



The Capitol Connection

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS • OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Legislative Calendar

- December 6, 2010**
2011-12 Regular Session convenes.
- January 1, 2011**
New statutes take effect.
- January 3, 2011**
Gubernatorial Inauguration

Judicial Branch Prepares for Leadership Change; Chief Justice-elect Looks Forward to the Challenge

On January 2, 2011, Californians will witness the transition of leadership in the nation’s largest judicial system. Chief Justice Ronald M. George, who over the last 14 years has led the judicial branch through landmark reforms, will retire as Chief Justice of California and Chair of the Judicial Council, the policymaking body for the courts. Stepping in on January 3 will be Associate Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye of the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District who was elected to the post on November 2, 2010. The Sacramento native becomes the 28th Chief Justice, the second woman and the first Filipina-American to hold the office. Both George and Cantil-Sakauye are known as outstanding jurists.



Chief Justice-elect Tani Cantil-Sakauye accepts congratulations from Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (*center*) and Chief Justice Ronald M. George (*left*) at the August State Capitol press conference announcing her nomination. (Photo courtesy of Office of Governor Schwarzenegger).

“Chief Justice George has given many years of dedicated service to the people of California and we wish him a well-deserved and what will probably not be a very restful retirement,” said Curt

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FY 2010–2011 Budget Enacted in October

The judicial branch budget was approved as part of the budget passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor on Friday, October 8, 2010. The state budget that was enacted is an \$87.5 billion spending plan that included \$6.8 billion in reductions, \$5.4 billion in assumed federal funding, \$3.3 billion in revenue actions (including \$1.4 billion in higher assumed baseline state revenues), and \$2.7 billion in one-time loans, transfers, and funding shifts.

The judicial branch saw reductions in general fund support, though not as extensive as those contained in the previous year’s budget. The final approved State Budget contains \$3.9 billion for the judicial branch, \$1.6 billion of which is from the General Fund. The

courts, in collaboration with the Governor, the Legislature, and justice system partners, worked to avoid the court closures that occurred last year through increased court user fees and fund shifts to offset the loss of General Fund.

To implement the revenue assumptions in the Budget Act, the Legislature enacted several budget trailer bills. The judiciary budget trailer bill assists the courts in dealing with the budget reductions and continuing to provide services to the public by raising various fees, fines, and penalties to support trial court operations (See SB 857, Stats. 2010, ch. 720). These include:

- one-year increase in the court security fee on

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JUDICIAL COUNCIL–SPONSORED LEGISLATION

In the second year of the 2009–2010 Legislative Session, the Judicial Council carried out its legislative priorities by sponsoring the following bills:

CIVIL

SB 1274 (Committee on Judiciary; Stats. 2010, ch. 156). Electronic service of process.

Expressly authorizes service by electronic notification. Also authorizes electronic service of all types of documents and expands the courts' ability to serve certain documents electronically, which will promote the use of electronic service and increase the overall efficiency of the service process.

Status: Signed into law. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2011. *For more information, contact Daniel Pone at daniel.pone@jud.ca.gov or 916-323-3121.*

COURT OPERATIONS

AB 2767 (Committee on Judiciary; Stats. 2010, ch. 212). Civil law: omnibus bill.

Among other things, (1) clarifies that parties, their attorneys, and agents of attorneys may obtain copies of confidential paternity files, in addition to inspecting such files; (2) clarifies the disposition of unclaimed victim restitution money held by the superior court for three years or more by directing the court to deposit such funds into either the State Restitution Fund or into the county general fund to be used for victim ser-

vices; and (3) adjusts, from April 1, 2010, to April 1, 2013, the date on which the Judicial Council is required to submit the first report to the Legislature regarding increased dollar amounts for homestead exemptions. **Status:** Signed into law. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2011. *For more information, contact Daniel Pone at daniel.pone@jud.ca.gov or 916-323-3121.*

COURT RECORDS

AB 1926 (Evans; Stats. 2010, ch. 167). Court records: preservation guidelines.

Authorizes courts to create, maintain, and preserve records in any form or forms—including paper, optical, electronic, magnetic, micrographic, or photographic media, or other technology. Requires the Judicial Council to adopt rules to establish the guidelines or standards for the creation, maintenance, reproduction, and preservation of court records. The amended statutes would not apply to court reporters' transcripts or electronic recordings made as the official record of oral proceedings. **Status:** Signed into law. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2011. *For more information, contact Tracy Kenny at tracy.kenny@jud.ca.gov or 916-323-3121.*

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AB 1596 (Hayashi; Stats. 2010, ch. 572). Protective orders: emergency protective orders:

enforcement priority: sexual assault.

Makes numerous revisions to statutes concerning protective orders issued for civil harassment, domestic violence, elder and dependent adult abuse, and workplace violence, in order to promote procedural consistency between and among the relevant statutes. **Status:** Signed into law. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2011, but is operative January 1, 2012. *For more information, contact Tracy Kenny at tracy.kenny@jud.ca.gov or 916-323-3121.*

JUVENILE DEPENDENCY

AB 12 (Beall and Bass; Stats. 2010, ch. 559). California Fostering Connections to Success Act. Implements federal foster care reform legislation to provide for federally subsidized relative guardianships and extend foster care jurisdiction to age 21. Reenacts the existing state-funded Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (Kin-GAP) to conform to federal requirements and allow for federal financial participation in the program. Creates a process for converting eligible existing state-funded Kin-GAP cases to the newly established federally funded Kin-GAP, with the goals of minimal disruption to the guardian and child and no interruption in assistance payments. Provides that a child in foster care on his or her 18th birthday may remain in care

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JUDICIAL COUNCIL—SPONSORED LEGISLATION

(Continued from page 2)

as a nonminor dependent up to age 21. Phases in this expansion beginning January 1, 2012, to reach eligible youth up to age 19; January 1, 2013, for youth up to age 20; and (contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature) January 1, 2014, for eligible youth up to age 21. To be eligible, youth must meet one or more of the following criteria: (1) be completing secondary education or an equivalent credential; (2) be enrolled in a postsecondary or vocational education institution; (3) be participating in a program designed to promote or remove barriers to employment; (4) be employed for at least 80 hours per month; or (5) be incapable of doing any of the above due to a medical condition, with that incapability supported by case plan information that is up-

dated regularly. Requires the court, when terminating jurisdiction over a delinquent ward who is in a foster care placement or who was a dependent child removed from his or her parents at the time he or she was adjudicated a delinquent ward, to set a hearing under Welfare and Institutions Code section 241.1 if the court finds that the child appears to come within the description of Welfare and Institutions Code section 300 because of abuse or neglect and cannot be returned home safely. **Status:** Signed into law. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2011. For more information, contact Tracy Kenny at tracy.kenny@jud.ca.gov or 916-323-3121.

