

NINTH CIRCUIT DISTRICT JUDGES ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS:

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Secretary/Treasurer

November 2, 1998

Commission on Structural Alternatives
for the Federal Court of Appeals
Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building
One Columbus Circle, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Re: Comments on the White Commission Draft Report

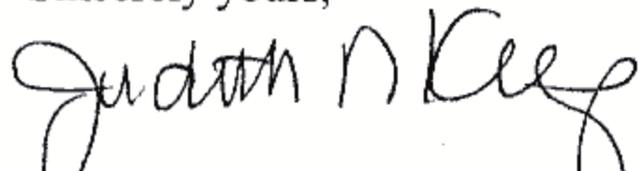
Dear Justice White and Members of the Commission:

I am writing you on behalf of the District Judges Association of the Ninth Circuit. Our purpose in writing you is to share our opinion on the current version of the White Commission Draft Report and not to discuss other options.

We strongly endorse the six recommendations for modification conveyed to you by Chief Judge Hug in his memo dated October 26, 1998, which are based on discussions with and analysis by the Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit.

We believe that those modifications will support the heart of your proposal of a single circuit with three divisions, but will also avoid unnecessary conflict of law within the Circuit and will make en banc hearings more responsive.

Sincerely yours,



JUDITH N. KEEP, District Judge
United States District Court

cc: Chief Judge Hug
Chief District Judges
of the Ninth Circuit