

**From:** Maas III, Earl  
**To:** Invitations  
**Subject:** comment on strategic evaluation committee report  
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I am writing pursuant to the invitation to comment on the SEC report. I have read the report and believe that it was very detailed and well thought out. It is consistent with my personal observations as a trial judge for the last 7 years. While I believe the actions by the AOC and Judicial Counsel were well intentioned, they were misguided. While laws throughout the state need to be uniform, the administration of providing service to the community is inherently a local concern. There needs to be more flexibility at the local level to provide the best service to the community.

My observation is that every attempt to discuss concerns with the AOC and Judicial Counsel, was rebuffed. Many years ago, I expressed my concerns with the CCMS program. While I believed the goals were laudable, I questioned the cost and the attainability of a program that was, essentially, promising everybody everything. I was "shut down" to be gracious.

It is my belief, and experience, that AOC has evolved to where it acts as if the Courts exist to serve the AOC, rather than the other way around. The proposed remedies of the SEC report are an excellent step to restore the proper allocation of responsibility.

Earl Maas. San Diego Superior Court.