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January 20, 2011

The Alliance of California Judges became aware that the Administrative Office of the Courts had announced a media presentation on January 21, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. regarding the California Case Management System (CCMS). The notice of this presentation is included at the bottom of this e-mail. The Alliance of California Judges and the Sacramento Superior Court requested to attend with the intent of raising the issues questions set forth below which we hoped the media would address with those making the presentation. We now understand that the media presentation has been cancelled due to "scheduling difficulties."

(1) The notice to the media states that CCMS is "nearly completed." However, it should be noted that CCMS currently operates only a portion of the calendars in only seven of California's 58 trial court systems. In Los Angeles County, it operates in only one courtroom, managing 7- 8 small claims cases per day. It is to be noted that so far, \$600 million has been allocated and spent for this project, and the AOC's last estimate to the legislature was that it would cost \$1.3 billion to deploy the project. At the same time, the trial courts face at least a \$367 million shortfall in the current budget proposal, if no further cuts are made. It is thus critical to ask, in light of the limited utility and astronomical cost of the project, where the money might come from to finish this "nearly completed" project.

(2) The notice states that the system will be available to "justice system partners." However, California's Office of the Chief Information Officer in a report dated April 23, 2010, noted that in the absence of a firm "buy-in" from these potential users, the utility of CCMS is extremely limited. It is therefore critical to ask whether any of the literally hundreds of sheriff's offices, police departments, probation departments, district attorney's offices, and public defender's offices throughout the state have actually committed to link their systems to this project.

(3) Although the notice states that CCMS is "built in California," it is critical to note that in fact the CCMS system operates from a central server (known as the CCTC) located in Tempe, Arizona. Accordingly, the current CCMS structure requires county courts to relinquish case data to a central management system and thereby lose the ability for immediate local programming, maintenance, and data access. This fact is particularly problematic given that current law expressly mandates a "decentralized system of trial court management." For obvious reasons, each superior court must have immediate access to and control of its own data and case management data

cannot be put into the hands of an employee who is not directly responsible to the Presiding Judge of each trial court. For this reason, the cumbersome CCMS system requires a form of local redundancy in every court, which makes the central server in Arizona superfluous.

The concerns raised by the location of an out of state central data repository go beyond interference with local data access requirements. No larger court in the state uses the Tempe server. For example, Orange County does not use a CCMS system connected to the CCTC in Arizona. Indeed, Orange County recently declined to connect to the CCTC. This is because Orange County has modified CCMS locally, adding many “work arounds” to make CCMS function.

The Sacramento Superior Court has raised a number of concerns about the Tempe Arizona server and recently entered into a contract with the AOC which will result in Sacramento disconnecting from the CCTC if the AOC is unable to match the performance level of Orange County. Why were Judges from the Sacramento Superior Court not asked to participate in this demonstration?

(4) The notice to the media also states that a benefit of the CCMS system will be the elimination of paper. However, CCMS does not allow courts to go “paperless.” Many indigent or self-represented litigants have no choice but to use paper, and under current law, our court system must accept paper filings. Each court will still have to maintain a complete paper filing system identical to the current system, but must also acquire scanning equipment and operators to utilize CCMS. Accordingly the cost savings realized by eliminating file transport costs are more than offset by scanning and labor costs.

(5) Finally, it is important to note that the instant media presentation was scheduled on the eve of the State Auditor’s Legislative Audit report on CCMS, which is due in February. The AOC vigorously fought this audit. It would therefore seem more appropriate to hold the presentation for the media after the audit report is released, so that the presenters could respond to any media questions that may be generated from a review of the report.

January 17, 2011
MEDIA ADVISORY

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Preview of CCMS: Demonstration of nearly completed technology project

Media representatives are invited to preview the nearly completed California Court Case Management System (CCMS) with its range of benefits for the judicial branch, courts, justice system partners, the media, and the public. Built in California by a dedicated team of judges, court professionals, justice system partners, and vendors led by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), it uses a single application for all case categories— civil, small claims, probate, mental

health, criminal, traffic, family, juvenile dependency, and all others. It is designed for courts of all sizes and will be maintained by the AOC.

Some of the many features of this unique and comprehensive system include:

- Data-sharing across jurisdictions in all 58 counties for such information as court orders, convictions, probation terms and sentencing.
- Full records management.
- Calendaring, managing work queues, generating forms, and sending notices automatically.
- Accounting, cashiering and collections.
- Statistical reporting.
- Issuance of documents such as warrants, abstracts, and writs.
- Support for interpreter services scheduling.
- Green technology, eliminating the need for millions of pieces of paper.

Participants: Hon. Glen M. Reiser of Ventura County Superior Court, Hon. Robert J. Moss of Orange County Superior Court, Ron Overholt, Administrative Office of the Courts Deputy Director, Mark Moore, CCMS Executive Program Director, and Christy Evans, Deloitte Consulting

Date: Friday, January 21, 2011

Time: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: 455 Golden Gate Avenue, 3rd Floor, San Francisco (Hiram W. Johnson State Building)

RSVP: Room space is limited, please RSVP by Wednesday, January 19, by noon/12 p.m. Contact Daisy Yee at 415-865-8929 or daisy.yee@jud.ca.gov.