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NEWS RELEASE

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New Director to Lead AOC's Statewide Court Facilities Program

San Francisco—Administrative Director of the Courts William C. Vickrey has announced the appointment of Lee Willoughby as Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Office of Court Construction and Management.

In leading the California courthouse facilities program, Mr. Willoughby assumes responsibility for the country's largest state court facilities program, comprising over 500 court facilities, current and planned capital projects of approximately \$6.5 billion, and, within two years, a projected 1,000 facilities modification projects annually.

Mr. Willoughby has served as Acting Director of the AOC's Office of Court Construction and Management (OCCM) since September 2008. He joined the then newly established division in 2004 as Assistant Director for Design and Construction. The appointment is effective immediately.

In announcing the appointment, Mr. Vickrey stated: "Lee is committed to ensuring that California's court facilities are designed, built, and maintained to a standard of excellence that meets the diverse needs of all court users and provides equal access to justice in our court system. His government experience, professional expertise, and commitment to fostering partnerships built on trust will achieve results that will serve the judicial branch and the public well."

Mr. Willoughby has spent more than 35 years working in the design and construction industry. He has held management positions with the executive branch of the state of California and with a variety of private sector firms including real estate developers, general contractors, a major subcontractor, and construction management firms. Throughout his career, he has been responsible for developing innovative and effective

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project delivery procedures. His educational background includes a bachelor's degree in systems engineering and a master's degree in business administration.

Chief Justice Ronald M. George commented: "Lee's demonstrated leadership and significant experience in both the public and private sectors will help inform judicial branch decisions on the design and construction of courthouses that will serve our communities for the next 50 to 100 years."

AOC Chief Deputy Director Ronald G. Overholt stated, "Lee has played a strong role in securing necessary fiscal resources and assembling a talented and dedicated team of professionals to address the broad policy and operations charge for the state's court facilities program. He led the drive to achieve unprecedented progress in the transfer of court facilities from county to state ownership—more than 200 transfers were completed in the past two months."

Expressing enthusiasm for his leadership role, Mr. Willoughby added, "I am honored to be appointed to this position. This is a unique opportunity to help lead an organization that will be the recognized leader of courthouse facilities programs in the world."

Hon. William J. Murray, Jr. Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of San Joaquin County, welcomed the appointment stating, "Lee's appointment is an excellent choice for the judicial branch. Lee understands local concerns and issues, and his door is always open. We have enjoyed working with Lee and look forward to continuing our continued partnership."

He was joined in his endorsement by Ms. Melissa Fowler-Bradley, Executive Officer of the Superior Court of Shasta County, who commented, "Lee is viewed as a friend to the trial courts, knowledgeable in his field, and always willing to help any one of us, no matter how busy he may be. He was instrumental during the recent facilities transfer negotiations when discussions between the parties became tense and the pressure was on to make the December 31, 2008, deadline. He demonstrated a real talent for working with people in situations fraught with frustration, and with his calmness he was able to bring about successful conclusions. Lee is a tremendous asset to the Administrative Office of the Courts and its Office of Court Construction and Management."

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