TRIAL COURT FACILITIES

AB 1341 (Lowenthal, Bonnie; Stats. 2010, ch. 442). Property taxation: possessory interests: Long Beach Courthouse.

Provides that no possessory interest arises for a nongovernmental entity that delivers the new Long Beach Courthouse if certain criteria are satisfied. Makes clear that the courthouse shall be public property and exempt from tax that would attach if a private entity were deemed as having a possessory interest in public property. **Status:** Signed into law. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2011. For more information, contact Curtis Child at curis.child@jud.ca.gov or 916-323-3121. ■

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

The following is an update on selected bills of interest from the second year of the 2009–2010 Legislative Session.

CIVIL

AB 1894 (Monning; Stats. 2010, ch. 131). Judges: disqualification.

Extends, for civil cases only, the time period for moving to disqualify a judge under Code of Civil Procedure section 170.6 from 10 to 15 days and requires the moving party to notify all other parties within five days after making the motion.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

AB 2119 (Tran; Stats. 2010, ch. 41). Civil procedure: deadlines: computation.

Provides that where any law governing civil procedure requires an act to be performed no later than a specified number of days before a hearing date, the last day to perform that act shall be determined by counting backward from the hearing date, excluding the date of the hearing.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

AB 2284 (Evans; Stats. 2010, ch.

674). Jury trial: rules of court.

Establishes the Expedited Jury Trials Act, which would be operative until January 1, 2016. Among other things, defines an expedited jury trial as a binding jury trial before a reduced jury panel and judicial officer. Includes provisions for a jury of eight or fewer jurors with no alternates, a limit of three peremptory challenges for each side, and a limit of three hours for each side to present its case. Provides that all parties waive all rights to appeal, to move for directed verdict, or to make any posttrial motions, except as speci-

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Chief Justice-elect

(Continued from page 1)

Child, director of the AOC Office of Governmental Affairs.

“We are losing one of the most knowledgeable and capable executives to hold judicial office—in California or anywhere else in the country,” Child noted. Those sentiments capture the countless days and hours Chief Justice George has spent over the last 14 years meeting with members of the Legislature and the Governor and his staff, advocating for the needs of the branch on top of his bench duties.

George’s acumen as an administrator, skilled negotiator, and his vision as a policymaker cannot be overstated. Since becoming Chief Justice in May 1996, he has overseen major changes that have transformed the judicial branch and have enabled California’s courts to increase the public’s access to justice—changes that required an in-depth knowledge of legislative and fiscal processes and a willingness to work through the challenges and constraints presented by a large state judicial system.

Among the historic reforms during Chief Justice George’s tenure are: (1) enactment of the Lockyer-Isenberg Trial Court Funding Act of 1997, which provided a stable funding source for the state’s trial courts, (2) unification of the state’s superior and municipal courts into 58 trial courts, resulting in the more efficient use of branch resources, (3) enactment of the Trial Court Facilities Act of 2002, which transferred responsibility of California’s more than 500 court facilities from county to state oversight, and (4) authorization for the renovation and new construction to replace 41 of the most dilapidated, dangerous, and inefficient court facilities. In addition, Chief Justice George has led numerous initiatives to provide greater access for individuals who represent themselves in the courts and to improve the delivery of statewide programs and services.

In addition to being an experienced jurist, Chief Justice-elect Tani Cantil-Sakauye is no newcomer to political

and executive circles. She is well-prepared to take the reins and build on prior efforts to strengthen the branch.



Chief Justice-elect Tani Cantil-Sakauye

On August 25, after being rated as “exceptionally well qualified” to serve as Chief Justice by the State Bar’s Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluations, the Commission on Judicial Appointments unanimously confirmed Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s nomination of Cantil-Sakauye, placing her on the November 2, 2010, ballot where she was elected to a twelve-year term.

“We couldn’t be happier about the election of Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye,” Child said on behalf of all the OGA staff. “She possesses the necessary judicial, legislative, and executive branch experience to lead the branch’s advocacy efforts and advance the Judicial Council’s legislative and budget agenda. She is well-respected in political and legal circles, is deeply aware of the challenges facing the branch, and has invaluable, first-hand knowledge of the Capitol environment and culture—diplomatic skills that will serve her well going forward.”

Prior to her 20 years of service on the trial and appellate court bench, Chief Justice-elect Cantil-

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Chief Justice-elect

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Sakauye served under former Governor George Deukmejian as deputy legal affairs secretary and deputy legislative secretary—both positions in the Governor’s inner circle of advisers that afforded her high-level exposure and access to the workings of legislative and executive branch offices. Earlier this year, Chief Justice George appointed Justice Cantil-Sakauye as chair of the Judicial Council’s Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch,

which is charged with promoting “transparency, accountability, efficiency, and understanding of the Administrative Office of the Courts and the judicial branch.”

Chief Justice-elect Cantil-Sakauye will oversee the pursuit of these objectives and more in her new role at the head of the judicial branch. ■

Judicial Branch Budget

(Continued from page 1)

- criminal convictions from \$30 to \$40;
- three-year increase in the first paper filing fee in the amount of \$40 for most cases, and \$20 for limited civil cases where the amount in controversy is less than \$10,000;
- three-year increase in the “pro hac vice” fee imposed on out-of-state attorneys practicing in California courts, raising the fee from \$250 to \$500, and imposing a requirement to pay a renewal fee annually;
- three-year \$20 telephonic hearing fee;
- three-year \$3 increase in the penalty on parking citations; and
- three-year increase in the motion for summary judgment fee from \$200 to \$500.

The budget also contains one-time redirections from dedicated funds, including the State Court Construction Fund, Judicial Administration Efficiency and Modernization Fund, and the Trial Court Improvement Fund. A total of \$98 million is redirected from the State Court Facilities Construction Fund without eliminating or delaying any of the job-creating court construction projects. An additional \$32 million is redirected from other funds to trial court operations, for a total redirection of \$130 million.

In total, the judicial branch reductions contained in

the Budget Act were offset by a combination of new revenues (\$106 million), fund transfers (\$130 million), augmentation for employee health and benefit costs (\$18 million), one-time reduction restoration (\$100 million), less new reductions (\$55 million). A total of \$299 million was restored to the branch budget, which is intended to keep the trial courts open to the public this year. Even with the new revenue and short term solutions, the courts are still far from being made whole. Trial court budgets are lower than their 2008-2009 level, while costs and workload have continued to increase.

