

Item SP12-05 Response Form

Title: Strategic Evaluation Committee Report

The Strategic Evaluation Committee (SEC) was appointed by Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye in March 2011 to conduct an in-depth review of the AOC with a view toward promoting transparency, accountability, and efficiency. The Chief Justice received the report and recommendations on May 25. At its meeting on June 21, 2012, the Judicial Council accepted the report and directed that it be posted for public comment for 30 days. Comments received will be considered public and posted by name and organization.

PLEASE NOTE that all comments will be posted to the branch web site at www.courts.ca.gov as submitted by the commentator as soon as reasonably possible after receipt.

To Submit Comments

Comments may be entered on this form or prepared in a letter format. If you are *not* submitting your comments directly on this form, please include the information requested below and the proposal number for identification purposes. Because all comments will be posted as submitted to the branch web site, please submit your comments by email, preferably as an attachment, to: invitations@jud.ca.gov

Please include the following information:

Name: Mary Thornton House **Title:** Judge

Organization: Superior Court in and for the County of Los Angeles

Commenting on behalf of an organization

General Comment: I urge adoption of the report's recommendations in their totality

The Strategic Evaluation Committee was tasked with conducting an in-depth review of the AOC with a view toward promoting transparency, accountability, and efficiency. They have completed their task with a thorough analysis supported by objective facts. Moreover, their specific recommendations exist to bring the AOC back 'home' to its core mission: a service organization for trial and appellate courts. Justices, judges, and subordinate judicial officers work day in and day out in our courts for the express purpose of maintaining excellence in decision making for the benefit of society as a whole. Were we to ignore or be dismissive of this in-depth report and its recommendations, our competence as decision makers would rightfully be called into question.

Specific Comment - Recommendation/Chapter Number:

DEADLINE FOR COMMENT: 5:00 p.m., Sunday, July 22, 2012

All comments will become part of the public record.