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U.S. DISTRICT COURT
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

KINNEY KINMON LAU, et al,

No C C-70-627 LHB

Plaintiffs,

ORDER

v

DR EUGENE HOPP, et al,

Defendant.

It has come to the attention of the undersigned chief judge that the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) has continued to file with the court annual reports pursuant to a consent decree in this matter long after the retirement of the judicial officer to which this matter was assigned, Judge Lloyd H Burke. Inquiries revealed that SFUSD's practice in the years since Judge Burke left the court was to direct the delivery of the report to the district judge on duty at the time of each filing. Meanwhile, the clerk's office has continued to docket the filings with those of visiting and retired judges.

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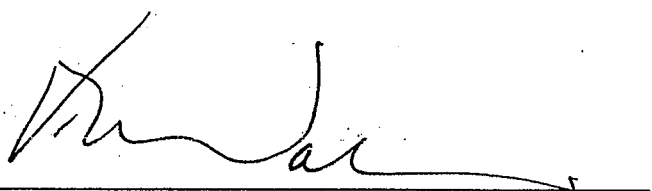
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The status quo may satisfy requirements of form, but is empty of substance. SFUSD is dutifully filing reports, but no judicial officer is attending to the consent decree compliance issues that the reports are intended in part to address. The fact that the parties have been content with this status quo suggests that the court may no longer be serving any useful role.

Accordingly, the parties are now ordered to show cause, within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, why the court should not issue an order relieving SFUSD of any further responsibility for reporting to the court under the consent decree herein. If any party believes that the court's continued oversight is necessary, it shall explain the nature of said oversight and estimate for how long it believes said oversight will be necessary.

A chambers copy of any court paper filed in response to this order shall be directed to the chambers of the undersigned judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



VAUGHN R WALKER
United States District Chief Judge