The Governor called a special session of the Legislature on December 6, to address a \$25.4 billion budget shortfall in 2011-12 projected by the Legislative Analyst’s Office. The budget committees in both houses met on December 9, but there is no indication that further action will be taken in response to the Governor’s proposals.

For additional information about the judicial branch budget, please contact Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez in the Office of Governmental Affairs at 916-323-3121 or jacqueline.wong-hernandez@jud.ca.gov ■

Bench-Bar Coalition Prepares for 2011 at Annual Fall Meeting

(Photo Journal Courtesy of Howard Watkins, Fresno County Bar Association)



As he has done every year since 1996, Chief Justice Ronald M. George addressed members of the Bench-Bar Coalition at the fall meeting held during the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of California.



Nearly 90 bench, bar, and legal service leaders from across the state attended the BBC fall 2010 meeting. The agenda included remarks by judicial branch leaders and justice system partners, a continuing legal education course on the California Court Case Management System, and the installation of BBC Executive Committee officers for 2011-2012.

“The visibility and influence of the Bench-Bar Coalition always has played a significant role in furthering the goals of the judicial branch.”

—Chief Justice Ronald M. George



BBC members recognized four bench and bar leaders for their outstanding contributions to the judicial branch and to the BBC. Accepting awards from Chief Justice George (center) were (*l-r*) Associate Justice Terence Bruiniers, Court of Appeal, First Appellate District; Judy Johnson, Executive Director, State Bar of California; Salena Copeland, Managing Attorney, Public Interest Clearinghouse; and James Penrod, Attorney at Law and Member, Judicial Council of California.



Representatives from BBC justice system partners were acknowledged for their efforts in support of the judicial branch. Pictured with Chief Justice George (*center*) are (*l-r*): Legislative Advocate Michael Belote and President Harry Chamberlain II of the California Defense Counsel, and Chief Lobbyist/CEO Nancy Drabble and President Christopher Dolan of the Consumer Attorneys of California.

Bench-Bar Coalition



Assemblymember Mike Feuer (D-Los Angeles), chair of the Assembly Committee on Judiciary, makes acceptance remarks following his recognition by the BBC for outstanding contributions to the judicial branch, as outgoing BBC Cochair Tom Warwick looks on.



California Supreme Court Associate Justice Ming W. Chin remarks on the benefits of the California Court Case Management System (CCMS) before BBC members were given a live demonstration of the system functionality. The presentation featured CCMS components of particular interest to legal practitioners.

“Over the last several years, I have developed an ever-deeper appreciation of our partnership with the BBC. I want to thank and congratulate each of you for your work on behalf of not only the courts, but of all Californians. I wish you all the best in your continuing endeavors.”

—Chief Justice Ronald M. George



Chief Justice George congratulates BBC leadership team (l-r) outgoing BBC Executive Committee Member Carmen Ramirez; outgoing Past Cochair Ruthe Ashley; incoming Executive Committee member Ray Aragon; BBC Cochair Hon. William Murray; incoming BBC Cochair Danni Murphy; Chief Justice George; outgoing BBC Cochair Tom Warwick; Chief Justice-elect Tani Cantil-Sakauye; AOC Chief Deputy Director Ronald Overholt; and AOC Office of Governmental Affairs Director Curtis Child.



OGA Administrative Coordinator Katie Asher (*left*) and BBC Liaison Dia Poole (*second from right*) congratulated Chief Justice George (*second from left*) on his upcoming retirement and welcomed Chief Justice-elect Tani Cantil-Sakauye (*right*), who is looking forward to continued partnership with the BBC. The 2011 BBC Fall Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, September 16, during the Annual Meeting of the State Bar of California in Long Beach. ■

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION FELLOWS Class of 2010-2011: Oriented And Ready To Go!

By Christine Hansen, *Judicial Administration Fellow*

Nervous. Excited. Terrified. Overwhelmed. These are just a few of the words the class of 2010-2011 used to describe their feelings on the first day of orientation to the Judicial Administration Fellowship program. The program, in its 14th year, places applicants in 10-month long experiential fellowships that provide them with a unique insider's look behind the day-to-day operations of our state court system. From more than 250 applicants, just 10 fellows are selected for placement throughout the state, with nine serving in trial and appellate courts, and one serving in the Executive Office of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) in San Francisco.

The fellowship year began in September with a week-long orientation at the AOC's Office of Governmental Affairs (OGA) in Sacramento, where fellows met with leaders of the judicial branch while learning about current challenges and strategic goals. Judge Kathleen White of the Superior Court of Yolo County continued her annual tradition of enlightening fellows on ways in which court culture may be different from that of other organizations; advising fellows to ask lots of questions and learn from the bottom up.

Panel events included a discussion with Judge William J. Murray, Jr., past presiding judge of the Superior Court of San Joaquin County, AOC Regional Administrative Direc-

tor Christine Patton, and Sharol Strickland former court executive officer of the Superior Court of Butte County, who, along with moderator Daniel Pone, OGA Senior Attorney, educated the fellows on the history of the California court system. Drew Liebert, chief counsel to the Assembly Judiciary Committee, joined Tim Hodson, executive director for the Center for California Studies, to discuss current relations between the judicial and legislative branches. Michael Corriere, principal management analyst of the Superior Court of San Francisco County, illustrated the importance of statistics and data analysis that fellows might encounter.

For the fellows, it was an extraordinary amount of new information. As Patricia Egan, fellow at the Superior Court of Alameda County, reflected, "When we started our orientation, I was all set to dive in and get lots of stuff done. By the end of the week, I realized that I might well need to step back a bit and get a sense of the culture of the court, how things get done, and the long view of achieving important objectives."

On the other hand, orientation wasn't all learning and culture shock. One of our week's great privileges was the opportunity to meet then-Chief Justice Nominee Tani G.

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JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2010-2011 (left to right):

- Patricia Egan, Superior Court of Alameda County
- Ravi Patel, Superior Court of Placer County
- Dyanna Quizon, Administrative Office of the Courts, Executive Office, San Francisco
- Brandy Lederle, Superior Court of Stanislaus County
- Mallory Waters, Superior Court of San Diego County
- Maria Abesa, Superior Court of San Bernardino County
- Shannon Myricks-Jones, Superior Court of Los Angeles County
- Ambar Ramos, Superior Court of Orange County
- Geoffrey Warner, Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Los Angeles
- Christine Hansen, Superior Court of Butte County

Judicial Administration Fellowship Program

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Cantil-Sakauye and her colleague, Associate Justice Ronald B. Robie of the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District, in Sacramento. "It could be likened to a garage band meeting the Beatles," said Maria Abesa, fellow for the Superior Court of San Bernardino County. "The intimidation soon dissolved though; she was really great to talk to, very easygoing and funny, and full of insights about the courts." Fellows also appreciated that the justices addressed the balancing of family and life issues while maintaining a successful professional career.

