The Judicial Council of California is the constitutionally created policymaking body of the California courts. The council meets at least six times a year for business meetings that are open to the public and audiocast live via the California Courts website. What follows is captured live captioning, formatted and unedited, of the last meeting. The official record of each meeting, the meeting minutes, is usually approved by the council at the next business meeting. Much more information about this meeting, the work of the Judicial Council, and the role of the state court system is available on the California Courts website at *www.courts.ca.gov*.

>> This is the educational and business meeting of the Judicial Council of California for October 24, 2013; the meeting is now in session. We will adjourn at approximately 3:45 p.m. and reconvene tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m.

>> I remind council members that we are being audiocast live and they may be videotaped for later use. For the benefit of the online audience and for those folks on the telephone, please speak into your microphone. Please address each other by name. I would like to take a few moments to get the significance of the oath you are about to take and put it into some historical and practical context. You are about to swear that you will support and defend, and that you will bear true allegiance to the Constitution of the United States. This is the will of the people. I like to quote from a pamphlet from 1926 that contains the amendment number 15. It states that the purpose of this amendment is to organize the courts of this state on a business basis. [Indiscernible]. And to see that justice is properly administered. And this amendment will simplify and improve justice. We have a duty and a charge to organize, simplify, and improve the judicial system in the State of California. When anything goes wrong, the citizens will know with whom to make the complaint. If this cannot be done without an amendment, the council will recommend to the Legislature any change in the law deemed necessary. With the staff at AOC, we do have public comment at our meetings. And always, use of web technology. Including terms on our October agenda, the council will have considered, in 2013, 84 consent, 52 discussion, and 25 information only items, as well as 4 items by circulating order. On average, it takes nearly a year worth of effort for an item to come before the council. I want to acknowledge the hard work of the 400 volunteers who contribute to the creation and recommendations to the council as we review issues and seek input and comments. And to put on our agenda the reviews and modification. The public comment process. We have 17 written public comments and 43 individuals who will be here [Indiscernible]. We have unions and trade organizations, and concerned members of the public throughout our state. I have worked with Justice Miller and Judge Jahr and the council members who have served over the last three years. I look forward to working with our newly set council members. It is my vision for our judicial branch, Access 3D, physical, remote and equal access. I am committing to the future of our branch. We have all initiated rigorous self assessment for the council and the AOC, our staff arm. We had considered options. And most importantly we have taken action. We have new leadership in key roles. There is a greater oversight by judicial leaders. And more involvement of trial court leadership through their advisory committee. The FCC report became Judicial Council directives. We will have another progress report during our meeting to see what else has been accomplished. We acknowledge the branch and its accomplishments. And

new methodology for allocating money to the courts. As a Judicial Council member, and as you start your three years here or your one year, I do not represent the interests of the Supreme Court. We are in the policymaking body for the judicial branch of the State of California. We serve all of the people of California. Our first item is the swearing in of our six members. Five of them are new to the system. One was a past president. The new members have observed earlier council meetings. I would like you to join me between the flags for the oath. We have Mr. Mark Bonino and Judge Robert Busman. We have Mr. Frank Maguire. We have Judge David Rubin. We have Presiding Judge Dean Stout and Presiding Judge Brian Walsh.

>> We would like to take pictures.

>> Please raise your right hand. I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies. I will bear true allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California. I take this obligation freely and without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. I will faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter. Congratulations.

>> I would like all of the new members after the meeting to gather for more pictures.

>> The first item is the California economic budget forecast.

>> Our next speaker is Dr. Christopher Thornberg. He was one of the earliest and most adamant predictors of the mortgage market crash from 2007. We thought it would be good to have Dr. Thornberg back to present an economic forecast for the country and California, and its impact on the judicial branch. Dr. Thornburg. Thank you for being here.

