



# Judicial Council of California

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MS. JODY PATEL

*Interim Administrative Director of the Courts  
Secretary to the Judicial Council*

MR. CURT SODERLUND

*Interim Chief Deputy Director*

February 29, 2012

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

Mr. Gregory P. Schmidt  
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 (July 1–December 31, 2011)*

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

The Judicial Council respectfully submits this report, as required by Government Code section 69958, to provide information on a semiannual basis to the Legislature regarding all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. 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. We surveyed all 58 superior courts regarding their purchase or lease of the equipment to

make sure that no purchases were made without authorization. During the July 1 to December 31, 2011, period, five courts submitted Request to Purchase forms and received authorization for their purchases. One of these courts has ordered the equipment but not yet received or paid for it and so is not included in this report. Another court submitted a form during the previous period and received authorization, but received and paid for the equipment during the current report period. Three courts submitted the Request to Purchase form after the current report period, but purchased the equipment during this period. These forms were subsequently reviewed and the purchases retroactively authorized. Altogether, eight courts indicated that they had purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items for use in court proceedings during this period. Information about these transactions is discussed below.

The Superior Court of Alameda County spent \$163,622 to purchase 14 Liberty Court Recorder digital software programs, Lectrosonics digital mixers, audio encoders, microphones, and other related services and supplies. The purchase was not a replacement or upgrade of existing resources, other than a one-year software service package for previously installed equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record of proceedings in traffic cases.

The Superior Court of Mono County spent \$11,494 to purchase 2 FTR DMX-4 USB audio mixers and FTR Gold software interfaces. The purchase was an upgrade or replacement of existing resources. The devices will be used to monitor the performance of subordinate judicial officers in small claims and traffic cases.

The Superior Court of Monterey County spent \$15,366 to purchase 10 Antex DMX-8 input USB mixers to be used to make an official record of proceedings in misdemeanor, infraction, small claims, and limited civil cases. This purchase was an upgrade or replacement of existing resources.

The Superior Court of Napa County spent \$4,028 to purchase 3 Roland Edirol UA 101 USB connections to Liberty software audio input. The purchase was not an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor trials, infractions, limited civil, and small claims cases.

The Superior Court of Riverside County spent \$54,051 to purchase 12 FTR Reporter (v 5.5) software tools, 12 Antex DMX-8 microphones, 5 HP ProBook 6560b Notebook PCs, 8 HP 4730s W7P-64 software packages for notebooks, and related supplies and services. The purchase was an upgrade from tape recording to digital equipment. The devices will be used to create an official record in infraction proceedings.

The Superior Court of San Diego County spent \$115,737 to purchase 35 Liberty Express Courtroom Recorders LCR-004. The purchase was a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor, limited civil, and small claims cases.

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The Superior Court of San Francisco County spent \$231,955 to purchase 15 Jefferson Audio Video Systems (JAVS) Actua Systems, Suite 7, including audio/video recorders, audio/video processors, and various software. The purchase was not an upgrade or replacement of existing resources. The devices will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor and infraction cases.

The Superior Court of Santa Cruz County spent \$24,273 to purchase 4 FTR Touch recording systems, 2 Antex DMX 8 USB mixers, Shure 12 and 18 inch microphones, and related services. The purchase was an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor and traffic cases.

The total amount spent by these eight superior courts on the purchase of electronic recording equipment during the reporting period was \$620,526.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Finance Division, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), at 916-263-1397.

Sincerely,



Jody Patel  
Interim Administrative Director of the Courts

JP/VM

cc: Members of the Judicial Council

Margie Estrada, Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg  
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Report title: *Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (July 1–December 31, 2011)*

Statutory citation: Government Code section 69958

Date of report: February 29, 2012

The Judicial Council has submitted a report to the Legislature in accordance with Government Code section 69958.

Government Code section 69958 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 July 1 through December 31, 2011, eight courts purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items at a total cost of \$620,526 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 can be accessed here: [www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm).

A printed copy of the report may be obtained by calling 415-865-7553.