

Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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Administrative Director of the Courts

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January 12, 2007

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

Mr. Gregory P. Schmidt Secretary of the Senate State Capitol, Room 400 Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson Chief Clerk of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 3196 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Annual Report of Fiscal Year 2005–2006 Court Reporter Fees Collected and Expenditures for Court Reporter Services in Superior Court Civil Proceedings

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

Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code section 68086(c), the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) respectfully submits the following report of court reporter fees collected in accordance with Government Code sections 68086(a)(1) and 68086(a)(4) in fiscal year (FY) 2005–2006 and of FY 2005–2006 expenditures related to court reporters in superior court civil proceedings. In FY 2005–2006, \$26,747,649 was remitted to the Trial Court Trust Fund for the amounts collected in accordance with Government Code sections 68086(a)(1), 68086(a)(4), and 68086.1, as follows:

\$11,362,331 was related to fees charged in civil proceedings lasting more than one hour for the services of an official court reporter on the first and each succeeding judicial day whose services are provided pursuant to section 269 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

- * \$7,746,838 was related to the one-time fee of \$25 for the cost of the services of an official court reporter upon the filing of a first paper in a civil action or proceeding in the superior court where the amount demanded is over \$10,000. The amount reflects revenues collected for cases filed between July 1, 2005, and December 31, 2005.
- \$7,638,480 was related to the \$25 portion of the \$300 or \$320 first paper filing and response fee for a civil action or proceeding in the superior court where the amount demanded is over \$10,000. The amount reflects revenues collected for first paper filings from January 2006 to June 2006.

In FY 2005-2006, the estimated cost of civil reporters in civil proceedings was \$68,314,023.

The expenditure amount is an estimate since most courts do not track by case categories the amount of time court reporters spend in various civil proceedings. The estimate of \$68,314,023 was made by multiplying the sum of the total FY 2005–2006 budgeted salaries and benefits of all filled court reporter employee positions as of July 1, 2005 (\$190,980,833) and total FY 2005–2006 expenditures on contract court reporters (\$7,030,827) by the estimated amount of time court reporters spend on civil cases (specifically civil, probate, mental health, guardianship, and family cases) versus all cases (34.5 percent). The time percentage estimate is based on the most recent time study survey conducted by the National Center for State Courts (September 2003), which involved nine representative superior courts (representing about 47 percent of statewide authorized court reporter positions.) The nine courts that participated in the study were the Superior Courts of Amador, Calaveras, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Shasta, and Stanislaus Counties.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Mr. Stephen Nash, Acting Director of Finance, at 415-865-7584 or via e-mail at stephen.nash@jud.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

William C. Vickrey

Administrative Director of the Courts

WCV/SC

cc: Keely Martin-Bosler, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Janus Norman, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Edgar Cabral, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office
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