

**District Court of Appeal Budget Commission  
Video Conference Call Meeting Minutes  
May 1, 2008**

**DCABC Members Present:**

Judge Stevan Northcutt, Chair  
Judge Paul Hawkes  
Judge Darryl Casanueva  
Judge Juan Ramirez  
Judge William Palmer

Judge Edwin Browning Jr., Vice Chair  
Judge Carolyn Fulmer  
Judge David Gersten  
Judge Robert Gross  
Judge David Monaco

**Others Present:**

Judge Vance Salter  
Marshal Don Brannon  
Marshal Dottie Munro  
Marshal Ty Berdeaux

Judge Richard Orfinger  
Marshal Jo Suhr  
Marshal Glen Rubin  
OSCA Staff

**Absent**

Judge George Shahood

Lisa Goodner

Judge Stevan Northcutt called the District Court of Appeal Budget Commission (DCABC) meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**Budget Reductions FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09 and Cut Allocations Remaining**

Judge Northcutt asked staff to summarize reductions within the appellate courts base budgets. Charlotte Jerrett briefed the members on information provided for budget reductions for both FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09. For FY 2007-08 the General Appropriations Act (GAA) totals \$52,214,681 and reflects General Revenue (GR) dollars only. However, additional adjustments were made for insurance increase amounts totaling \$213,372, deductions in non-recurring funding totaling \$140,556 and deductions in Fixed Capital Outlay (FCO) totaling \$9,796,763. The total DCA base budget for FY 2007-08 equals \$42,490,734. Additional budget reductions from SB 2-C, Special Appropriations Act FY 2007-08, from Special Session C held in October 2007 reflects a reduction of \$359,000; reductions in the amount of \$1,652,146 from HB 7009, Special Appropriations Act for FY 2007-08, March 2008; and reductions in the amount of \$2,388,965 from HB 5001, GAA conference report for FY 2008-09. The total DCA base budget for FY 2008-09 equals \$38,090,623. The total budget reduction since July 1, 2007, totals \$4,400,111 to the appellate courts.

Ms. Jerrett outlined reductions which have been allocated by the DCABC consisting of: \$359,000 from SB 2-C; \$299,752 of the \$1.6 million has been allocated from HB 7009; and \$1,000,000 from HB 5001 conference report. The remaining cuts to be allocated for FY 2008-09 to the appellate courts totals \$2,741,359.

The Commission discussed the 1<sup>st</sup> DCA Workers' Compensation Appeals unit. Questions arose regarding the number of FTE's needed to implement the unit. Judge Hawkes stated that the conference report (HB 5001) allocates ten FTE's with specific proviso language to the 1<sup>st</sup> DCA for this unit.

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**Allocation Measures and Funding Methodology Options**

Judge Northcutt asked the Commission members to discuss allocation measures and funding methodology options for the DCA's. Various suggestions were made: divide the reductions by each of the appellate courts; formation of a committee to address the reductions; and an assessment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA's operating budget. Judge Gersten offered to further review operational functions within the 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA and report back to the commission. Judge Palmer made the motion for the 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA to report back its findings and Judge Browning seconded the motion. Judge Gersten stated that an analysis would be provided to the members. The commission agreed to meet Friday, May 2, 2008, by telephone conference from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. to discuss cut allocations further.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.