August 10, 2010

Chief Executive Officer Alan Carlson Receives American Bar Association Judicial Division Award for Outstanding Contribution in Judicial Administration

Alan Carlson received the Robert B. Yegge Award for outstanding contribution in the field of judicial administration from the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association at a ceremony held August 5, in San Francisco, California. The award is given in memory of Robert B. Yegge, former Dean of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law and one of the pioneers in the field of judicial administration.

Mr. Carlson, a nationally recognized court administrator, currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Superior Court in Orange County, California, one of the five largest trials courts in the nation. Recently, he was appointed by California Chief Justice Ronald M. George to a three-year term as an advisory member to the Judicial Council of California, beginning September 15.

Since graduating from Hastings College of Law in 1976, Alan Carlson has dedicated his professional life to justice system improvement efforts. As a court administrator, researcher, and educator, Mr. Carlson has developed particular expertise regarding privacy and access to court records, information sharing in the justice environment, trial court finance, criminal case flow management, and urban trial court management.

He has helped lead several major initiatives that improved the administration of justice in California, including: 1) the transition to state funding of trial courts, 2) the consolidation of the trial courts in each county into a single, unified state trial court, and 3) the implementation of case management practices to reduce delay and the cost of litigation.

Before his appointment to chief executive officer of the Superior Court in Orange County, Mr. Carlson served as president of the Justice Management Institute (JMI), an independent, non-profit organization that provides technical assistance, research, and continuing education programs to improve the administration of justice.

From 1993 to 2000 Mr. Carlson was the CEO of the Superior Court in San Francisco. His trial court experience also includes executive responsibilities as the court administrator of the
Superior Courts in Monterey County and the assistant in Alameda County. He also served three years with the Administrative Office of the Courts as an assistant director for court services where he was responsible for trial court funding, trial court consolidation, evaluating trial court civil delay reduction, and developing a training institute for court staff.

Mr. Carlson holds a Juris Doctorate from UC Hastings College of Law and a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research from UC Berkeley.