

**From:** Mewhinney, Douglas  
**To:** Invitations  
**Subject:** SEC report  
**Date:** Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:30:07 PM

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My name is Douglas V. Mewhinney, I am a retired judge of the Calaveras Superior Court. I participated in the Strategic Evaluation Committee (SEC) process and have been a judge for over 27 years.

I was a member of the Judicial Council from 1989-91. I served as Vice Chair of the Trial Court Coordination Evaluation Committee and Vice Chair and Chair of the Trial Court Advisory Committee.

My comments are my own and are not made on behalf of The Superior Court of California in and for the County of Calaveras.

I have watched with dismay as the AOC has attempted to expand its authority beyond what is authorized by Article VI §6 of the California Constitution.

I urged the Judicial Council to accept and adopt the recommendations of the report of the SEC.

I further urge the Chief Justice to propose a constitutional amendment that the Judicial Council be an elected body with diversity in membership to allow all the courts, both large and small to have a legitimate and effective voice in properly controlling the AOC and limiting its role to that which is prescribed in Article VI §6 of the California Constitution.

Sincerely,  
DOUGLAS V. MEWHINNEY  
Judge (Retired)