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JANETTE M. BLOOM
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
DEPUTY CLERK

Re: Settlement Process: Comments to Final Evaluation Summary and Recommendations

To: Janette M. Bloom, Clerk of the Supreme Court

I would like to submit the following written comment to the above referenced report.

COMMENT TO RECOMMENDATION 5

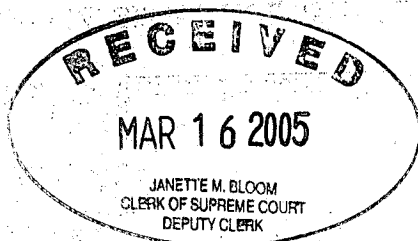
I would respectfully disagree with Recommendation 5 to remove the stay policy during the settlement process. The goal of the settlement process is to increase the number of cases that settle prior to initiating the full appellate process and to reduce the costs associated with the appellate process. As such, the stay process acts to reduce costs pending settlement by not requiring the parties to request transcripts or to initiate the briefing process, both very costly.

By eliminating the stay process, the costs would increase significantly by both parties. These costs would be unnecessarily incurred if the case settles. Therefore, I believe the stay process should remain in place until the settlement process is concluded.

Very truly yours,

Becky A. Pinta

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