

From: Loren McMaster
To: Invitations
Subject: Comment on SEC Report
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I am a retired Superior Court Judge who has retained an interest in supporting the proper functioning of the Third Branch of Government.

I urge immediate adoption of all of the recommendations of the SEC. A great deal of thought has gone into this report by judges that were hand-picked by the Chief Justice for their scholarship, integrity and lack of bias. Their hard work must be recognized and their suggestions implemented without further delay.

I am disturbed by the not so subtle campaign to attempt to marginalize the report. The claim that the recommendations should be disregarded since they only depict "a snapshot in time" is totally bogus. What the findings show is a culture of the AOC that has been allowed to develop by the Judicial Council's abdication of its oversight responsibilities. The claim that many of the recommendations have been implemented is also bogus. This appears to be a standard response whenever the AOC is called out for its malfeasance.

The SEC report was foreshadowed by the State Auditor's report on the ill-fated CCMS project. It is noteworthy that the AOC spent taxpayer funds to oppose the audit and upon issuance of the report, the AOC and the Judicial Council promptly asserted that most of the recommendations had already been implemented. They then proceeded to ignore the findings of the report. What will it take for the Judicial Council to recognize that the AOC has been out of control without proper oversight for years? Can the Judicial Council point to a motion made and passed at a regularly scheduled Judicial Council meeting that authorized the AOC to spend \$500 million on CCMS? The answer to that question mandates that the SEC recommendations be adopted in full.

Respectfully submitted,

Loren E. McMaster
Judge of the Superior Court (Ret.)