Learning about the court system and job opportunities in judicial administration is one of the primary functions of the fellowship, which is part of Sacramento State University's Capital Fellows Program. Ranked among the top 10 fellowship programs nationally in the 2010 *Vault Guide to Top Internships*, the Capital Fellows Programs place participants in the judicial, executive, and legislative branches so that college graduates and professionals seeking career change can explore opportunities in public service.

As part of their commitment to the program, staff mentors at each placement commit to providing fellows with learning opportunities; fellows are carefully matched with mentors and placements that meet their needs, interests, and personalities. Fellows travel monthly to an academic seminar where they study organizational and court administration theory and share the lessons that they have learned. The academic seminars take place at locations throughout the state, providing fellows with an opportunity to visit a variety of court settings, both rural and metropolitan.

These unique opportunities and the strong commitment of all the participants to provide a quality experience for the fellows are some of the many reasons that applications for the program have doubled over the last five years. "There's a lot of pressure not to make a mistake and embarrass the program," said Maria Abesa, "but the support offered to us is astounding; every line of communication we could possibly need or want is open and waiting." May we be worthy of all your support.

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2010-2011:

Maria Abesa, Superior Court of San Bernardino County
BA Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles

Patricia Egan, Superior Court of Alameda County
BA Dramatic Art, University of California, Berkeley
MBA Candidate, Lorry I. Lokey Graduate School of Business, Mills College

Christine Hansen, Superior Court of Butte County
BA Communication Studies, CSU Sacramento
JD, University of Pacific McGeorge School of Law

Brandy Lederle, Superior Court of Stanislaus County
BA Legal Studies, University of California, Berkeley

Shannon Myricks-Jones, Superior Court of Los Angeles County
BA Afro-American Studies, University of California, Berkeley

Ravi Patel, Superior Court of Placer County
BA History, University of California, Berkeley

Dyanna Quizon, Administrative Office of the Courts, Executive Office, San Francisco
BA Sociology, University of California, Davis
JD, University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law

Ambar Ramos, Superior Court of Orange County
BA Chicano/Latino Studies, University of California, Irvine
BA Criminology, Law & Society, University of California, Irvine
JD, University of Notre Dame School of Law

Geoffrey Warner, Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Los Angeles
BS Criminal Justice, CSU, Sacramento

Mallory Waters, Superior Court of San Diego County
BA Political Science, University of San Diego
MA Political Science, University of Nevada

Applications for the four Capital Fellows Programs—Judicial, Assembly, Senate, and Executive—are now available online at www.csus.edu/calst/programs. The postmark deadline is **February 23, 2011**. ■

GOVERNOR SWEARS IN 28TH CHIEF JUSTICE OF CALIFORNIA

Under the ornate dome of the California State Capitol, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger issued the oath of office on Friday, December 3, 2010, to Associate Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye as the 28th Chief Justice of California.

In a statement released shortly after the ceremony, Governor Schwarzenegger said, “Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye is a living example of the American Dream, and I am proud to have nominated her as the next chief justice of California. Today’s swearing-in ceremony is an historic moment for our state, and I congratulate Justice Cantil-Sakauye and her family on this tremendous honor.”

The ceremony was attended by the Chief Justice Ronald M. George, legislative and judicial branch leaders, and family and friends of the incoming Chief Justice.

Justice Cantil-Sakauye will officially assume office on January 3, 2011. For more on the Chief Justice-elect, please see our cover story in this issue. ■



Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (right) administers the oath of office to Chief Justice-elect Tani Cantil-Sakauye (left) in a State Capitol Rotunda ceremony. Holding the bible is Justice Cantil-Sakauye's husband, Mark Sakauye (center).

CHIEF JUSTICE, CHIEF JUSTICE-ELECT SWEAR IN LEGISLATORS



Chief Justice Ronald M. George (above, right) administered the oath of office to senators during swearing in ceremonies in the Senate Chamber on December 6, 2010, the first day of the 2011-2012 Legislative Session. Senators included (left to right) Hon. Ellen Corbett, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee; Hon. Alex Padilla; Hon. Ed Hernandez, O.D.; Hon. Gloria Negrete McLeod; Hon. Kevin de León; and Hon. Lou Correa. (Photo: Lorie Shelley-Senate Rules)

Chief Justice-elect Tani Cantil-Sakauye (below, left) administered the oath to Assembly Speaker John Pérez (right) and Assembly Speaker pro Tempore Fiona Ma during the opening session in the Assembly Chamber. Special guests included former Assembly Speakers and constitutional officers. Hundreds of family members and friends watched from the balcony and rear of the chambers. (Photo by Assembly Democratic Caucus.) ■



Major Changes in Traffic Violator School Administration

Comprehensive change in the way courts interact with and administer traffic violator school programs was signed into law this year. AB 2499 (Portantino), Stats. 2010, ch. 599, consolidates the regulation and oversight of all traffic violator schools, including Internet-based and other home-study programs, under the licensing authority of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Under the bill, which will be phased in over the next 24 months, courts will no longer approve (or disapprove) a traffic violator school to do business in the court's jurisdiction. Once all traffic violator schools are licensed by DMV, traffic violators will choose the school they wish to attend from the DMV's list of licensed schools. The list will be available on the DMV's Web site, and it will be sortable by city, county, and zip code, allowing the court to print hardcopies for its jurisdiction as necessary.

Because DMV will license all traffic violator schools, courts will no longer oversee or monitor schools in their jurisdiction, nor will they approve or disapprove school names. These activities will be DMV's responsibility. Courts that use a Court Assistance Program (CAP) for monitoring purposes will need to renegotiate the terms of their contract once all schools in the court's jurisdiction have DMV licenses. Instead, DMV will monitor all schools, likely through a contract with a CAP (the bill renames CAPs "Traffic Assistance Programs" to reflect the potential for contracting with DMV).

Under the bill, courts are still allowed to contract with a CAP or Traffic Assistance Program for processing of traffic infraction cases, including printing and providing to the court and traffic violators hardcopy county-specific lists printed from DMV's Internet Web site, administratively assisting traffic violators, and any other lawful activity relating to the administration of the court's traffic infraction caseload, if it wishes, and allows a court to charge a traffic violator a fee to defray the costs incurred by the CAP for these purposes.

In addition, AB 2499 requires DMV to develop a Web-

based database by April 1, 2012, that will be accessible by the courts, and requires traffic violator schools to notify the court of information regarding course completion, including the student's name and date of completion, by posting on this database. This will eliminate in most cases the need for the traffic violator to mail or bring a completion certificate to court.

