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

Dear Commission:

I am an attorney at law. I am licensed to practice to in the State of California and the State of Washington. I am admitted to practice law before the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and a number of other federal courts.

It is my understanding that the Commission is charged with analyzing the possibility of restructuring the division of the circuits of the various courts of appeals, with particular attention to the complex problem of the possible division of the Ninth Circuit into two separate circuits.

The present configuration of the Ninth Circuit is unworkable.

The Ninth Circuit must be divided.

The following represents my point of view.

(1) The Ninth Circuit should be split into two circuits; one containing California, and the other containing all the other states. The seat of the newly-created circuit could be in Phoenix, Seattle, or Portland.

<u>or</u>

(2) The Ninth Circuit could be split into three circuits; one containing Northern California to be seated in San Francisco; this circuit might also contain Nevada; one containing Southern California to be seated in Los Angeles; this circuit might also contain Hawaii; and an additional circuit to contain all the other states presently in

the Ninth Circuit, to be seated in Phoenix, Seattle, Portland or elsewhere.

 $\underline{\mathbf{or}}$

(3) All the circuits in the United States of America could be redesigned into about twenty to twenty-four new, much smaller circuits. This would involve a complete revamping of all circuits. (As the new circuit lines were drawn, California probably would be split into at least two separate circuits, and perhaps even three.) The manageable size of each circuit would mean that each circuit would carry a significantly smaller caseload and have fewer judges and support employees.

I believe that one of the foregoing plans should be put into effect as soon as possible. My preference is for my first suggestion. I wish the Commission good luck in its endeavors.

Cordially,

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