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## **Economy & Efficiency Commission Presentation**

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*Editorial Note: Although every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the material in this presentation, the scope of the material covered and the discussions undertaken lends itself to the possibility of minor transcription misinterpretations.*

**PRESENTATIONS BY  
Mr. Noble Kenamer,  
ISAB Video Conferencing Chair, Information Advisory Board  
Los Angeles County**

**July 7, 2011**

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### **LA County Board of Supervisors-5th District**

Chairman Barcelona greeted Mr. Noble Kenamer, Chair of the Information System Advisory Body Video Conferencing Committee and welcomed him while turning it over for Mr. Kenamer to speak to the Economy and Efficiency Commission.

### **Information Systems Advisory Body (ISAB)**

Mr. Kenamer stated that the Information System Advisory Board (ISAB) is a multi-agency jurisdictional policy sub-committee of CCJCC established in 1982 to oversee the coordination, planning and development of major justice information systems. He stated that its membership is comprised of the Sheriff's Department, Superior Court, District Attorney, Alternate Public Defender, Public Defender, Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Probation Officer, Police Chief's Association, Coroner Department, Chief Information Officer, Internal Services Department and the Los Angeles Police Department. Mr. Kenamer also stated that ISAB's core mission is to facilitate the sharing of information across the criminal justice enterprise using standards-based protocols and technologies.

Mr. Kenamer stated that Video conferencing in the criminal justice community began in the early 1990's with a grant from the Air Quality Management District (AQMD). He stated that in 1999, a grant from the AQMD in the amount of \$747,000 provided for the creation of a video conferencing inmate interview project. He also stated that this has resulted in cost avoidance to the County of Los Angeles in reduced mileage claims and saved staff time.

Mr. Kenamer stated that over the past five years, ISAB has increased the number of justice agencies using video technology and has been able to expand its uses. He stated that ISAB Video programs include the Justice Inmate Video Conferencing System (JVICS), Juvenile Justice Inmate Video Conferencing System Pilot (JJVICS), District Attorney Video Lifer Hearings, and the Coroners Presentation Video Conferencing Pilot. He stated that the Alternate Public Defender's Office received a grant from the Productivity Investment Fund to join the existing ISAB video programs.

Mr. Kennamer stated that one of the recent efforts to facilitate electronic information exchange within the criminal justice community is the District Attorney Electronic Subpoena Project. He stated that this allows the District Attorney's Office to electronically serve subpoenas on law enforcement officers that are needed to testify. He stated that it also provides an email acknowledgement of the availability of the officer. He stated that the benefits of this process include: (1) Reduction in the number of law enforcement officers to subpoena because of rapid direct response by the officer as to availability to testify; (2) Reduction in law enforcement overtime; and (3) Reduction in court continuances by obtaining rapid feedback on officer availability. He also stated that the Electronic Subpoena Project has been implemented with the LAPD and Long Beach Police Department.

Mr. Kennamer stated that another project that ISAB has been involved in is supporting inmate video conferencing for interviews with attorneys from the Public Defender's Office and Alternate Public Defender's Office. He stated recently, ISAB has been working with ISD, the CIO, and the Sheriff's Department on an infrastructure that will support both the existing ISAB video conferencing system and the new video arraignment and family visitation video conferencing system. He stated that under the sponsorship of CCJCC, ISAB continues to develop, promote, and support secure electronic information sharing within the criminal justice enterprise for the purpose of cost effective justice and public safety adjudication of criminal activity.

### **Video Arraignment**

Mr. Kennamer stated that The Glendale Video Arraignment Project has been in operation for about two years. This is a project in which defendants held in the Glendale Police Department Jail are arraigned in the local Glendale Courthouse via video arraignment.

