



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688

[www.courts.ca.gov](http://www.courts.ca.gov)

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# REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on: October 27, 2015

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Title	Agenda Item Type
Judicial Council Report to the Legislature: Electronic Recording Equipment	Action Required
Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected	Effective Date
None	October 27, 2015
Recommended by	Date of Report
Zlatko Theodorovic, Director Judicial Council Finance	September 16, 2015
	Contact
	Patrick Ballard, 818-558-3115 <a href="mailto:patrick.ballard@jud.ca.gov">patrick.ballard@jud.ca.gov</a>

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### Executive Summary

Judicial Council staff recommends approval of the *Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2015)*. Government Code section 69958 requires that the Judicial Council report to the Legislature semiannually on all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings.

### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Judicial Council:

1. Approve the *Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2015)*; and
2. Direct the staff to submit the report to the Legislature.

## **Previous Council Action**

These reports have routinely been approved by the council and submitted to the Legislature on a semiannual basis. Previous reports can be found at [www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm).

## **Rationale for Recommendation**

The semiannual submission of this report to the Legislature is required under Government Code section 69958. The statute requires that each superior court report to the Judicial Council about all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings, specifying all of the following:

- (a) The Superior Court in which the equipment will be used.
- (b) The types of trial court proceedings in which the equipment will be used.
- (c) The cost of purchasing, leasing, or upgrading the equipment.
- (d) The type of equipment purchased or leased.

## **Comments, Alternatives Considered, and Policy Implications**

This report was not circulated for comment. The information in the report to the Legislature was reported to the Judicial Council by the superior courts.

## **Implementation Requirements, Costs, and Operational Impacts**

Implementing the recommendations in this report results in no costs or operational impacts.

## **Attachments and Links**

1. *Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2015)*



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TDD 415-865-4272  
Fax 415-865-4205  
www.courts.ca.gov

HON. TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE  
*Chief Justice of California*  
*Chair of the Judicial Council*

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*Chair, Executive and Planning Committee*

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MR. MARTIN HOSHINO  
*Administrative Director,*  
*Judicial Council*

September 16, 2015

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

Mr. Daniel Alvarez  
Secretary of the Senate  
California State 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 (January 1–June 30, 2015)* as required by  
Government Code section 69958

Dear Ms. Boyer-Vine, Mr. Alvarez, 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 January 1, 2015, through June 30, 2015. 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 being used only in the

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine  
Mr. Daniel Alvarez  
Mr. E. Dotson Wilson  
September 16, 2015  
Page 2

manner and for the purposes authorized under that section. All 58 superior courts were surveyed regarding their purchase or lease of the equipment to ensure that all purchases were made with the required authorization. During the January 1 through June 30, 2015, period, seven courts purchased electronic equipment or related items for use in court proceedings. Six of the courts submitted a Request to Purchase form and received authorizations for their purchases, during the period. One of the six courts submitted two separate request forms. The seventh court purchased the equipment during the period, and submitted the form and received approval after the end of the period. One final court that had received approval during the previous reporting period (July 1 through December 31, 2014), but did not purchase the equipment during that period, decided not to purchase equipment at this time.

The Superior Court of Amador County spent \$6,309 to purchase two FTR Reporter Software packages (version 5.6) with FTR Log Notes and one FTR Reporter Software (version 5.6.2) with Log Notes software, FTR Player, and FTR Manager. The purchase was an upgrade to existing software. The software is used to make an official record in infractions.

The Superior Court of Kern County spent \$9,902 to purchase two FTR Touch hardware and software packages with two DMX-8 Mixers. The purchase was not a replacement or upgrade to existing equipment. The equipment will be used to make an official record in small claims, limited civil, infractions, and misdemeanor cases.

The Superior Court of Orange County spent \$9,990 to purchase four Presonus FP109 8-Channel Mixers and four Court Audio, Audio Trax SW981-8, and 8-Channel Recording Software Systems. The equipment was not a replacement or upgrade to existing equipment. The equipment will be used to make an official record in infraction, misdemeanor, limited civil, and small claims cases.

The Superior Court of Sacramento County spent \$14,753 to purchase two Liberty Digital Recorders with four-channel software LCR-004 and two Liberty MX6/4 Mixers and assorted cables and cartridges. The equipment was not a replacement or upgrade to existing equipment. The equipment will be used to make an official record in traffic misdemeanors and infractions, and to monitor subordinate judicial officers, hearing officers, or temporary judges in small claims, traffic misdemeanor and infractions, and limited civil unlawful detainer matters.

The Superior Court of San Benito County spent \$4,414 to purchase one FTR Reporter Software version 5.6 audio only with Log Notes and headset PSP-01399-GR56-2E and one FTR DMX-4 4-channel USB Mixer PHP-40499-HZ10-2E. The equipment was not a replacement or upgrade

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine  
Mr. Daniel Alvarez  
Mr. E. Dotson Wilson  
September 16, 2015  
Page 3

to existing equipment. The equipment will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor and infraction cases.

The Superior Court of San Bernardino County spent \$4,089 to purchase one FTR Touch FTR IT-6000 hardware and software with one DMX-4 4-channel Mixer. The equipment is not a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The equipment will be used to make an official record in infractions, misdemeanor, small claims, limited civil, and landlord/tenant cases that fit within the definition of limited civil.

The total amount spent by these seven courts on the purchase of electronic recording equipment during the reporting period was \$49,457.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Judicial Council Finance, at 916-263-1397.

Sincerely,

Martin Hoshino  
Administrative Director  
Judicial Council of California

MH/VM

cc: Margie Estrada, Policy Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León  
Fredericka McGee, Special Assistant to Assembly Speaker Toni G. Atkins  
Anita Lee, Senior Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office  
Tina McGee, Executive Secretary, Legislative Analyst's Office  
Tiffany Garcia, Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance  
Peggy Collins, Principal Consultant, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Benjamin Palmer, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Julie Salley-Gray, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Jolie Onodera, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office  
Mike Petersen, Consultant, Senate Republican Policy Office  
Alison Merrilees, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee

Ms. Diane F. Boyer-Vine

Mr. Daniel Alvarez

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson

September 16, 2015

Page 4

Chuck Nicol, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee

Marvin Deon, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee

Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget

Paul Dress, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy & Budget

Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Finance, Judicial Council

Cory Jaspersen, Director, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council

Peter Allen, Senior Manager, Communications, Judicial Council

Yvette Casillas-Sarcos, Administrative Coordinator, Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council



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Judicial Council

## Report Summary

Report title: *Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2015)*

Statutory citation: Government Code section 69958

Date of report: September 16, 2015

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 January 1, 2015, through June 30, 2015, seven courts purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items at a cost of \$49,457 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 this transaction 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.