefits for the single AOC staff member assigned to this program, approximately \$121,000 per year.

 File Attachment

EFFICIENCIES

 File Attachment

SERVICE LEVEL IMPACT

Initially there will be no impact on service level, as the staff member who has historically been responsible for civics education projects will continue to remain assigned to that duty. To the extent additional analyst or administrative staff support becomes necessary, efforts will be made to secure that additional assistance without affecting services levels to other AOC projects and services.

 File Attachment

OTHER

 File Attachment

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS (ADOC) REVIEW AND APPROVAL

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|--|--|
| 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 |



SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 21, 2013

To: Hon. Steven Jahr
Administrative Director of the Courts

From: Hon. Tani Cantil-Sakauye
Chief Justice and Chair of the Judicial Council

Subject: Judicial Council Directive 68
Re: Follow up to the 2013 Civic Summit

This memo addresses Judicial Council Directive 68, under which the Administrative Director of the Courts was directed to report to the council at its April meeting regarding the following: “[T]he Judicial Council [will] consider whether to continue support for the Civics Education Program after the conclusion of the 2013 [Civic Learning California S]ummit.” The resounding success of that summit, which was held on February 28th, 2013, has solidified my commitment to build on the robust momentum created by this historic event. As such, I am requesting through this memorandum that you direct that the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will continue to provide the necessary staffing to support the plan outlined below, and that you report as such to the Judicial Council in April 2013.

Chief Justice's Civics Education Plan for 2013 and Beyond

Your Constitution: Power of Democracy Steering Committee: Consolidate the Leadership Group on Civic Education and Public Outreach and the Civic Summit Steering Committee into one entity that will continue to oversee, develop and implement the initiatives below, as well as other strategies for harnessing the momentum created by the Civic Learning California Summit. Attached please find a charge and roster for the group.

- a. **Civic Learning Award Program:** Continue co-sponsoring the Civic Learning Award Program with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, which recognizes California public high schools for outstanding work in civic education. This initiative supports Commission for Impartial Courts (CIC) Final Report Recommendation 43, (g): Recognition programs that bring attention to teachers, judges, and court administrators who advance civics education should be promoted.
- b. **K-12 Civic Learning Task Force:** Collaborate with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson to establish a K-12 Civic Learning Task Force which will make recommendations regarding civic learning in California public schools. The Task Force will be privately funded. This initiative supports CIC Final Report Recommendation 43, (a): Strategies for meaningful changes to civics education in California should be supported, and a strategic plan for judicial branch support for civics education should be developed and (b) Teacher training programs, curriculum development, and education programs on civics should all be expanded to include the courts

Background

In my role as head of the judicial branch of California, I am dedicated to educating the public, and students in particular, about the power of our democracy, so that the branch may continue to thrive and flourish for future generations. I endorse CIC Final Report recommendations 37 (a) and (b) and 43 (a), (b), (c), and (g), which states in part:

Every child in the state should receive a quality civics education, and judges, courts, teachers, and school administrators should be supported in their efforts to educate students about the judiciary and its function in a democratic society.

For more information on the Commission's recommendations, please see the attached.

In 2011 I appointed Administrative Presiding Justice Judith McConnell of the California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, as Chair of a Civic Summit Steering Committee to plan and conduct a Civic Education Summit as an extension of her work chairing the Leadership Group on Civic Education and Public Outreach, an implementation committee for the CIC's civics education-related recommendations. The result of these efforts, the Civic Learning California Summit: Making Democracy Work, was held to great acclaim on February 28, 2013. Notably, it featured as its keynote speaker United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (Ret.), a national champion for civics education.

More than 200 attendees representing education, labor, business and community leaders, law school deans, and elected officials filled the Secretary of State Auditorium to capacity. Speakers included Secretary of State Debra Bowen; State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson; Judge Stacy Boulware Eurie; Thomas Saenz, President and General Counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF); Yvonne Walker, President of Service Employees International Union Local 1000, (SEIU); and Allan Zaremberg, President and Chief Executive Officer of the California Chamber of Commerce. Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg introduced Justice O'Connor, and the State Bar of California conducted a call to action during which several legislators announced civics education-related legislation.

Post-Summit Findings and Evaluation

Following the summit, the Civic Summit Steering Committee learned that Justice O'Connor is willing to partner with the committee to move civics learning forward in California. We also found that a wide spectrum of other California leaders share this common purpose. And while these and other national groups such as the Conference of

Chief Justices have established civics education as a key theme, respected state and national reports indicate that there is a persistent civics learning crisis.

The committee also discovered that no other group is effectively working to make civics education a priority in California. Committee members therefore concluded that the summit would necessarily not be the end of our efforts, but rather the launch of a long-term, incremental effort, and that given the success of the Summit, that effort would benefit greatly from their continued leadership. Finally, the committee learned that foundations and other organizations are willing to provide funding and in-kind donations to support these civics education efforts.

These efforts cannot, however, continue without an appropriate level of staffing. AOC staff were instrumental in helping the committee bring the summit to fruition, and it is my strong desire to have those staff continue to support the committee's ongoing work. I am aware of the increased workload and reduced staff levels at the AOC, and this request is not intended to create additional burden. It is my hope that the efforts I have outlined above can continue to be supported by 1-2 full-time staff members.

Thank you for your attention to this request, and for your support of my commitment to improving civics education in our state.