

Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post-Pandemic Initiatives Update

Hon. Marsha G. Slough, Chair

1926

Overview

- Highlight of the Workgroup's activities since November 2021
- Next steps



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Appointed by the Chief Justice in March 2021

- Examine successful court practices adopted during the pandemic
- Recommend practices that demonstrate the most promise to:
 - increase access to justice
 - modernize services
 - promote consistency throughout the state



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Information Gathering Process

14 Workgroup meetings with presentations from a wide variety of branch stakeholders

- What was working on the ground
- What should be continued past the pandemic
- Focus on improving services to court users



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Overall Themes

- Desire for consistent court practices and procedures within individual courts, as well as among trial courts throughout the state.
- Greater access to the courts is desired, as is the ability to have multiple ways to access court services. It would be a mistake for the courts to return to “standard operating procedures”.
- With few exceptions, presenters spoke of the value in continuing to provide court users with remote access in all case types.



Developing Concepts

- Invited Judicial Council Advisory Committee Chairs to dialogue with the Workgroup about the preliminary direction the Workgroup was headed.
- Committees provided valuable input to help finalize the Workgroup's recommended concepts.
- Depending on the specific concept, the Workgroup asked the respective advisory committee to consider developing a rule of court, proposing legislation, and/or developing best practices.



Sample Concepts

- Increased Use of Settlement Conferences in Unlawful Detainer Cases
- Virtual Visitation
- Increased Remote Access Between Defense and In-Custody Clients
- Disaster Readiness: Checklist for Future Emergencies



Next Steps

- Follow up with Advisory Committee on Concepts
 - Workgroup-led concepts
 - Next Workgroup interim report — ways to improve the juror experience and the jury selection process
- Spearhead the work on Code of Civil Procedure section 367.9



Current Workgroup Members

- **Hon. Marsha G. Slough, Chair**
Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal
Fourth Appellate District, Division Two
- **Hon. Marla O. Anderson**
Superior Court of Monterey County
- **Hon. Kevin C. Brazile**
Superior Court of Los Angeles County
- **Hon. Kyle S. Brodie**
Superior Court of San Bernardino County
- **Gretchen Nelson**
Attorney at Law

- **Rebecca J. Fleming**
Court Executive Officer
Superior Court of Santa Clara County
- **Kevin Harrigan**
Court Executive Officer
Superior Court of Tehama County
- **Hon. Brad R. Hill**
Administrative Presiding Justice of the Court of
Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
- **Rachel W. Hill**
Attorney at Law
- **Hon. Ann C. Moorman**
Superior Court of Mendocino County



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