



# Judicial Council of California

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*Administrative Director of the Courts*

April 30, 2013

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, 2012) as Required by  
Government Code Section 69958

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 to the Legislature regarding superior court purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment during the period of July 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012. 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's 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

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equipment to ensure that all purchases were made with the required authorization. During the July 1 to December 31, 2012, period, 11 courts submitted Request to Purchase forms and received authorization for their purchases. Of the 11 courts, 6 indicated that they had not yet purchased the equipment, and 5 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 follows.

The Superior Court of Glenn County spent \$6,570 to purchase two FTR Reporter upgrades from version 2.1 to 5.2 and two DMX-8 USB mixers. The purchase was an upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in traffic appeal cases and to monitor subordinate judicial officers in all other case types.

The Superior Court of Mendocino County spent \$4,600 to purchase one FTR Reporter (v. 5.5) electronic reporting system, a DMX-4 mixer, and 4 microphones. The purchase was not a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in small claims, infraction, misdemeanor, and limited civil cases.

The Superior Court of Placer County spent \$14,154 to purchase one FTR Reporter A/V Version 5.5 software, a computer, and a digital signal processor and other equipment to integrate the software and equipment into the court's courtroom A/V system. This was not an upgrade or replacement of existing resources. The devices will be used to make an official record in small claims, infractions, misdemeanors, and limited civil cases.

The Superior Court of San Benito spent \$4,915 to purchase one copy of FTR Reporter Audio Recording Software (version 5.6), one FTR DMX-4 channel USB audio mixer, a 2-channel power amplifier, and miscellaneous hardware and connectors. The purchase was a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record for infraction, misdemeanor, and occasionally limited civil cases.

The Superior Court of San Francisco County spent \$39,268 to purchase three JAVS Suite 7 systems. The purchase was an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor and infraction cases, including traffic.

The total amount spent by these five superior courts on the purchase of electronic recording equipment during the reporting period was \$69,507.

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

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Mr. E. Dotson Wilson  
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Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Jahr', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven Jahr  
Administrative Director of the Courts

SJ/VM

cc: Members of the Judicial Council

Margie Estrada, Policy Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg  
Fredericka McGee, General Counsel, Office of Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez  
Joe Stephenshaw, Consultant, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review  
Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office  
Marvin Deon II, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Republican Fiscal Office  
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Report title: Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (July 1–December 31, 2012) as Required by Government Code Section 69958

Statutory citation: Government Code section 69958

Date of report: April 30, 2013

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 of July 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012, five courts purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items at a total cost of \$69,507 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.