The following are results from the first year of operation:

- Video Arraignments/Processes - 1,361
- Video Arraignments released - 809
- Video Arraignment/Remanded and transported to the Sheriff's Department - 552
- Video Arraignments rejected by arrestee - 0
- Video Arraignments rejected by Public Defender - 2

Mr. Kennamer stated that the inmates that were released were all released from the Glendale Police Department Jail. He stated that this saved money in transportation costs and minimized safety issues involved in moving prisoners from the jail to the courthouse. He stated that discussions are underway to create a similar video arraignment process between the Pasadena Police Department and the Pasadena Courthouse. He also stated that a video arraignment and video visiting project for the downtown Los Angeles area has not yet been implemented, but the developmental process is underway. He stated that this would connect the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center (CSF) with the jail system. He also stated that unlike the Glendale Video Arraignment Project, this will focus primarily on arraignments of inmates that are already in the jail system rather than new bookings. He stated that the initial target groups will be those individuals that are either high-risk or cannot get to court for medical reasons. He stated that ISD's teleconferencing vision is to build a common technology that can service the entire county. He listed the following benefits to a fully implemented enterprise teleconferencing infrastructure: Operation and maintenance by one provider (ISD), less duplication within the county, with accompanying cost savings, one common infrastructure to maintain and refresh, redundancy and scalability, customize Service Level Agreement, and it would be a one-stop shop.

### **Questions**

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian asked that apart from the numbers looking at Champions and Heroes on the handout, and he doesn't see the courts listed anywhere. He asked Mr. Kennamer at what level is he talking to the courts. Mr. Kennamer replied that the committee must be talking to the wrong level. He stated that they have been working with court IT staff. Chair-Emeritus Philibosian replied that it could never work unless he is talking to some judges. He asked if there are any reasons that the committee can't talk to the Presiding Judge (PJ) or the Assistant Presiding Judge (APJ). Mr. Kennamer replied that he hasn't talked to

them because they won't speak with him on this. Chair-Emeritus stated that the EEC may be able to provide ISAB with some assistance in the course of the E&E study to add to ISAB's list of champions and heroes. Mr. Kennamer replied that you have court IT, court administration, and then you have the judges and the judges serve for two years. He stated that they have so much to focus on but the court administration and the IT division's lives far longer than that of the PJ's or APJ's. He stated that also on the criminal side it isn't always their first priority. He stated that they turned off video arraignment a few years ago. He stated that the Sheriff doesn't transport as many people so that would be savings through the Sheriff's but the Court are saying that they are still paying as if they have 50 cases being brought over so how much of the savings will the Sheriff Department share with the Court. He stated he doesn't know if they have resolved that issue. Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that this is a legitimate issue for the court because the court is not County funded. He stated that the Courts are funded by the State and are having their funding cut by the legislature and the courts are not going to give away additional money unless there is something in it for them or unless they can gain more efficiency out of it. He also stated that there is probably a small efficiency level for the courts. Mr. Kennamer replied that the committee has tried to focus more on the efficiency level and that's why the committee would like to bring in a third party study. Chair-Emeritus asked what monies the court needs to spend in terms of hardware and training. Mr. Kennamer replied that ISAB bought the hardware and has performed the training. Chair-Emeritus Philibosian asked what other expenses are there to the courts. Mr. Kennamer replied that the expenses to the courts are primarily getting the paperwork ready to give to the defense bar and then having to wait for the defense bar until they are ready; and they are worried that this will create overtime for the courts. Mr. Kennamer replied that the D.A doesn't decide which cases are video eligible until 10 am so the paperwork doesn't get to the defense bar until noon or 1 pm. He stated that if it is a non video they can provide that paperwork at 8 or 9 am so that the Public Defender can began interviewing; it then becomes a time element issue. He stated that the court has a compressed schedule.

Commissioner Glassman commented that putting efficiencies in one part of the system creates dislocations in efficiencies in other parts. Commissioner Glassman asked if the courts are organized to operate in dual systems and if its not, then is it trying to force everything into its existing system. He stated that you could have one system of processing things that involve the Video which means they have different working hours. Mr. Kennamer replied that he is not just speaking of the D.A. and does not want to place the blame on the D.A because LAPD doesn't want to deliver the paperwork until 8 am the next morning.

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that he heard something a while back regarding electronic filing and asked Mr. Kennamer to elaborate. Mr. Kennamer replied that they do file electronically but that the discovery is not electronic. He stated that in many instances it is created electronically but in many cases it is not transported electronically.

Commissioner Padilla asked if there has been any legislator in Sacramento that proposed something that would force this issue and whether Mr. Kennamer have seen in other Counties outside of California where there is a best practice that actually does this. Mr. Kennamer replied that this is not a legislation issue. He stated that it is more of an issue of operational practices.

Chairman Barcelona expressed his appreciation to Noble Kennamer and invited him to come back to speak to the EEC in the near future and the Commissioners applauded.

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