



Alliance of California Judges

November 12, 2013

Dear Members and Others,

We received this email, also forwarded to the Daily Journal, from a retired judge and legislator, Larry Stirling. We think that all judges, and especially some of our newer judges, will find it interesting.

Thank you.

Directors, Alliance of California Judges

As the author of two of the constitutional amendments addressing unification, one that failed a statewide election and one that passed, and the fast-track and related lawyer-sanction legislation, and then as co chairman of Bill Lockyer's ultimately successful third unification amendment, I allege that Chief Justice George completely misrepresented the purpose and intent of unification and used his misrepresentations for only one reason, to hijack the state court system.

Centralized control by one man is called "dictatorship" whether the guy is wearing a robe or not.

There was nothing "splintered" about our courts. They were established and operated under state law and managed by their elected board of directors and chairmen, made up of the elected judges on each bench TO SUIT THE NEEDS OF THEIR COUNTY.

When it comes to courts, one size does not fit all. The problems of tiny Mariposa County are radically different than ours in San Diego or giant Los Angeles.

The result of George's shenanigans was to completely erase the efficiencies gained from the decades-long effort to unify county courts to broaden service among rural areas, eliminate administrative duplication and conflict and give local presiding judges more discretion to respond to workload variations among various urban areas.

Instead, George created a useless burgeoning bureaucracy of overpaid sycophants who never saw the inside of a courtroom or settled a single case.

Instead of improving justice for the people of California, Mr. George destroyed their court system all in the name of aggrandizing himself and feeding his San Francisco sycophants.

I hope that one day, over the door of every court in this state, there will be posted a sign to the public that says: "The long line you are standing in is the result of the tenure of one Ron George as Chief Justice."

Larry Stirling
Retired State Senator and Superior Court Judge