

## 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](http://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](mailto:invitations@jud.ca.gov)

Please include the following information:

**Name:** Frederick R. Bennett    **Title:** Court Counsel, L.A. Superior Court

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Commenting on behalf of an organization**

*General Comment:* The SEC Report is a thoughtful and helpful report that should be implemented fully and as soon as possible. The report is accurate, well documented, and consistent with my unique and regular experience working with the Administrative Office of the Courts from the passage of the Trial Court Funding Act of 1997 to the present. I have represented trial courts for more than 40 years, first as a Deputy County Counsel for the County of Los Angeles, and now as a private attorney serving as Court Counsel for the Los Angeles Superior Court. In that capacity I have worked closely with the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Office of General Counsel on a daily basis, and have served on many AOC working groups and committees. It is clear that the Committee well understood the challenges confronting an organization such as the Administrative Office of the Courts, its appropriate mission, and its service role to the Judicial Council and trial courts. The Judicial Council is fortunate to have had access to the experience, dedication, and thoughtful analysis provided by the well qualified and knowledgeable SEC members who prepared the report and recommendations. These comments are my own and not made on behalf of any organization.

*Specific Comment - Recommendation/Chapter Number* \_\_\_\_\_:

<b>DEADLINE FOR COMMENT: 5:00 p.m., Sunday, July 22, 2012</b>
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*All comments will become part of the public record.*