



NEWS RELEASE OC 12-11
Contact: Philip R. Carrizosa, 415-865-8044

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 14, 2011

AOC Adopts All Recommendations of State Audit of CCMS

SAN FRANCISCO—The Administrative Director of the Courts, William C. Vickrey, in consultation with the California Court Case Management System (CCMS) Executive Committee, has directed the CCMS Project Management Office to comply with the five major recommendations of the Bureau of State Audits (BSA). The agency recommends that the CCMS program:

- Conduct a thorough cost-benefit analysis of CCMS.
- Update cost information and estimates on a regular basis and report true costs to the Legislature.
- Develop a realistic funding strategy for CCMS
- Take steps to fully understand and address the courts' concerns regarding CCMS implementation; and
- Conduct an independent review of CCMS before full deployment in three early adopter courts.

“We have already fulfilled a number of key recommendations,” said Justice Terence L. Bruiniers, chairman of the Judicial Council’s CCMS Executive Committee. “We have increased Judicial Council oversight of the project; expanded the participation of justices, judges, court administrators, attorneys, and justice partners; and created a project management office. We are also very close to completing an independent cost-benefit analysis.”

Bruiniers said that there were initial concerns with the BSA recommendation for independent third-party verification and validation that CCMS deliverables meet contract requirements and user needs. “We did not want a process that was redundant and would incur unnecessary delay and expense. We now believe that the independent review recommended by the BSA can be completed without causing significant delay, and at a reasonable cost.” he said. “In that case, another review that will enhance confidence in the system can only be a good thing and will ensure a better final product for our court system and for all Californians.”

Bruiniers said that the program management office will collaborate with the California Technology Agency, formerly the Office of the State Chief Information Officer, to select the vendor that will conduct the independent review of the CCMS application. The project management office will issue monthly status reports as the independent review progresses. These reports will be delivered to the AOC Executive Office and the CCMS Executive Committee.

Bruiniers added that statewide product acceptance testing has begun with 70 testers around the state and will continue. “Now we have to demonstrate that we have met our goals, and focus on the implementation of a system that will bring the California courts into the 21st century,” said Bruiniers.

(more)

Bruiniers also said that CCMS is being deployed in three early adopter courts that have requested it – the Superior Courts of San Diego, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo Counties – for further testing. “With the ongoing assistance of the California Technology Agency, we are prepared to begin the deployment of CCMS in April.” Thus far, the judicial branch has invested \$332 million into project development. Total project cost to deploy the system statewide over a 15-year-period is estimated at \$1.3 billion. “Implementing the State Auditor’s recommendations will help to ensure that we meet our shared goals of improving court efficiency, public safety and accessibility in the most prudent and cost-effective way,” said Bruiniers.

#

The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.