



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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November 15, 2021

HON. TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE  
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*Chair of the Judicial Council*

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*Administrative Director*  
*Judicial Council*

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*Ms. Laura E. Speed*  
*Tel 916-323-3235*

Mr. Elliott Bien  
California Academy of Appellate Lawyers  
Bien & Summers  
829 Las Pavadas Ave.  
San Rafael, CA 94903-3309

Dear Mr. Bien,

Thank you and the Academy for your helpful recommendations to speed up the appellate process. We have referred some of your recommendations to the Judicial Council's Appellate Advisory Committee, which is the appropriate body under the rules to consider them. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.40.) We will carefully review your other recommendations, although you might be interested to know that some of them—such as using memorandum opinions and issuing periodic case-status reports—are already employed in many districts.

Although as a group we tend to work quietly, we are intensely committed to ensuring that appeals are resolved without unnecessary delay. In the past few years, we have taken or championed many measures to increase efficiency and reduce case backlogs. These measures include implementing electronic-filing requirements, encouraging (and helping to fund) superior court efforts to prepare and certify electronic appellate transcripts, ordering intra- and inter-district case transfers, more closely monitoring the progression of cases, and allocating additional funds to districts with the biggest backlogs to enable them to hire more research attorneys. These measures have resulted in real progress.

More, of course, can be done, and we welcome and appreciate the Academy's constructive ideas as we evaluate further improvements.

Mr. Elliott Bien  
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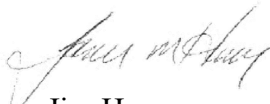
Sincerely,



Hon. Mary J. Greenwood  
Administrative Presiding Justice  
Court of Appeal Sixth Appellate District



Hon. Brad R. Hill  
Administrative Presiding Justice  
Court of Appeal Fifth Appellate District



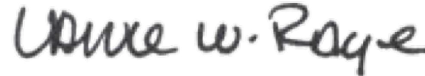
Hon. Jim Humes  
Administrative Presiding Justice  
Court of Appeal First Appellate District



Hon. Elwood G. Lui  
Administrative Presiding Justice  
Court of Appeal Second Appellate District



Hon. Judith McConnell  
Administrative Presiding Justice  
Court of Appeal Fourth Appellate District



Hon. Vance W. Raye  
Administrative Presiding Justice  
Court of Appeal Third Appellate District