AB 2499 also requires the court to designate a conviction as confidential in consideration for completing a traffic violator school program, rather than dismissing the case, and to transmit to DMV an abstract indicating the conviction and the fact that the person has completed a traffic violator school program. At this time, it appears that DMV will be able to make changes to its computer system so that courts will *not* have to modify its coding system used in transmitting the abstract to DMV.

While the bill becomes effective on January 1, 2011, several of its provisions have delayed operative dates. Of most significance to the courts, the change to reporting convictions rather than dismissals becomes operative on July 1, 2011; the last day a court may approve a traffic violator school program is July 1, 2011; and the final date by which all traffic violator schools must be licensed, and therefore the date beyond which a court may not conduct, or contract with a CAP to conduct, monitoring activities is December 31, 2012. The bill's phased-in implementation plan will allow DMV, the courts, and Court Assistance Programs to modify procedures, contracts, and practices to ensure a smooth transition to full DMV regulation of the traffic violator school industry.

Please contact June Clark in the Office of Governmental Affairs by telephone at 916-323-3121 or email june.clark@jud.ca.gov for additional information. ■

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

fied. Provides that the verdict in an expedited jury trial is binding, subject to any written high/low agreement, as defined. Requires the Judicial Council to adopt additional rules and uniform procedures by January 1, 2011.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

SB 1149 (Corbett; Stats. 2010, ch. 641). Residential tenancies: foreclosure.

Prohibits the release of court records in a foreclosure-related eviction unless the plaintiff landlord prevails against all defendants. Requires that a prescribed cover sheet, notifying a tenant of his or her rights and responsibilities, be attached to any eviction notice that is served within one year after a foreclosure.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

COURT FACILITIES, EMPLOYEES, AND TECHNOLOGY

AB 1699 (Hernandez; As amended August 31, 2010). State employee compensation.

Provides that the General Fund and other special funds are to be continuously appropriated in an amount necessary for employee compensation and benefits, so that state employees will be fully paid in the absence of a state budget. Defines state employees, for purposes of this bill, as including all employees of the judicial branch.

Status: Failed passage on Senate floor.

JC Position: No position.

CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

AB 2505 (Strickland, Audra; Stats. 2010, ch. 98). Warrants: electronic signature: computer server transmission.

Allows an oath by an affiant seeking a search warrant to be made using a telephone and computer server, in addition to a fax machine or e-mail, and allows the affiant's signature to be in the form of an electronic signature. Deletes the requirement that the magistrate print the warrant, supporting affidavit, and attachments if received by electronic mail or computer server, as well as the requirement in cases of fax, electronic mail, or server affidavits that the magistrate return the printed documents to the court and leave only the "duplicate original" to be returned by the remote affiant. Allows the magistrate to sign the warrant using a digital or electronic signature where electronic mail or computer server transmission is used.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

AB 2582 (Adams; Stats. 2010, ch. 99). Infractions: dismissal of charge.

Provides that defendants convicted of infractions, other than specified motor vehicle-related infractions, shall be permitted to seek dismissal of charges and release from all penal-

ties and associated consequences resulting from those offenses. Provides that a petition for dismissal of an infraction shall generally be by written declaration, and that the court shall not grant the dismissal of an infraction unless the prosecuting attorney received prior notice of the petition for dismissal.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: No position.

SB 1449 (Leno; Stats. 2010, ch. 708). Marijuana: possession.

Retains the maximum punishment of a \$100 base fine but reclassifies from a misdemeanor to an infraction possession of not more than 28.5 grams of marijuana.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

EMPLOYEE-EMPLOYER ISSUES

AB 1749 (Lowenthal, Bonnie; Stats. 2010, ch. 160). California Whistleblower Protection Act.

Expands the California Whistleblower Protection Act to include employees of the trial courts, Courts of Appeal, Supreme Court, and Administrative Office of the Courts. Provides that the State Personnel Board (SPB) may investigate claims of employer retaliation against an employee making a protected disclosure, which shall result in the SPB issuing recommendations to the judicial branch employer regarding any findings

(Continued on page 13)

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

(Continued from page 12)

that retaliation has taken place and any remedial actions that should be taken.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

FAMILY LAW

AB 939 (Committee on Judiciary; Stats. 2010, ch. 352). Family law proceedings.

Authorizes service of postjudgment modifications of support or custody to be served by mail. Requires that the court accept live testimony in family law proceedings unless it finds good cause not to and states its reasons on the record. Requires the court to rule on a request for attorney fees early in the proceeding and requires that fees be awarded if the court finds that there is a disparity in income and an ability of one party to pay the other party's fees. Allows the court to order case management without stipulation but eliminates the court's authority to order telephone hearings in contested matters. Eliminates authority for minor's counsel to prepare a statement of issues and instead authorizes counsel to present only admissible evidence. Requires minor's counsel to present the wishes of the child to the court if the child so desires. Requires that any recommendation by a mediator in a child custody matter be provided in writing to the parties in advance of the hearing. Allows the court to accept a paternity stipulation in a Domestic Violence Prevention Act (DVPA)

matter and provides that custody, visitation, and support orders issued in a DVPA matter survive the termination of the order. Requires the child welfare agencies to investigate referrals from the family court the same way they investigate other allegations of abuse. Authorizes family court personnel to examine child welfare case files. Revises the summary dissolution statute to allow use of this procedure for an eligible marriage that is not more than five years in duration at the time the parties are legally separated and allows the court to issue the judgment after six months without requiring any other action by the parties.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

AB 1050 (Ma; Stats. 2010, ch. 187). Child custody: preferences of child.

Creates a presumption that a child is of sufficient maturity at age 14 to express a preference or provide input on a child custody or visitation issue, unless the court finds that such testimony is not in the child's best interests and states its reasons on the record. Requires the court that precludes calling the child to find alternate means of obtaining information about the child's preferences. Requires the Judicial Council to promulgate a rule of court on or before January 1, 2012, regarding the examination of a child witness, including guidelines for obtaining information in ways other than direct testimony. Delays the operative date of the bill until January 1,

2012, when the new rules of court are required to be in place.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011; becomes operative January 1, 2012.

JC Position: Support.

JUDGES/JUDICIAL OFFICERS

AB 2116 (Evans; Stats. 2010, ch. 206). Judges: gifts and honoraria.

Includes subordinate judicial officers in the existing provisions regulating gifts and honoraria for judges and justices.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

AB 2487 (Feuer; Stats. 2010, ch. 686). Judges: disqualification.

