



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

**STEVE WHITE**  
PRESIDING JUDGE

720 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
(916) 874-5487

May 10, 2011

Hon. Tani Cantil-Sakauye  
Chief Justice of California  
Supreme Court of California  
350 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4797

Dear Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye:

You may recall that at the last meeting of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Executive Committee you asked that the Presiding Judges seek responses from the judges of their respective courts regarding three specific questions relating to branch governance issues.

In response to your request, I arranged to have the three questions submitted to an online survey facility so that the Sacramento judges could submit their responses anonymously. All judges were notified regarding how to access the poll, and were asked to submit any responses on or before April 18, 2011.

At the same time, I appointed a committee of four judges to review the responses and prepare a summary of the matters addressed therein. The Committee met on three occasions, and prepared a Summary that identifies recurring themes, provides illustrative responses, and organizes the responses to each separate question.

With this letter I am transmitting to you the summary of the responses prepared by our Committee. The Summary also contains additional information regarding the organization of the Summary and the methodology adopted by the Committee.

In addition to the foregoing, I am also transmitting three appendices prepared by the Committee. The appendices contain the verbatim responses to questions one, two and three respectively, and thus constitute the source material examined by the Committee in its work to assemble the Summary.

On behalf of the Sacramento Superior Court, I thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts with respect to these important issues.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve White", is written over a horizontal line.

Steve White  
Presiding Judge  
Sacramento Superior Court