

From: Maria Stratton
To: Invitations
Subject: SEC Report
Date: Monday, July 23, 2012 10:40:53 AM

To members of the Judicial Council:

I write in support of the SEC Report and to urge the Council to adopt its recommendations without further delay or study. The problems facing the Administrative Office of the Courts have been thoroughly vetted in this Report; there is no need for additional studies before its recommendations are adopted.

We as a branch are in the best position to heal ourselves and we are running out of time to address our problems from within. In addition to urging the Council to act swiftly in favor of the Report, I want to offer another suggestions. Apart from the insight and experience brought together in the Report, we have another court system available to us to which we can look for help in implementing the Report's recommendations. We do not need to reinvent the wheel. The Administrative Office of the United States Courts manages a number of bench officers and courtrooms comparable to those in California and does so on a leaner budget and with fewer staff. Consultation with staff at the AO may be useful to us; moreover, consultation with the four chief United States District Judges in our state who deal with the AO on a daily basis may provide us great guidance on how to get back on track and how to incorporate the best aspects of the federal administrative office into our implementation of the Report's recommendations.

Hon. Maria E. Stratton
Judge of the Superior Court
County of Los Angeles
6230 Sylmar Avenue
Van Nuys, CA 91401
818-374-2297
mestratton@lasuperiorcourt.org