

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Minutes of the April 23, 2009, Meeting**  
**San Francisco, California**

Chief Justice Ronald M. George, Chair, called the closed meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2009, at the Judicial Council Conference Center (JCCC) in San Francisco, California. The meeting was closed under rule 10.6(b) of the California Rules of Court because of discussions protected by attorney-client privilege. After completion of privileged and other confidential discussions, the Judicial Council took action as set forth below.

**Judicial Council members present:** Chief Justice Ronald M. George; Justices Marvin R. Baxter, Brad R. Hill, Richard D. Huffman, and Tani Cantil-Sakauye; Judges George J. Abdallah, Jr., Lee Smalley Edmon, Peter Paul Espinoza, Terry B. Friedman, Carolyn B. Kuhl, Thomas M. Maddock, Dennis E. Murray, Winifred Younge Smith, Sharon J. Waters, and James Michael Welch; Mr. Raymond G. Aragon, Mr. Anthony P. Capozzi, and Mr. William C. Vickrey; advisory members: Judges Kenneth K. So and Mary E. Wiss; Commissioner Lon F. Hurwitz; Mr. Michael D. Planet, and Mr. Michael M. Roddy.

**Recusals:** Chief Justice Ronald M. George and Justice Marvin R. Baxter recused themselves from voting on the decisions set forth below.

**Absent:** Senator Ellen M. Corbett, Assembly Member Mike Feuer, Mr. Joel S. Miliband, and Mr. James N. Penrod.

**AOC staffmembers present:** Ms. Sheila Calabro, Mr. Curtis L. Child, Mr. Kenneth L. Kann, Mr. William C. Kasley, Mr. Stephen Nash, Mr. Ronald G. Overholt, Ms. Jody Patel, Ms. Christine Patton, Ms. Mary M. Roberts, and Mr. Curt Soderlund.

***DISCUSSION AGENDA***

**Item A      Fiscal Stability and Accountability of the Trial Courts**

The Administrative Office of the Courts recommended actions to ensure fiscal stability and accountability of the California trial courts.

***Council action***

The Judicial Council:

1. Pursuant to Government Code section 77206.1, directed the Administrative Director of the Courts to provide oversight in relation to the fiscal operations of the Superior Courts of Placer and Glenn Counties and the executive officers of those courts until the immediate and long-term fiscal condition of each court is stable and court expenditures do not exceed the courts' budget allocations set by the Judicial Council. The Superior Court of Placer County may select an executive officer to fill the vacancy.
2. Directed the Administrative Director of the Courts to provide periodic progress reports to the Judicial Council on the fiscal status of the Placer and Glenn courts, with the first report to occur no later than October 2009. The Judicial Council will determine when oversight may be terminated.
3. Directed the Administrative Office of the Courts to conduct an analysis of executive management compensation in the California trial courts and present recommendations on fiscal procedures or rules of court that will ensure appropriate accountability.
4. Directed the Administrative Office of the Courts to revise the Trial Court Financial Policies and Procedures Manual, as deemed necessary to strengthen compliance with accounting and auditing guidelines and practices, including requirements for the appropriate use of the Phoenix system and bank accounts established for the Judicial Branch.
5. Directed the Administrative Office of the Courts to review the rules of court and recommend any changes to strengthen the fiscal accountability of presiding judges and executive officers.
6. Directed the Administrative Director of the Courts to report back to the Judicial Council within 30 days with (a) recommendations for further actions and (b) an action plan for the following 90 days.

There being no further public business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Vickrey', is written over a horizontal line.

William C. Vickrey  
Administrative Director of the Courts and  
Secretary of the Judicial Council