

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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THE SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT ISSUES REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM E-FILING SERVICE PROVIDERS

SAN FRANCISCO -- The San Francisco Superior Court is asking e-filing service providers to submit information as part of its intent to expand electronic filing services beyond asbestos litigation, Chief Executive Officer T. Michael Yuen announced today.

The Request For Information (RFI) asks for facts to explore the feasibility of, or alternatives to, an e-filing portal as a way to provide access to represented parties, governmental filers and self-represented litigants. The RFI's purpose is "to gather information about the services currently provided by private electronic filing service providers (EFSPs) and to determine an appropriate baseline for the functional, technical, and service level requirements for electronic filing services through a private EFSP or other systems that provide e-filing and enable e-service."

Potential vendors must submit responses by November 22, 2010. All communication with the Court must be in writing and directed either by mail or email to:

1. **Request for Information, e-filing**
400 McAllister St., Room 205
San Francisco, CA 94102
2. efilingrfi@sftc.org

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SFSC/RFI
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In August 2006, the Court issued General Order 158, which mandated electronic filing and service for asbestos litigation cases. The order allowed the Court to better manage these paper-intensive filings. Every asbestos filing is now done electronically, with the exception of the initial complaint. Of California's 58 Superior Courts, the San Francisco Superior Court carries the largest asbestos litigation caseload.

Since the adoption of mandatory e-filing for asbestos cases, litigants have realized significant cost savings in paper costs, service by mail costs and delivery services. These successes suggest similar efficiencies and potential savings for e-filing in single-assignment and other complex cases. The RFI indicates that the Court seeks e-filing services "to support all case types in California trial courts, in addition to supporting more resource intensive, complex litigation cases with multiple parties, a high volume of filing and service activity, long duration, large documents, and frequent changes to participants."

The RFI includes an outline for the response format, which seeks information on a company's profile; qualifications and capabilities; electronic filing services offered; service delivery; technical aspects of the electronic filing solution; pricing; and any additional information deemed appropriate.

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