

Judicial Council of California

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MR. WILLIAM C. VICKREY Administrative Director of the Courts

January 27, 2011

Hon. Mark Leno California State Senate Chair, Committee Joint Legislative Budget Committee State Capitol, Room 5019 Sacramento, California 95814

Hon. Bob Blumenfield California State Assembly Vice-chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee State Capitol, Room 6026 Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Report of Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings for Fiscal Year 2009–2010

Dear Senator Leno and Assembly Member Blumenfield:

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) respectfully submits this report, as required by Government Code section 68086(c), concerning court reporter fees collected under Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and 68086.1 and expenditures on court reporters in superior court civil proceedings in FY 2008–2009.

In FY 2009–2010, \$31,859,168 was remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund as directed under Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and 68086.1. The breakdown of the funds remitted is as follows:

- * \$11,981,070 came from fees paid by parties to civil proceedings for the services of an official court reporter in proceedings lasting more than one hour on the first day and each succeeding judicial day.
- * \$19,878,099 reflects the \$25 or \$30 fees required to be deposited in the Trial Court Trust Fund by Government Code section 68086.1 from first paper filings and responses for civil proceedings in the superior court

where the amount demanded is over \$10,000. This amount reflects total revenues collected for first paper filings from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010. (Note that, effective July 28, 2009, Government Code section 68086.1 was amended to require an additional \$5 be allocated for this purpose, raising the fee from \$25 to \$30 per filing.)

In FY 2009–2010, the estimated amount spent for the services of court reporters in superior court civil proceedings was \$80,818,733.

The expenditure amount is an estimate because most courts do not track by case categories the amount of time court reporters spend in various proceedings. The estimate of \$80,818,733 was made by taking the sum of total FY 2009–2010 budgeted salaries and benefits for all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2009 (\$228,613,376), plus total FY 2009–2010 expenditures on contract court reporters (\$5,643,822) and multiplying by the estimated proportion of time court reporters spend on civil cases (civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family) versus all cases, 34.5 percent. The time percentage estimate is based on the most recent time study survey conducted by the National Center for State Courts (September 2003), which involved nine superior courts—those of Amador, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, and Stanislaus Counties—representing about 47 percent of statewide authorized court reporter positions.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Mr. Stephen Nash, Director, AOC Finance Division, at 415 865-7584 or stephen.nash@jud.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM C. VICKREY

Administrative Director of the Courts

WCV/CS

cc: Members of the Judicial Council

Mr. Mike Petersen, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

Mr. Anthony Williams, Policy Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Darrell S. Steinberg

Hon. Gregory P. Schmidt, Secretary of the Senate

Mr. Brian Brown, Consultant, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review

Mr. Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republic Fiscal Office

Mr. Mark Redmond, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

Ms. Fredericka McGee, General Counsel, Office of Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson, Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Mr. Joe Stephenshaw, Consultant, Assembly Committee on Budget

Mr. Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office

Mr. Drew Soderborg, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Ms. Jennifer Osborn, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance

Mr. Ronald G. Overholt, Chief Deputy Director, Administrative Office of the Courts

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