

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: Denise de Bellefeuille **Title:** Judge

Organization: Superior Court, Santa Barbara County

Commenting on behalf of an organization

General Comment: I wish to weigh in on the SEC recommendation that the AOC be moved to Sacramento to save rent money. This idea has no merit. The AOC serves the Supreme Court and Judicial Council, which are both headquartered in San Francisco. The bulk of the AOC's experienced and hard working staff live in the Bay Area. To move to Sacramento would result in the loss of most of the AOC's workers, who have served the branch with grace and dignity throughout years of budget crisis and upheaval. Their experience and wisdom cannot be replaced. This idea is pennywise and pound foolish, unless of course, the SEC committee wishes to completely dismantle the AOC. Then there would be method to this madness.

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.