January 11, 2017

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine
Legislative Counsel
State of California
State Capitol, Room 3021
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Daniel Alvarez
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 400
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2016), as required by Government Code section 69958

Dear Ms. Boyer-Vine, Mr. Alvarez, and Mr. Wilson:

The Judicial Council respectfully submits this report, as required by Government Code section 69958, to provide information to the Legislature regarding superior court purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment during the period of January 1, 2016, through June 30, 2016. As required by statute, for each purchase or lease of equipment, the report specifies the name of the court, the types of proceedings for which the equipment will be used, the cost of the equipment, and the types of equipment purchased or leased.

Government Code section 69957 requires the courts to obtain advance approval from the Judicial Council before purchasing or leasing any electronic recording technology or equipment. Approval for purchase or
lease of the equipment is subject to the equipment being used only in the manner and for the purposes authorized under that section. All 58 superior courts were surveyed regarding their purchase or lease of the equipment to ensure that all purchases were made with the required authorization. During the January 1 through June 30, 2016, period, two courts purchased electronic equipment or related items for use in court proceedings. A third court submitted a Request to Purchase form and received approval, but did not purchase the equipment during this period.

The Superior Court of Humboldt County spent $8,990 to purchase two JCG Portable Digital Court Recorders with LCR software. The purchase was not an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The equipment will be used to monitor subordinate judicial offers, hearing officers, or temporary judges in infractions and misdemeanor cases.

The Superior Court of Monterey County spent $5,189 to purchase one FTR Reporter Software package (version 5.6) with Log Notes software, FTR Player, and FTR Manager; one DMX-8 8-Channel Digital USB Mixer, and a two-sided external digital USB clock for FTR applications. The purchase was not an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The equipment will be used to make an official record in limited civil cases.

The total amount spent by these two courts on the purchase of electronic recording equipment during the reporting period was $14,179.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Judicial Council Budget Services, at 916-263-1397.

Sincerely,

Martin Hoshino
Administrative Director
Judicial Council of California

MH/PB
cc: Shaun Naidu, Policy Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León
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     Patrick Ballard, Fiscal Supervisor, Budget Services, Judicial Council
     Yvette Casillas-Sarcos, Administrative Coordinator, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council

Statutory citation: Government Code section 69958

Date of report: January 11, 2017

The Judicial Council has submitted a report to the Legislature in accordance with Government Code section 69958, which requires the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature, on a semiannual basis, regarding all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. The report must specify the name of the court, the types of proceedings for which the equipment will be used, the cost of the equipment, and the types of equipment purchased.

The following summary of the report is provided under the requirements of Government Code section 9795.

For the period January 1, 2016, through June 30, 2016, two courts purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items at a cost of $14,179 to create an official record in various court proceedings or to monitor subordinate judicial officers in certain types of cases as authorized by law. Information about these transactions is discussed in the report.

The full report is available at www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm.

A printed copy of the report may be obtained by calling 818-558-3115.