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CAAL Statement

Regarding Complaint to the Commission on Judicial Performance About Three Justices of the Third District Court of Appeal

February 8, 2021

The members and leaders of CAAL have reviewed the January 26, 2021 Complaint to the California Commission on Judicial Performance, alleging extraordinary decisional delay by Presiding Justice Vance W. Raye and Associate Justices Cole A. Blease and William J. Murray, Jr. of the Court of Appeal for the Third Appellate District. The Court sits in Sacramento and serves millions of Californians in 23 counties in the northeast corner of our state.

The allegations are detailed, supported with apparently reliable data from the court's public records, and very troubling. They suggest that appellate justice has been egregiously delayed to the people the Third District serves. We do not prejudge the allegations, but believe they warrant diligent investigation by the Commission.

California's Constitution charges the Commission to serve the goals of accountability for judges and justices of our courts, judicial independence in our three-branch democracy, and fair process for judges and justices against whom complaints are leveled. We are confident the Commission will do so in resolving this Complaint.

CAAL fosters improvements in the practice of appellate advocacy, including reforms in appellate procedure designed to ensure effective representation of appellate litigants and to achieve reasonable efficiencies in the administration of appellate justice. Further information about CAAL may be found [here](#).