Requires a judge to disqualify himself or herself when the judge has received a contribution in excess of \$1,500 from a party or counsel in a matter before the judge, where the contribution was received in support of the judge's election and the election is either upcoming or occurred within the last six years. Allows the noncontributing party to waive the disqualification. Also requires the judge to disclose on the record any contribution of an amount that a judicial candidate would be required to report to the Fair Political Practices Commission under Government Code section 84211 (currently \$100).

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support if amended to limit the mandatory disqualification to two years instead of six years.

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LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

(Continued from page 13)

AB 2763 (Committee on Judiciary; Stats. 2010, ch. 690). Judge-ships.

Requires the Judicial Council by November 30, 2011, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a special assessment of the family and juvenile law judgeship needs of each superior court. Authorizes the Judicial Council to convert up to an additional 10 subordinate judicial officer positions to judgeships each year (upon annual legislative ratification by statutory enactment other than through the annual Budget Act), with every such conversion to result in a judge being assigned to a family or juvenile law assignment previously presided over by a subordinate judicial officer.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2010.

JC Position: Support.

PROBATE

AB 2271 (Silva; Stats. 2010, ch. 94). Probate: appeals.

Provides, among other things, that when an appeal is being taken in certain probate matters for the purpose of preventing injury or loss to a person or property, the trial court may appoint a temporary trustee to exercise specified powers as if no appeal were pending.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: No position.

SB 1038 (Harman; Stats. 2010, ch. 48). Powers of attorney: duties.

Provides, among other things, that an attorney-in-fact who breaches a

fiduciary duty can be charged with interest for any loss or depreciation in value of the property of the principal, any profit made through the breach, or any profit that would have accrued to the principal if the loss or profit is a result of the breach. Allows the court, in its discretion, to excuse the attorney-in-fact if he or she acted reasonably and in good faith, or if the attorney-in-fact acted in bad faith, he or she can be held liable for twice the value of the property recovered.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: No position.

SB 1041 (Harman; Stats. 2010, ch. 106). Hearsay evidence: wills and revocable trusts.

Provides that evidence of a statement made by a declarant who is unavailable as a witness that he or she has or has not established or revoked a revocable trust, or that identifies his or her revocable trust, is not made inadmissible by the hearsay rule (similar to the existing hearsay exception for wills).

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2011.

JC Position: Support.

TRAFFIC

AB 2144 (Gilmore; Stats. 2010, ch. 216). Commercial motor vehicles: driver compliance.

Requires courts to transmit to the Department of Motor Vehicles abstracts of judgment for convictions of traffic violations along with an order to keep such convictions confidential, rather than the court's dismissing the case upon the offender's

completion of the traffic violator school program.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2010.

JC Position: No position.

AB 2499 (Portantino; Stats. 2010, ch. 599). Vehicles: traffic violator school program.

Consolidates the regulation of all traffic violator schools, including Internet-based and other home-study programs, under the licensing authority of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Requires courts to transmit to DMV abstracts of judgment for convictions of traffic violations along with an order to keep such convictions confidential, rather than the court's dismissing the case upon the offender's completion of the traffic violator school program.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2010. Contains several delayed operative dates.

JC Position: Support.

SB 949 (Oropeza; Stats. 2010, ch. 616). Vehicles: local authority: assessing penalties.

Prohibits local authorities from enacting or enforcing ordinances or resolutions that either establish a violation for traffic conduct already deemed a violation of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) or assess a fine, penalty, or fee for violation of any matters covered by the CVC, unless such ordinances are authorized by the CVC or other state code.

Status: Signed into law. Takes effect January 1, 2010. Becomes operative July 1, 2011.

JC Position: No position. ■

2010 SEES FEWER BILLS INTRODUCED, MORE SENT TO THE GOVERNOR, MORE SIGNED INTO LAW, AND MORE VETOED

While budget negotiations took center stage over other activity in the Capitol, work continued on the bills passed by each house and enrolled to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in hopes of obtaining his signature. At the close of the session, 1,029 bills of the 1,871 bills introduced by the Senate and Assembly in 2010 had been sent to the Governor for consideration. By comparison, in 2009 both houses sent a combined 893 bills to the Governor of the 2,423 introduced.

September 30 was the final day for the Governor to sign or veto non-urgency regular session bills passed by the Legislature before September 1, 2010. On October 25, 2010, the Legislature reported that the Governor had signed 465 Assembly bills, a 13.9% increase over 2009, and had signed 268 Senate bills, a 9.8% increase over 2009. However, he vetoed 206 Assembly bills, up 16.4% over 2009, and vetoed 90 Senate bills, representing a 30.6% increase over 2009.

A summary chart of regular session bill dispositions follows. In addition, the Legislature convened eight Extraordinary (special) Sessions in 2010, during which a total of 444 bills were introduced relating to the state budget and other critical issues. Eighty-three have been signed into law and 20 have been vetoed.

For information on the Governor's actions on Judicial Council-sponsored legislation and other bills of interest to the courts, see "Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation" and "Legislative Bill Review" in this issue. The Office of Governmental Affairs' 2010 *Legislative Summary* of enacted measures that affect the courts or are of interest to the legal community will be available online this winter at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courtadmin/cr-legis.htm>. ■

2010 Regular Session Legislative History	ASSEMBLY BILLS* 2009	ASSEMBLY BILLS* 2010	% Incr /Decr	SENATE BILLS* 2009	SENATE BILLS* 2010	% Incr /Decr
Introduced	1,590	1,209	-23.9	833	662	-20.5
Passed by House of Origin	904	761	-15.8	460	473	+2.8
Refused Passage on the Floor	16	30	+87.5	0	5	-
Enrolled and Presented to Governor	585	671	+14.7	308	358	+16.2
Signed by Governor and Chaptered	408	465	+13.9	244	268	+9.8
Vetoed by Governor	177	206	+16.4	64	90	+40.6

* Does not include constitutional amendments and resolutions.

November 2010 Election Coverage: Legislature Begins 2011-2012 Session With 38 New Legislators

When the California State Legislature convened the 2011-2012 Regular Session at 12 noon on Monday, December 6, 2010, 38 new faces were seated behind the polished antique wooden desks on the Senate and Assembly floors. The November 2 statewide general election resulted in 10 new Senators and 28 new Assembly members. Office of Governmental Affairs advocates will meet with incoming legislators during January and February to acquaint them with the Judicial Council and with OGA's role and responsibilities, and offer to serve as a resource on judicial branch matters.

Here's how the Senate and Assembly turnover breaks down:

California State Senate

Under the terms of Proposition 140, California's senators can serve no more than two 4-year terms in the State Senate. State Senate seats in the 20 even-numbered districts were on the November 2010 ballot. Of those 20:

- Ten incumbents were seeking reelection,
- Eight current members were term limited and ineligible to run for reelection (4 Democrats and 4 Republicans), and
- Two incumbent senators were eligible but chose not to seek reelection (1 Democrat and 1 Republican).

