

From: Judge Russell Kussman, Los Angeles Superior Court (Van Nuys)
To: Invitations
Subject: Comments on the Strategic Evaluation Committee Report
Date: Friday, July 20, 2012

Our branch reminds me of an old man suffering from chronic disease who, after years of neglect coupled with a recent exacerbation, is finally *in extremis*. His family, at its wits' end, takes him to the Mayo Clinic where they ask the best and brightest specialists for help. These physicians thoroughly evaluate him; arrive at a diagnosis; and recommend immediate and practical therapy. But when they return home, instead of promptly executing the treatment plan, the loving family sends the Mayo Clinic report out to doctors of all kinds around the state asking for their review and comments. A well-meaning gesture, no doubt -- much like this "Invitation to Comment" on the SEC Report. A few of its recipients (*myself excluded*) probably have the knowledge and expertise to give a helpful critique. But does anyone believe that comments from general judicial practitioners across California can generate a compelling rebuttal to the thorough and well-reasoned SEC report? Much less a cogent, viable alternative plan? I mean, thanks for asking. I'm flattered. But can we get on with it?

Adopt the SEC Recommendations now.