



## 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 28, 2014

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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 28, 2014
Recommended by	Date of Report
Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Judicial Council Finance	October 10, 2014
	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 recommend approval of the attached *Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2014)*. 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

Judicial Council staff recommend that the Judicial Council, effective October 28, 2014:

1. Approve the *Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2014)*; 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 staff 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 (July 1–June 30, 2014)*



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MARTIN HOSHINO  
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October 29, 2014

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State Capitol, Room 3021  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Danny 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, 2014) 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, 2014, through June 30, 2014. 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 equipment to ensure that all purchases were made with the required authorization. During the January 1 through June 30, 2014, period, seven courts made purchases of electronic equipment or related items for use in

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court proceedings. Of these seven courts, six submitted Request to Purchase forms between January 1 and June 30, 2014, received authorization for their purchases, and subsequently made purchases. One court received approval subsequent to their purchase. Information about these transactions follows.

The Superior Court of Contra Costa County spent \$37,310 to purchase seven For the Record (FTR) Reporter (version 5.6) electronic recording systems, which included LogNotes 5.6; headsets and FTR player; and seven FTR DMX 4-channel, USB mixers. The purchase was not an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The equipment will be used to make an official record in small claims and traffic cases and to monitor subordinate judicial officers, hearing officers, or temporary judges in the same types of cases.

The Superior Court of Kern County spent \$103 to purchase two copies of WavePad Sound Editor software. The equipment will be used to edit the audio from old case files for transcript requests. The recordings are of limited civil, misdemeanor, and infraction cases, and were recorded to produce an official record. This purchase was a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment.

The Superior Court of Lake County spent \$8,315 to purchase five software upgrades to FTR Reporter version 5.6 (audio only) from version 2.2 and five DMX 4-channel USB mixers. The purchase was an upgrade or replacement 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 Mendocino County spent \$5,104 to purchase one FTR Touch stand-alone electronic recording device. The purchase was an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in small claims, infractions, misdemeanor, and limited civil cases.

The Superior Court of Orange County spent \$10,096 to purchase four units of Court Audio 8-channel recording software and four Presonus ASIO mixers. The purchase was an upgrade to existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in infraction and misdemeanor cases.

The Superior Court of San Bernardino County spent \$61,729 to purchase 12 FTR Touch electronic recording systems with DMX 4-channel digital recording and a USB external clock display. The purchase was an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in limited civil cases.

The Superior Court of Ventura County spent \$52,828 to purchase 46 Maya USB audio interfaces and 51 FTR Reporter software licenses. The purchase was an upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in infraction, misdemeanor, and limited civil cases.

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The total amount spent by these seven superior courts on the purchase of electronic recording equipment during the reporting period was \$175,485.

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

MH/VM

cc: Members of the Judicial Council

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