District	Current Senator: *Term Limited † Eligible but not seeking reelection	Senator 2011-2012 Regular Session ◆Previously served in the Legislature
02	Sen. Patricia Wiggins† (D-Santa Rosa)	Sen. Noreen Evans (D-Santa Rosa) ◆
04	Sen. Samuel Aanestad* (R-Grass Valley)	Sen. Doug La Malfa (R-Oroville) ◆
06	Sen. Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento)	Incumbent
08	Sen. Leland Yee Ph.D. (D-San Francisco)	Incumbent
10	Sen. Ellen Corbett (D-San Leandro)	Incumbent
12	Sen. Jeff Denham* (R-Merced)	Sen. Anthony Cannella (R-Modesto)
14	Sen. Dave Cogdill† (R-Fresno)	Sen. Tom Berryhill (R-Modesto) ◆
16	Sen. Dean Florez* (D-Shafter)	Sen. Michael Rubio (D-Bakersfield)
18	Sen. Roy Ashburn* (R-Bakersfield)	Sen. Jean Fuller (R-Bakersfield) ◆
20	Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Pacoima)	Incumbent
22	Sen. Gilbert Cedillo* (D-Los Angeles)	Sen. Kevin de León (D-Los Angeles) ◆
24	Sen. Gloria Romero* (D-Los Angeles)	Sen. Ed Hernandez, O.D. (D-La Puente) ◆
26	Sen. Curren Price (D-Los Angeles)	Incumbent
28	Sen. Jenny Oropeza (D-Long Beach)	Incumbent – special election will be held
30	Sen. Ronald Calderon (D-Montebello)	Incumbent
32	Sen. Gloria Negrete McLeod (D-Chino)	Incumbent
34	Sen. Lou Correa (D-Santa Ana)	Incumbent
36	Sen. Dennis Hollingsworth* (R-Murrieta)	Sen. Joel Anderson (R-La Mesa) ◆
38	Sen. Mark Wyland (R-Escondido)	Incumbent
40	Sen. Denise Moreno Ducheny* (D-San Diego)	Sen. Juan Vargas (D-Chula Vista) ◆

November 2010 Election Coverage (continued)

In addition, there was a special primary election on November 2, 2010, and will be a special general election on January 4, 2011, to fill the vacancy in the Senate District 1 seat created by the passing of Senator Dave Cox (R-Fair Oaks).

A second special election will be held on a future date to fill the vacant 28th Senate District seat due to the unexpected passing of Senator Jenny Oropeza (D-Long Beach) on October 20, 2010. With less than two weeks until the election, it was too late to remove her name from the ballot and she easily won reelection with 58.4% of the vote, triggering the special election.

California State Assembly

State Assembly seats in all districts were on the November 2 ballot. Assembly members are eligible to serve three two-year terms. Of the 80 members in the Assembly:

- The incumbent ran for re-election in 52 districts;
- Seventeen incumbents were termed out and ineligible to run for reelection (11 Democrats, 5 Republicans, and 1 Independent); and
- Nine incumbents were eligible but chose not to run for re-election (4 Democrats and 5 Republicans); and
- Two Assembly seats were vacant:
 - ⇒ The 63rd Assembly District seat was vacated by Bob Emmerson (R-Riverside) who was elected to the 37th Senate District seat vacated by John Benoit upon his appointment by the Governor to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.
 - ⇒ The 33rd Assembly District seat was vacated by Sam Blakeslee (R-San Luis Obispo) who was elected to the 15th Senate District seat vacated by Abel Maldonado upon his appointment as Lieutenant Governor.

Dis- trict	Current Assembly Member: *Term Limited † Eligible but not seeking reelection	Assembly Member 2011-2012 Regular Session ◆Previously served in the Legislature
01	Asm. Wesley Chesbro (D-Eureka)	Incumbent
02	Asm. Jim Nielsen (R-Briggs)	Incumbent
03	Asm. Dan Logue (R-Chico)	Incumbent
04	Asm. Ted Gaines (R-Roseville)	Incumbent-candidate for Senate District 1
05	Asm. Roger Niello* (R-Sacramento)	Asm. Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
06	Asm. Jared Huffman (D-San Rafael)	Incumbent
07	Asm. Noreen Evans* (D-Santa Rosa)	Asm. Michael Allen (D-Santa Rosa)
08	Asm. Mariko Yamada (D-Davis)	Incumbent
09	Asm. Dave Jones* (D-Sacramento)	Asm. Roger Dickinson (D-Sacramento)
10	Asm. Alyson Huber (D-El Dorado Hills)	Incumbent
11	Asm. Tom Torlakson* (D-Martinez)	Asm. Susan Bonilla (D-Concord)
12	Asm. Fiona Ma (D-San Francisco)	Incumbent
13	Asm. Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco)	Incumbent
14	Asm. Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)	Incumbent
15	Asm. Joan Buchanan (D-San Ramon)	Incumbent

November 2010 Election Coverage (continued)

District	Current Assembly Member: *Term Limited † Eligible but not seeking reelection	Assembly Member 2011-2012 Regular Session ◆Previously served in the Legislature
16	Asm. André Swanson (D-Oakland)	Incumbent
17	Asm. Cathleen Galgiani (D-Tracy)	Incumbent
18	Asm. Mary Hayashi (D-Hayward)	Incumbent
19	Asm. Jerry Hill (D-South San Francisco)	Incumbent
20	Asm. Alberto Torrico* (D-Fremont)	Asm. Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont)
21	Asm. Ira Ruskin* (D-Redwood City)	Asm. Rich Gordon (D-Menlo Park)
22	Asm. Paul Fong (D-Mountain View)	Incumbent
23	Asm. Joe Coto* (D-San Jose)	Asm. Nora Campos (D-San Jose)
24	Asm. Jim Beall, Jr. (D-San Jose)	Incumbent
25	Asm. Tom Berryhill† (R-Modesto)	Asm. Kristin Olsen (R-Modesto)
26	Asm. Bill Berryhill (R-Stockton)	Incumbent
27	Asm. Bill Monning (D-Santa Cruz)	Incumbent
28	Asm. Anna Caballero† (D-Salinas)	Asm. Luis Alejo (D-Watsonville)
29	Asm. Michael Villines* (R-Clovis)	Asm. Linda Halderman (R-Fresno)
30	Asm. Danny Gilmore† (R-Hanford)	Asm. David Valadao (R-Hanford)
31	Asm. Juan Arambula* (I-Fresno)	Asm. Henry Perea (D-Fresno)
32	Asm. Jean Fuller† (R-Bakersfield)	Asm. Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)
33	Vacant	Asm. K.H. "Katcho" Achadjian (R-San Luis Obispo)
34	Asm. Connie Conway (R-Visalia)	Incumbent
35	Asm. Pedro Nava* (D-Santa Barbara)	Asm. Das Williams (D-Santa Barbara)
36	Asm. Stephen Knight (R-Lancaster)	Incumbent
37	Asm. Audra Strickland* (R-Camarillo)	Asm. Jeff Gorell (R-Thousand Oaks)
38	Asm. Cameron Smyth (R-Santa Clarita)	Incumbent
39	Asm. Felipe Fuentes (D-Los Angeles)	Incumbent
40	Asm. Bob Blumenfield (D-Van Nuys)	Incumbent
41	Asm. Julia Brownley (D-Santa Monica)	Incumbent
42	Asm. Mike Feuer (D-Los Angeles)	Incumbent
43	Asm. Mike Gatto (D-Burbank)	Incumbent
44	Asm. Anthony Portantino (D-Pasadena)	Incumbent
45	Asm. Kevin de León† (D-Los Angeles)	Asm. Gil Cedillo (D-Los Angeles) ◆