>> Thank you. It is a pleasure to be back here in your chambers. I was quite bearish a few years ago and unfortunately I was right. You will find me today as being bullish. I think this is a data-driven opinion. It does not mean that everything is rosy. We do have short term and long term challenges. I know I have about 45 min. but I have two hours worth of material. I will provide copies of the slides. You will find my information on here if you have any questions. I encourage you, if you have questions, to please interrupt. If I feel we are running short of time, I might push the conversation down the road. I am relatively sanguine with the U.S. economy. We have heard terrible stories about our economy. Some people would say it was a lousy recovery. Sometimes we get too focused on the levels rather than recognizing that unemployment continues to fall. Indeed our economy is growing. Earnings for corporations in this country are fantastic. We have state and local governments here in California turning the corner. Interest rates are still popping up over the summer. You may have heard that we were a dried-up state. And everyone was leaving as rapidly as possible to the great State of Texas. Because I was so close to the 405 I do wish more would be leaving. [Laughter]. Obviously we have this ridiculously partisan rancor going on. In many ways I view this as the inevitable outcome of the gerrymandering in many states that has led to some radical people ending up in

Congress. And the diminishment of control on campaign finance. For me this is exciting to be in the forefront of political change in our nation. We will go through some numbers. The big slowdown was mainly due to the uncertainty of the tax increase from the fiscal cliff debates that happened at the end of the year. Nothing could get done until the 11th hour. It did lead to that said creation at the beginning of the year. The economy did grow up about 2% in that second quarter and consumers do continue to spend. We have heard that they had dried up and they have not. Auto sales are up 16 million. That is good news for that taxable sales base here in California. Recent polls have suggested that this Christmas is going to be better than it has been in a number of years. The labor market continues to improve. It is about a 1.6 uptake. A lot of this has to do with the unemployment rate for people with a bachelor's degree or above that has fallen below 4% over the last few months. You start seeing wage pressures. Those who only had a high school education weren't doing as well, they were paced about 14 percent and today it is 10% and that is still too much. You can see the number of workers -- who do want a job. It is declining. And for the record I know there is a lot of discussion that the jobs created in this country are all part-time. That is a blatant manipulation of data. In August we had 1.8 million that were full-time. In the part-time category we saw a drop of 125,000 people who would like to be full-time and are part-time. This financial situation is better for households. And the financial obligation ratio, right now, is at a record low for both renters and homeowners. The ISM survey which is a common metric that we look at. This is the diffusion of about 50 [Indiscernible] score. And manufacturers are running about 55. The overall production did slow. It is certainly not on the basis of weak earnings. Workers for both proprietors and corporations had come back a long time ago. The only question out there -- why are the businesses not investing more? One is because credit is still difficult to get. And there are a lot of small businesses making money right now that I do not know what is around door number two. I do not know what is going to happen in February. Housing market continues to move forward. Housing sales continue to peak up. It did come down a little from August to September. The home price depreciation which is about 12% on a national basis -- we will continue to see. As for is interest rates themselves, they did come up. It is true that a conventional mortgage is running you about 4.5% but I will tell you that is lower than anything prior to 2010. And the affordability in our housing market today is very good. Looking at the region. We are seeing some of the fastest appreciation. You can see this from August to August. Los Angeles is 20% and San Francisco is 20%. We are growing. And foreclosure is slowing down at this time. I know we have a few new rules on foreclosures in the state. I will tell you that the housing market was recovering long before those new rules. Where are the jobs? California is about in the top third. One thing to keep in mind comes up -- but we are seeing what we call a dead cat bombs. I disagree with this. We never lost as many jobs as people think we did. We have the payroll survey and the household survey. The payroll survey is statistically more accurate. It is based on the unemployment insurance survey. Because that program tracks -- it is a good sample. It does miss the self-employed. About 4% of our workers do not show up on the survey and here in California it is about 12%. Of about 600,000 payroll jobs were not lost. It went from the formal to the informal sector. The household unemployment includes everyone. And guess what -- California is ahead of most in the nation. Unemployment in the state has slowed down and is about 9%. Remember, in 2006 it was running at about 5%.

Unemployment rate is pretty high. Orange County has a decrease in unemployment. San Jose has the highest labor market at 3.5%. If you look at gross state product growth. That is the measurement of output in California. This is for the state overall. The dark blue is the fastest growing states. It is driven by technology and trade. You can see South Dakota and Texas, which is energy. Indiana and Tennessee are part of the automobile industry. These are the states that invading from this all up -- at this time. If you look at these numbers -- the single largest contributor to the growth was manufacturing output in the State of California. It was a big surprise to folks who thought manufacturing was leaving the state of California. We have movies, software, retail, and real estate. The public sector is still shrinking. The jobs are a broad mix. The Bay Area is one of the strongest. We have Santa Barbara. In 2012 and 2013 -- and 2013 had some of the best wine years. I will let you know that, once these wines come out, they will blow you away.

>> California is doing better. Los Angeles is up by 1%. On the right-hand side you can see the growth rate. It is about 5% or 6%.

>> Research and development is still alive and well in the state. Hotels are very busy at this time. San Francisco is at 80%. We have Hotel Bloomington -- booming construction going on. This is why you are seeing a 32% increase that [Indiscernible] Corp. was -- corporate tax is down and sales tax is rising with overall spending. It is taking a lot of the pressure off of a lot of state agencies. This is looking at budget versus PIP. And the numbers are coming in very good. Across the board California is exceeding expectations in finance. Income growth is very good. One of the biggest surprises is that corporate taxes are lagging a little bit. I think this will change because of the new corporate tax laws. This part of the budget will bounce back. After the judicial branch itself -- it did come up a little bit. But education did fall one more time. We did have some special allocation for our courts. There is well-needed money coming down the pipeline. Let's talk about the position 30. I know it sounds like a surprise. It increases government spending. The increase in government spending -- it gives us a boost in the short run. We were told that we were a highly taxed state and now we are even higher. I want to tell you we are not a high tax state. We are comparable to Mississippi. I will tell you we are a dumb tax state. I will tell you that we will leave many parts of the economy undertaxed. [Indiscernible] wanted me to take that Texas tax [Indiscernible]. Their poverty tax is considered higher than us. They do not have a corporate tax but they have a corporate fee which is the same thing. I like that Texas system. But [Indiscernible]. California has always been expensive to live in. People who want to live in paradise are willing to pay a little. I moved here 20 years ago. And I am not going anywhere. If that economy stumbles PIP is going to collapse. If a person is making a million dollars a year it will shrink -- so are PIP rather know will swing wildly. We have to keep that in mind that there are risks out there. We need real reform. And this has to do with the fact that our pension system is underfunded. We as a state need to figure out where to get revenue. This is breathing room and not a long-term solution. I lived in Los Angeles. We are voting having the worst roads in the nation. I agree. Because we ignored our roads. But many parts our economy need [Indiscernible] your --.

>> Let's talk about environmental disasters. We do not have a backup system. We need to address this particular issue. Talking about growth patterns in the state. We grew 1%. It is higher than the nation overall. About 250,000 new people in the state, 20% are in the Los Angeles area. And you do have some of the other smaller areas. They are coming and they are going to continue to come to this state. By 2060, it will be about 52 million people. It is best about 7 million will end up in the southern part of the state. I do want to go through why the U.S. economy is lagging behind. The picture on the left shows what has happened since the recession. This is an unusual picture. We have two major reasons. This was a massive downturn. The root causes were not as clear as in the Great Depression. But in the Great Depression [Indiscernible] step aside and let the banks fail. As a result we did pull out of this relatively easy. We have little growth moving forward. I have two theories. One is that we need to cut taxes more and increase spending. I do believe in free enterprise. The relationship between tax rates and economic growth is not there. It does not exist in the data. It is almost impossible to see a negative impact. On the other side we have to stop foreclosures. So consumers can save more and spend more. Consumer [Indiscernible] has never been higher. The big issue today is construction, trade and government. We have net trade is running at 3.5% and construction is 5% below. People have been talking about this. As for trade, the U.S. dollar is $20 cheaper than it was a decade ago. We are not competitive. California will benefit when we start to move. We had better news. On the left hand side is the European growth. You see UK turning over and China is growing. The construction market. The big boost should have been residential. However residential building is still low. Despite the fact that the resale market is doing well. That typical new home buyer is a move up buyer. They cannot get credit. Because of all that dithering in Congress -- there are so many questions that they do not answer. That is not a big surprise. Fannie Mae -- today it is 750. And many are being thrown out because they cannot qualify for credit. Multi-family has come back. There are still more renters out there. We are going to have something in the near term. Household formation is one $.5 million. -- As for California anything that we build is going to be good. The biggest problem in the California economy is the lack of housing. It takes 6 to 8 months to get a building permit. Because of Prop 13 is just craziness. As a result -- I came over here today. They were talking about having a moratorium on [Indiscernible]. That is a Band-Aid. The people that want mandatory -- moratorium on condo conversion are probably those that supported 13. We have renters. In the rest of the nation 60% of the renters -- I do not think these numbers are right. Let's move on. In California about a third spend 25% or less. There is more vacancy out there today. California is not faster than the U.S. overall. This is a summary of -- and you can see that it is not the wealthy who are leaving. The people who are leaving are between a $30,000 to $50,000 range. They are moving out because they can afford better housing elsewhere. Construction has not come back at all. The biggest source of [Indiscernible] -- Jodi didn't know that I was going to use this but I love this cartoon. I understand the deficit -- I do not support the deficit in this nation. We need tax cuts. We are here we have to phase out the deficit slowly. It needs to be slow and steady. The economy is a powerful surviving kind of thing. If you bend it slowly you can create anything but if you bend it too fast you will snap it. It is doing more harm to the economy. The debt is about $12 million. That is not a good number. We have to focus on the economics. We had the shutdown. It only hit federal expenditures. By the way,

two thirds of that income was wages and those wages were backfilled. It did not save us anything. We had National Park closures and fisheries were closed and we shut down and we did not save any money. It was crazy. Cutting back on spending, particularly the money going to the states. They will not raise the debt ceiling. It is going to be hell in California. The big problem is social insurance. We have retirement. We have Social Security and Medicaid and Medicare at this time. The support ratio is going to go down. If we do not do something with these programs provide 2030 is going to be $30,000 per person per year. We have the Affordable Care Act. This came out of a right-wing think tank. Because it is a good idea. And that is fine. I looked through the numbers and it is not severe. I would like to point out it doesn't get to the root of the problem. It is not the insurance, it is the expenses. Norway spends $56 per person per year. The problem in healthcare is out of control spending and consumption. We as a nation have to say no once in a while. As a nation we have to come to grips with this reality. I am looking for 2% growth by the end of the year. We will turn the corner next year. And gains in local government will also grow. The fundamentals of California are good -- when sweet [Indiscernible] we will be doing much better. That we have to get there. But here in California I am optimistic about the future. The state will continue to be on the forefront of growth. And we will be a leader for the U.S. economy. You were all very quiet. If you have any questions or comments I would be happy to answer them.

>> I was here when you gave us a forecast on where we were going to go and it was an accurate picture. Listening to what you have to say today is comforting.

>> Thank you.

>> I am going to be like that hamburger at -- being thrown out because I asked the first question. You have the State of Texas who relies on the poverty tax as a main source -- the source of revenue. I was intrigued by the point you made about the shortage in housing. Would it be counterintuitive if we focused in that area?

>> That is a great question. I am against Prop 13. It is not a protection for senior citizens. For commercial property tax it is less than a third because of the manipulation of the system. I would like to protect senior citizens. But it has nothing to do with something weird with Prop 13. Communities in California do not want housing because it does not give the money back. We will frontload all of these taxes -- to permit fees. A permit in Texas is $3,000. In New York, it is $15,000. In California, it is $150,000. They are trying to discourage it. If you got rid of Prop 13 and raise property taxes, local governments would not be opposed to that. And it would reduce the cost of housing. And help with some light.

>> I did not hear you say anything about education. Is there a correlation between higher education and the economy? In other words the investment in education promotes advancement?

>> We as a nation are dealing with long-term inequality. You can split it into two buckets. One bucket is the increase in the return of education. Changes in technology have a bigger demand for skilled people. The other half is tax treatise test changes that the top 5% are very rich. In fact Mitt Romney pays less than I do. We need to make sure that the schools are functioning and people are getting a good education. For me it is a rock and a hard place. We have had education and skilled workers. We are starting to see some reform. I would like to see it move faster. At the college level -- I talked at ULCA I do love them but I do not think they should be subsidized by the state. There is no reason why that system cannot be doing its own thing and sometimes. We have the community colleges. Those are the ones that take kids on the edge and get them to the next level. Spending on community colleges is off the chart. We as a state need to invest more in education.

>> You are a knowledgeable fellow. In a state you would agree with the proposition of a well functioning judicial system? [Laughter]. And does it affect the economy?

>> Absolutely.

>> In a state where the government provides overall 1% to the judicial system, is that sufficient?

>> I do not know. It is funny that you should bring this up. A few years ago -- someone did ask me if I would be willing to do a study on this. And I said I would. They were trying to pull the funds to do this study and of course they ran out of money. I think we can revisit this at some point in time. I'd be the judicial system is lubricant to the will of [Indiscernible].

>> Justice Hall. I heard that due to the reduction in gas tax revenue, it is going to be a per mile tax.

>> I think that is not a good idea. I think you should not tax a Prius but you should -- I have an opinion that the gas tax should be higher. If it guarantees that it will fix our roads. A few years ago we had a spike in gasoline prices, but watching auto sales collapse. It is clear if you want more people to drive fuel-efficient vehicles, have a high tax.

>> What do we need to prepare when Prop 30 expires?

>> I do have a wish list that will never happen. I think we should toss out 13. I would lower personal tax. I would increase sales taxes. I think we should increase the base tax. I know we have to wrap up. For those of you who like irony. What is the highest taxed state in the nation? It is Alaska. And the reason for the privilege of living in Alaska and you get a check because of the oil. And also it is the home of Sarah Palin -- I love that.

>> Commission Alexander. You said that those [Indiscernible] were leaving because they could find housing cheaper.

>> Whatever [Laughter]

>> Thank you for making economics and the changing future entertaining. Thank you so much.

>> I hope we can do it again.

>> Before we move to item number two. I would like to ask Cory Jasperson to introduce his new assistant.

>> Thank you. I am happy to introduce Laura Speed. She comes to us with experience from the California State Senate and most recently Sacramento County. I want to thank Laura to the team.

>> Thank you.

>> We have Judge Borack.

>> Thank you. I am excited to be here today. This is permanent adoption month. This is for children in foster care. I know that commitment that each of you gives to our judiciary [Indiscernible]. I am one of those that appreciate you. For those of you who are unfamiliar with our juvenile courts and their relation to our child welfare system. I want to give you a brief introduction on why we are here today. Let's take a step back to 1980 public law [Indiscernible] was enacted. The primary goal was to prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families. To ensure children did not stay in foster care. That placed more responsibility on the court. In 1997 Congress enacted the Adoption and Safe Families Act. This was a response to more children entering the foster care system then exiting. We wanted to have safety and well-being [Indiscernible]. It was more pressure on the courts to expedite these children. And two days ago the House of Representatives reauthorized a program for financial incentive to encourage adoption. At that we moved to 1998. Here in Los Angeles we were pressured to clear the children through the system. We created a program where we opened up our courts on Saturday to have adoption completion hearings. We did 115 adoptions on that one Saturday. We have completed well over 10,000 adoptions in our foster care system; we have completed over 35,000 adoptions from foster care in Los Angeles. Chief Justice George talked about the experience he had on Adoption Saturday. There is an open invitation for you to come and hear our adoptions. For several years we have adopted National Adoption Day the day before Thanksgiving. We have 200 jurisdictions that open their doors to complete adoption hearings to complete 3,000 hearings in one day. In 1999, we developed it permanently in our system. We declared November as adoption permanency month. All children born in creation need and deserve to grow up in a healthy home. Permanency does come in a number of forms other than adoption. The most preferred for residency [Indiscernible]. We have been holding Family Reconnecting Day. We brought them into contact with the system in the first place. So their children can safely return home permanently. Recently in Los Angeles, we celebrated Family

Reunification Day. It is possible in several months you will see me here to ask for another resolution to celebrate Family Month. What I am going to do now is step aside for my dear friend Diane. She has been my guardian angel. She is the director for the Center for Families, Children & the Courts. If you do not know, this is a jewel model. Diane will introduce some special guests here today who will represent three different forms of permanency. And one of the lessons learned from this: kids are kids. They need safe, loving, and healthy homes.

>> I would like to introduce Ms Marcy Delanco. She is a parent in the Advocacy Center.

>> Good afternoon. My name is Marcy. I will give you a Reader's Digest on how I got here. At the age of five, I was in the court system. My father was in prison and my mother was very abusive. I was shuffled in the system. I did not know what it was to be a parent. So I tried to experiment with drugs and alcohol. I tried to find those skills on the street or with friends. I was in a children's shelter on my 16th birthday. No one wanted to deal with a teenager. I remember telling myself I was going to be a mother one day. And I'm going to make sure that my children will not end up in the court system. At 21 I gave birth to my daughter. And 15 months later I had a son. I had an alcohol abusive problem. I was also involved with an abusive partner. I did not have any financial support. I did not know who I was, so I continued using. I ended up being 90 pounds. I was dying on the inside. I kept going back to the father. Santa Clara County took my children and I do not regret it. It was a time when I learned how to be a good parent. The suggestions that were given to me I took. I did not want to let my family go. When I turned 18 no one came to look for me. I look back on it now: having my children removed and going through the case plan. At that time my children were removed my daughter was 15 months and my son was three months old. I did everything. When the courts, they saw something in me. I went into drug and -- [Indiscernible]. Half of my child years I did not know how to be [Indiscernible]. I learned so much. I got to know who I was. For the first time I can look at you straight in your eyes. Ten years ago I could not do that. I would cry. Here is the good part. I learned so much about myself. I was able to express my concerns and my fears with my attorney and my social workers. I remember my son called the foster mother mom and dad. I made the most selfless decision of my life. I was afraid they would not let me have my daughter. I took a chance. I was not sure I could take care of my son too. I was not sure I could take care of them financially or emotionally. I let the foster parents adopt my son. And it was a good decision. I have another son. After my recovery. He did not know me in my addiction. March 11, I have been in recovery for 10 years. I am a mentor. I help guide the parents, and I show them that we can recover as parents. People look at us like we do not love our children but that is not it. We were brought up and conditioned in a certain way. We need to have someone show us love and show us skills. I like to tell the mother I working with that I am here for you. When you have court I will be there. If you have questions I will find out the answers. It does keep me on track. It helps me. I appreciate your time. Thank you.

>> I would like to introduce Wayne and Marianne and their daughters Shawna and Autumn. Thank you.

>> Good afternoon. My name is Marianne. We have a wonderful -- I am sorry I think I'm going to cry. We are so proud to be asked to come up here. In 2006 I started to work at Warren Elementary school. There are less than 300 students in the school. I got to know Shawna and Autumn, and I knew they were in the foster care system. I was called across the street from the community center. I would drive around with the school bus drivers just to see where the kids were living. We had a large group of kids. In 2008, I went over to the Indian world health meeting. They were taken to the foster home. One child was separated from her siblings because there were emotional problems. They were supposed to be adopted and the adoption fell through. I raised my hand and asked "Is this Shawna and Autumn?" And they said they were looking for foster parents. We had three children who were grown and married. We had grandchildren. We looked at each other -- we decided that this was what we were supposed to be doing. I did contact the social worker -- we took the kids down to the beach. And we said we would do this. After one month we had both kids with us. The IP is for Shawn for speech. In 2008 we brought them home. We have stayed in contact with the family and the tribe. We asked if we could adopt and that they could keep their Indian heritage. We do see the mom a lot. In 2009 there was a decision to send one of my children to Romna for special education. I said -- [Indiscernible] and we got all of the hope that we needed. I fill [Indiscernible]. It is a wonderful experience. We have maintained a relationship with the tribe and the mother. We did have a short relationship with the father. We continue to take them to Indian Health because they know them. The doctors know them. They know what their needs are and I do not trust anyone else. We make sure they have experienced cultural events on the reservation. We take them to see their aunts and uncles. I am so blessed to be part of this transition. We were ready to keep them as foster children until they are 18. Until they asked us if we were interested in adoption. We have been so blessed. And so educated. To be part of this whole process. I do not know if the kids want to speak. They have a little sister. They were looking to put her into another foster home. We struggled with this. We talked this over with our son and daughter-in-law. I did not know how we were going to do this. Our son said we will take her. They went through the same process. They live about 20 min. from us. We spent time with them at each home. They all were adopted on the same day. It has been a blessing for everybody. Our son had an opportunity to move to Texas. They live on 5 acres of land. And the children are being home schooled by Kristin. They will come up every three months. We see them. We are planning to meet them half way in the fall so that we can be together again. We had an overnight with Lisa and her brothers and sister. It is the most amazing journey that I have been on in my entire life. These little guys have done everything for me. They have made me a better person. Do you want to say anything?

>> My name is Autumn. I was born in the fall.

>> I would like to interject. In 2010, the California Legislature enacted a law for children who are in the state juvenile court. This provides another option for permanency. You do not need to terminate the biological parents' rights. But you can still go forward with an adoption. If we think you are the first family.

>> Tran2 his name means, Hunter. His aunt and uncle gave him a [Indiscernible] and now that feather is framed and is in his room. We have a dear friend who is an international dancer from the [Indiscernible] tribe. She said she would teach the children cultural dancing and make sure they know who they are.

>> Our last guests -- I would like to invite Sherry and her son from the Yuba County probation [Indiscernible].

>> My name is Sherry. This is my son. He is a distant relative.

>> I would like to interview Kendra. I was nervous that we had to go after this awesome family. Today it is a dream for Kendra and I that we would be talking about adoption and delinquency court. Years ago, they were not considered to be adoptable. We have gone from that to where we are today that we are the top adoption state in the nation. We think that California is the only state in the nation that does delinquency adoption. When we started to do quality assurance, we found out that we had to do adoption. Probation officers at that time were saying -- adoption? It was a joke then but it is not a joke now. We are honored to be here today. It is no longer a joke. Our probation delinquency are the same, that they deserve love and family. And we decided to move toward her with that child welfare that includes county counsel and probation. The last adoption -- will be the spokesperson for the program called -- Adopt a Kid. Just because you make a mistake you are still entitled to a family. And now the other counties are acting after us. I think this is our fourth adoption. And the word is spreading. People are asking to borrow our reports. I will turn this over to Kendra so she can introduce the families.

>> I am the supervisor for the permanency and quality assurance in the State of California. This is Sherry. I have been assisting Stephen with his permanency for years now. Once I received his case, I was trying to research and trying to find out what was going on. At the beginning we could not find anyone. We could not find a family for Stephen. And he made it clear that he wanted to be adopted. It got to the point where Lisa and I said we need to get this out in the media. He was our first media adoption recruitment case. We did find a few families. But Stephen became intimidated and said he was not ready. So we stepped back a little bit and made sure that this was what he wanted. We were so lucky that Sherry Watkins stepped up. She said that she wanted to be a family, to love Stephen as her own son. We have a lot of people involved in this successful adoption. His adoption is scheduled for November 5. We gave Stephen what he wanted for so many years, to have a family. And to have Sherry who wanted to love Stephen. And now they are a family. Thank you.

>> For the 15th time, I would ask the council to adopt this resolution and proclaim this November as Adoption Permanency Month. And we encourage you to promote this activity.

>> It was approved—all in favor? That matter passes. I want to say thank you. I want to thank you for bringing us these amazing journeys. Thank you Marcy, Marianne, Shawna, and

Autumn. I want to say all of us here thank you for your presentation. I want to thank you for your leadership at the local and state level.

>> He understands the work here. He is a current member of the blue ribbon joint commission on child welfare. At the national level, Judge Nash serves on [Indiscernible] and dedicates his professional career to California. I had the privilege of touring the court, and it is a model for addressing the issues and challenges that families have in California. Thank you, Judge Nash.

>> Do we have time for the families?

>> Everyone please come up.

>> I would like you to get a picture of Judge Nash and the families.

>> Can you please stand in a group?

>> Do we have Diane?

>> [Captioner is on standby during photo opportunities.]

>> Thank you. The next issue is restructuring efficiencies and restructuring at the Center for Families, Children & the Courts.

>> We want to create greater transparency in our program. We want to implement them in the context of our significant budget cut and, more importantly, as an opportunity to reengineer our agency. You have received information on those efforts. This report is the overall initiative. We have Diane Nunn and Charlene Depner.

>> I would like to take one moment to thank Judge Nash. I met him a few years ago on the blue ribbon council. We have been going through a number of budget reductions, which has forced a number of service cuts. And this is a good opportunity for us to take a look at the functions and services of CFCC. The purpose of this restructuring is to ensure there is clarity in the services provided. And that we have the appropriate classification and the appropriate staff. I would like to point out two parts. We need to ensure that they are directly relevant to the needs of the courts and children. And structures built around a model that CFCC -- and there are a number of committees. With the restructuring and being directed by E&P and the CFCC now has a clear direction. And this is properly to implement the priorities of the council. The second, this model recognizes one of the real strengths of CFCC is to use multidisciplinary teams on how they approach all of the work they do for the court and the children and family. Families do not have just one single issue or problem. You can see child support, domestic abuse, alcohol and mental abuse. We arrived -- specialists have specialists. This structure will allow them to pull from all of the specialties and to provide services directly to the courts. They have long done this. But we want to bring more transparency into those core services and how they are

delivered to the courts and the families. I know we are short on time. I will turn that over to Diane and Charlene. I want to thank Justice Miller and Commissioner Alexander for helping us over the last few months.

>> I will say a few words about staffing changes. And Diane will talk about organizational changes. On page 22, Attachment A, this is the metric from the human resource office showing changes in staffing beginning in June 2011 to June 2013. We changed it to 72. That was the status as of June 19. But now we're down to 68.

>> We have a reduction from 122 to 117. Our reduction is a 35% reduction in the workforce. On page 24 we have a breakdown of the funding sources. At the time we did this chart we had 72 authorized positions. And the remainder were funded by long-standing allocations. Diane will talk about our structure and operation.

>> Please turn to page 23 of the report, Attachment B. We have restructured within designated subject matter areas to better clarify and articulate the various roles and responsibilities for the staff. In our three groups -- we have one grouping. In each of the groups they have attorneys. We think it makes it clear, for those needing assistance from CFCC and also transparency. We have also as we reported previously to the council and recently in some detail to the Executive and Planning Committee and the former Secretary members. We have completed 11 of the 12 directives that we [Indiscernible]. I want to highlight a few of them. They are highlighted starting on page 11. We have eliminated rules and forms. Instead, we have decentralized all of the forms. You can see we generate reports because this is an area of great interest of the Legislature. We are drafting a response to new legislative mandated [Indiscernible]. We have also revamped our resources and technical assistance program. We want to focus observation by the FCC about workload implications and also reducing, where appropriate, to schedule attorneys to do attorney work and staff to do their appropriate work. We also have been working with Kurt's others in the criminal justice. We are working adult criminal the -- specialist. We are going to continue to focus on the children and family aspect. We are sharing staff. We are doing that throughout our division as a result of Kurt's leadership. We also meet with our leadership so we can be more efficient.

>> Thank you Diane. I would like to thank Diane and Charlene for all of the work they have done. They have read the best they are reaping and they are rethinking all of the work that they are doing. They are assisting the courts with children and families that are in the system. They do a great job. You can see from the prior presentation that this is why they do what they do.

>> I had the pleasure of being a FCC member. We first started to meet in a few months again -- and go. It was not a short meeting. Everything was open. Their books were opened, their minds were opened. I think this is the spirit of what the FCC is all about. Bringing together the ideas in the recommendation of the FCC. And to meet and have an open dialogue. Not only having a meaningful beginning we met again and again. And each time there was a dialogue. And because of that there is a notion that we are heading down the road that is going to be better

than before. We used to just see reduction and roadblocks that but that is not what we saw with this group. We saw the end results. It was a great exchange. I have to commend them for their openness. We do not accomplish anything if we are defensive. I like to acknowledge their openness. And this overrides any challenges. I want to commend Kurt and all of these fine examples.

>> Commissioner Alexander. One of the things I want to emphasize when I had the liaison work with the court, it has been my experience working with CFCC that most of the court appreciates what you do with family and juvenile issues. They do a variety of things. They manage the funds that come through the court systems. They help with statistics. One of the things that I noticed in the report is that their goal is to support the courts and what they need. One of the things is also to keep track of that. To see where the needs are, and to focus on that, and also filling the gaps.

>> I want to thank you and your staff. It is truly appreciated. And I hope you will thank all of them.

>> Thank you, Justice Miller. Our staff and our colleagues are hopefully listening. I am privileged and honored to work with such a great group of people.

>> I want to echo those comments. What an outstanding job you are doing. And the work does not seem to suffer. I have appreciation for what you have done. Stupendous.

>> I want to echo the sentiments. I know you have done a remarkable job. You are a jewel. You are a gifted and talented staff. You are incredibly devoted. They do work that I do not think is appreciated by everyone. You have a division that distinguishes California. You continue to excel. You have high quality of services. And thank you very much.

>> Thank you.

>> What a national leader CFCC really is. They go to other states and share all of their knowledge. It is impressive. It is astounding. And we are proud. I also want to give you my deep gratitude. Thank you.

>> Item number four has been moved.

>> Senator Evans would like to be here. And he cannot be here today. So we're going to take item number four off the agenda. We will reconvene tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. Thank you.

>> [Event concluded]