Mr. Joseph A. Trotter, Jr.
Adjudication Technical Assistance Project
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

Re: T/A No. 111 - Court Delay Workshop, State of Florida. Certified Block Grant.

Dear Joe:

This letter will provide a brief report on my technical assistance activities relating to the Delay Reduction workshop for the Florida State Trial Courts (September 24-25) in Tallahassee.

In general, I thought the program went well and that my involvement was quite valuable to the quality of the program content. I assume that EMT has other reports on that event and, therefore, I will not remark on that subject here. However, I think there are three items that deserve a brief report:

1) In general, the group did not have any common information about their courts (four different districts) which could be used for diagnosing the cause of delay - much less develop any thoughtful case management plan.

2) The entire group seemed obsessed with the use of computers as a means of dealing with delay. I think that by the end of the session, we had weened them of that notion, but it does indicate an unhealthy drift in the delay reduction philosophy.

3) Before the group can develop a management plan, they need to know why they have delay. I, therefore, suggested that they develop manual samples of case dispositions and develop a pending case profile and then reconvene. I would be happy to return and work with the group if that is wanted.

I thought that the group was much more interested and eager to be serious about delay reduction than many I have seen. Attached is the agenda of the Trial Court Delay Reduction Conference and the List of Participants. The four judicial districts attending were: Second Judicial Circuit (Leon County); Eighth Judicial Circuit (Alachua County); Twelfth Judicial Circuit (Sarasota County); and Sixteenth Judicial Circuit (Monroe County).

Sincerely,

Maurice Geiger
Rural Justice Institute
Friday, September 25, 1987 - Judicial Meeting Room in the Supreme Court Building

9:00 - 10:15 a.m. Data Analysis Issues *(Tab 4)*

Discussant: Maurice Geiger, Director
Rural Justice Center

Speaker: Joe Jordan
Independent Consultant on Delay Reduction

10:15 - 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. State Level Data Collection and Analysis Activities *(Tab 5)*

Discussant: Maurice Geiger, Director
Rural Justice Center

Speakers: Maribeth Hudson
Senior Judicial Analyst
OSCA

Cynthia Godbey
Senior Judicial Analyst
OSCA

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Intervention Issues *(Tab 6)*

Facilitator: Maurice Geiger, Director
Rural Justice Center

2:00 - 2:15 p.m. Break
Trial Court Delay Reduction Conference
Tallahassee, Florida
September 23 - 25, 1987

Program

Wednesday, September 23, 1987 - Lobby/Casual Bar in the Courtyard Marriott

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Registration and Reception

Thursday, September 24, 1987 - Judicial Meeting Room in the Supreme Court Building

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Late Registration

9:00 - 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Introduction

   Mike Bridenback, Director
   Court Management Section
   Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA)

9:15 - 10:30 a.m. Overviews of Local Projects (Tab 1)

   Facilitator: John Ward, Planning Administrator
   Bureau of Public Safety Management
   Department of Community Affairs

10:30 - 10:45 a.m. Coffee Break

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Data Collection Issues (Tab 2)

   Facilitator: Don Hardenbergh
   Senior Staff Associate
   National Center for State Courts

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch
Thursday, September 24, 1987 (continued)

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Data Collection Issues (continued)
   
   Discussant: Maurice Geiger, Director
   Rural Justice Center
   
   Speaker: Joe Jordan
   Independent Consultant on Delay Reduction

2:30 - 3:15 p.m. Analyzing the Caseflow Process (continued)
   
   Facilitator: Maurice Geiger, Director
   Rural Justice Center

3:15 - 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Analyzing the Caseflow Process (continued)
   
   Discussant: Maurice Geiger, Director
   Rural Justice Center
   
   Speaker: Joe Jordan
   Independent Consultant on Delay Reduction

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Dinner (on your own)

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Workgroup
   
   Facilitator: Maurice Geiger, Director
   Rural Justice Center
   
   For Circuit Representatives Only.
Friday, September 25, 1987 (continued)

2:15 - 3:15 p.m. Program Maintenance Issues (Tab 7)

Discussant: Maurice Geiger, Director
Rural Justice Center

Speaker: Pearl Taylor, Director
Calendaring Services
San Diego Superior Court

3:15 - 4:00 p.m. Planning Forum (Tab 8)

Facilitators: Cynthia Godbey
Senior Judicial Analyst
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Arlene Condry
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Page Two

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