November 2010 Election Coverage (continued)

District	Current Assembly Member: *Term Limited † Eligible but not seeking reelection	Assembly Member 2011-2012 Regular Session ◆Previously served in the Legislature
46	Asm. John Pérez, (D-Los Angeles)	Incumbent
47	Asm. Karen Bass* (D-Los Angeles)	Asm. Holly Mitchell (D-Los Angeles)
48	Asm. Mike Davis (D-Los Angeles)	Incumbent
49	Asm. Mike Eng (D-Monterey Park)	Incumbent
50	Asm. Hector De La Torre* (D-South Gate)	Asm. Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens)
51	Asm. Steven Bradford (D-Inglewood)	Incumbent
52	Asm. Isadore Hall (D-Los Angeles)	Incumbent
53	Asm. Ted Lieu* (D-Torrance)	Asm. Betsy Butler (D-Torrance)
54	Asm. Bonnie Lowenthal (D-Long Beach)	Incumbent
55	Asm. Warren Furutani (D-Long Beach)	Incumbent
56	Asm. Tony Mendoza (D-Artesia)	Incumbent
57	Asm. Ed Hernandez, O.D. † (D-Baldwin Park)	Asm. Roger Hernandez (D-West Covina)
58	Asm. Charles Calderon (D-Whittier)	Incumbent
59	Asm. Anthony Adams† (R-Hesperia)	Asm. Tim Donnelly (R-Twin Peaks)
60	Asm. Curt Hagman (R-Diamond Bar)	Incumbent
61	Asm. Norma Torres (D-Pomona)	Incumbent
62	Asm. Wilmer Amina Carter (D-Rialto)	Incumbent
63	Vacant	Asm. Mike Morrell (R-Rancho Cucamonga)
64	Asm. Brian Nestande (R-Palm Desert)	Incumbent
65	Asm. Paul Cook (R-Yucaipa)	Incumbent
66	Asm. Kevin Jeffries (R-Riverside)	Incumbent
67	Asm. Jim Silva (R-Huntington Beach)	Incumbent
68	Asm. Van Tran* (R-Costa Mesa)	Asm. Allan Mansoor (R-Costa Mesa)
69	Asm. Jose Solorio (D-Santa Ana)	Incumbent
70	Asm. Chuck DeVore* (R-Irvine)	Asm. Donald Wagner (R-Irvine)
71	Asm. Jeff Miller (R-Orange)	Incumbent
72	Asm. Chris Norby (R-Fullerton)	Incumbent
73	Asm. Diane Harkey (R-Laguna Niguel)	Incumbent
74	Asm. Martin Garrick (R-Carlsbad)	Incumbent
75	Asm. Nathan Fletcher (R-San Diego)	Incumbent
76	Asm. Lori Saldaña* (D-San Diego)	Asm. Toni Atkins (D-San Diego)
77	Asm. Joel Anderson† (R-La Mesa)	Asm. Brian Jones (R-Santee)
78	Asm. Marty Block (D-San Diego)	Incumbent
79	Asm. Mary Salas† (D-Chula Vista)	Asm. Ben Hueso (D-San Diego)
80	Asm. V. Manuel Pérez (D-Cathedral City)	Incumbent

Complete election results for all statewide and legislative offices in the November 2 general election can be found on the California Secretary of State's Website at: <http://vote.sos.ca.gov/> ■



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Court Staff Attend Web-based New Laws Workshops

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), in partnership with the California Court Association (CCA) Legislation Committee, presented the 2010 New Laws Workshops (NLWS) on November 17 and 18. These annual workshops, cosponsored by the AOC and the CCA since 2005, provide a forum for court staff to learn about and discuss newly-enacted laws that affect the superior courts. The sessions were open to all superior court managers, supervisors, and staff responsible for developing and implementing new procedures.

Sixty-minute Webcasts were delivered on several areas of law: criminal, traffic, civil, family, juvenile, probate, and administrative. Participation by court staff in the 2010 workshops was coordinated by each court's training coordinator.

The 2010 NLWS was offered using new software, WebEx Enterprise Suite, and teleconferencing which allowed court staff to attend workshop sessions from the convenience of their own conference rooms. This format had the benefit of allowing increased participation from courts around the state and facilitating information sharing about the implementation of newly-enacted laws.

New in 2010, the Webcasts were recorded using the new suite of WebEx software. The sessions recorded on Thursday, November 18, are stored on the COMET Website, <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/comet/html/broadcasts/oga/index.htm>, for access "on demand" by the courts. The COMET site is also where court staff may access an online evaluation and Personal Records of Attendance. MCLE forms for attorneys are available on the 2010 NLWS Serranus Web site.

Prior to the live sessions, court staff had the opportunity to submit questions, which were answered in the live sessions by a panel of experts. Courts may continue to post questions to newlawsworkshop@jud.ca.gov for follow-up by the NLWS faculty.

In 2009, 55 courts and an estimated 1,500 court staff participated in the nine Webcast sessions over a two-day period. With the new version of WebEx software and the ability to participate live or via a recorded Webcast, participation by the courts is expected to expand this year.

For more information about this year's workshops, contact Henry Sepulveda at henry.sepulveda@jud.ca.gov, or Katie Asher at katie.asher@jud.ca.gov, or 916-323-3121. ■

News From the AOC

In addition to *The Capitol Connection*, the Administrative Office of the Courts produces several publications reporting on various aspects of court business. Visit these online on the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov.