



## Judicial Council of California · Administrative Office of the Courts

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: August 31, 2012

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Title	Agenda Item Type
Report to the Legislature: Electronic Recording	Action Required
Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected	Effective Date
N/A	N/A
Recommended by	Date of Report
Administrative Office of the Courts Jody Patel Interim Administrative Director of the Courts	August 15, 2012
	Contact
	Zlatko Theodorovic, 916-263-1397 <a href="mailto:zlatko.theodorovic@jud.ca.gov">zlatko.theodorovic@jud.ca.gov</a>

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### Executive Summary

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) recommends that the Judicial Council approve the Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2012). Government Code section 69958 requires that the Judicial Council report to the Legislature semiannually regarding all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings.

### Recommendation

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) recommends that the Judicial Council:

1. Approve the Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2012); and
2. Direct the AOC to submit the report to the Legislature.

### Previous Council Action

These reports have routinely been submitted by the AOC to the Legislature on a semiannual basis. Previous reports can be found at <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 shall report to the Judicial Council regarding 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 contained in the report to the Legislature was obtained from the superior courts.

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

There are no costs or operational impacts to implementing the recommendations in this report.

## **Relevant Strategic Plan Goals and Operational Plan Objectives**

The recommendations contained in this report pertain to statutory requirements.

## **Attachments**

1. Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts  
(January 1–June 30, 2012)



**Judicial Council of California**  
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*Chair of the Judicial Council*

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*Interim Chief Deputy Director*

Report title: Report on Purchase or Lease of Electronic Recording Equipment by Superior Courts (January 1–June 30, 2012)

Statutory citation: Government Code section 69958

Date of report: August 31, 2012

The Judicial Council has submitted a report to the Legislature in accordance with Government Code section 69958, which requires the Judicial Council to report to the Legislature, on a semiannual basis, regarding all purchases and leases of electronic recording equipment that will be used to record superior court proceedings. The report must specify the name of the court, the types of proceedings for which the equipment will be used, the cost of the equipment, and the types of equipment purchased.

The following summary of the report is provided under the requirements of Government Code section 9795.

For the period of January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012, 11 courts purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items at a total cost of \$792,643 to create an official record in various court proceedings or to monitor subordinate judicial officers in certain types of cases as authorized by law. Information about these transactions is discussed in the report.

The full report can be accessed here: [www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/7466.htm).

A printed copy of the report may be obtained by calling 415-865-7553.



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August 31, 2012

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Legislative Counsel  
State of California  
State Capitol, Room 3021  
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Gregory P. Schmidt  
Secretary of the 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, 2012)

Dear Ms. Boyer-Vine, Mr. Schmidt, 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, 2012 through June 30, 2012. As required by statute, for each purchase or lease of equipment, the report specifies the name of the court, the types of proceedings for which the equipment will be used, the cost of the equipment, and the types of equipment purchased or leased.

Government Code section 69957 requires the courts to obtain advance approval from the Judicial Council before purchasing or leasing any electronic recording technology or equipment. Approval for purchase or lease of the equipment is subject to the equipment being used only in the 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

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authorization. During the January 1 to June 30, 2012, period, 10 courts submitted Request to Purchase forms and received authorization for their purchases. Another court submitted a form during the previous period and received authorization, but received and paid for the equipment during the current report period. Altogether, 11 courts indicated that they had purchased or leased electronic recording equipment or related items for use in court proceedings during this period. Information about these transactions is discussed below.

The Superior Court of Alameda County spent \$231,830 to purchase 21 Liberty Court Recorder digital software systems, 19 Lectrosonics DM8/12 mixers, 19 amplifiers, 83 microphones, and other related services and supplies. The purchase was not a replacement or upgrade of existing resources. The devices will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor, limited civil, and small claims cases.

The Superior Court of Kern County spent \$146,270 to purchase 30 FTR Touch version 5.5 stand-alone model recording units with audio mixers, headsets, and copies of FTR LogNotes software. The purchase was a replacement or upgrade 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 \$4,600 to purchase a FTR Reporter (v. 5.5) electronic reporting system, a DMX-4 mixer, and 4 microphones. The purchase was not a replacement or upgrade 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 Orange County spent \$226,577 to purchase 50 Audio Trax SW981-8 8-channel recording software and 50 Presonus FP109 ASIO mixers. The purchase replaced some existing equipment and expanded the availability of electronic recording from 13 to 50 units. The devices will be used to make an official record in infraction, misdemeanor, and limited civil cases.

The Superior Court of Placer County spent \$14,453 to purchase 1 FTR recording software, digital signal processor, receiver, sound card, and video adapter. The recording software was a replacement of existing resources, but the remainder of the equipment was not. The devices will be used to make an official record in traffic infraction, misdemeanor, and small claims cases.

The Superior Court of Sacramento County spent \$19,347 to purchase 3 Liberty Digital Recorders (model LCR-004), 3 MX6/4 mixers, various microphones, cartridges, and clock displays. The purchase was a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in traffic misdemeanors, traffic infractions, and traffic-related civil assessments.

The Superior Court of San Francisco County spent \$39,268 to purchase 3 Jefferson Audio Video Systems (JAVS) Suite 7, including audio/video recorders, audio/video processors, servers, and

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various software. The purchase was an upgrade or replacement of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make an official record in misdemeanor and infraction cases.

The Superior Court of Santa Cruz County spent \$20,415 to purchase 3 FTR Touch recording units, 3 DMX-8 mixers, microphones, and warranties. The purchase was a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make official records in misdemeanor cases and to serve as backup systems for existing devices.

The Superior Court of Solano County spent \$12,883 to purchase 3 JCG Liberty Court Recorders, MX6/4 mixers, Mixvibes Umix 44 USB audio interfaces, and Player software LBP-000. The purchase was not a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make official records in misdemeanor, infraction, limited civil unlawful detainer, and small claims cases.

The Superior Court of Tehama County spent \$6,370 to purchase one copy of Liberty Digital Recorder software 4-channel version, 2 MX6/4 mixers, and an audio input device. One of the mixers was a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment, the other purchase was not. The devices will be used to make official records in limited civil, small claims, misdemeanor, and infraction cases.

The Superior Court of Tulare County spent \$70,630 to purchase 12 FTR Touch 4-channel digital recording systems with USB-DMX 4-channel mixers, and microphones. The purchase was not a replacement or upgrade of existing equipment. The devices will be used to make official records in infraction, misdemeanor, and limited civil cases.

The total amount spent by these 11 superior courts on the purchase of electronic recording equipment during the reporting period was \$792,643.

If you have any questions related to this report, please contact Zlatko Theodorovic, Director, Finance Division, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), at 916-263-1397.

Sincerely,

Jody Patel  
Interim Administrative Director of the Courts

JP/VM

cc: Members of the Judicial Council

Margie Estrada, Consultant, Office of Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg

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