



CHAMBERS OF
KIMBERLY A. GAAB
Presiding Judge

Superior Court of California County of Fresno

1100 VAN NESS AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93724-0002
(559) 457-6349
FAX (559) 457-1707
E-mail: kgaab@fresno.courts.ca.gov

July 6, 2017

Mr. Martin Hoshino, Administrative Director
Judicial Council of California
455 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Temporary Consolidation of Services
Notification Pursuant to Government Code section 68106

Dear Mr. Hoshino:

Due to severe budget constraints and a diminished caseload during the holidays, the Fresno Superior Court intends to close the Main and B.F. Sisk Courthouses temporarily and consolidate the Clerk's Offices into the "M" Street Courthouse and the Juvenile Justice Campus on the following dates: December 26, 27, 28 and 29, 2017. This temporary closure will also include the Self-Help Center and Archives Department.

These changes are a result of the Court's strategic planning for operational efficiency during the slower holiday season. The temporary relocation of departments from the Main and B.F. Sisk Courthouses to the "M" Street Courthouse on these dates will provide the Court with the opportunity to better utilize staff resources.

The Court will have employees available to assist the public for Traffic, Civil, Small Claims, Probate, Family Law, Family Support, and Criminal to ensure that equal access to justice is not compromised. Our Court facility located at the Juvenile Justice Campus will also be open to serve court users for Juvenile delinquency and dependency matters. Our organization will keep the Clerk's Office hours of operation intact during this timeframe, which will remain from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Court employees who are assisting the public during this time will also be able to perform all normal Clerk's Office duties, with no change in the scope of services provided.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 68106, this Court has solicited for public comment in writing regarding the Court's plan for closing the Clerk's Office and reducing operations as set forth above. A copy of the public notice is attached.

Thank you again for your continued courtesy and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Kimberly A. Gaab

KAG:rmf



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF FRESNO



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Suzanne Abi-Rached, Media Coordinator (559) 457-1605

sabi-rached@fresno.courts.ca.gov

Due to budgetary constraints, and following the required public comment procedures for 60 days, the Fresno Superior Court hereby announces that it will temporarily close the Main Criminal Courthouse and B.F. Sisk Courthouse (including the Self-Help Center and Archives Department) and relocate essential hearings and consolidate the Clerk's Office into the "M" Street Courthouse and the Juvenile Justice Campus only on the following dates: December 26, 27, 28 and 29, 2017.

COURTROOMS

ONLY the following courtrooms WILL be open:

- Departments 95 and 96 at the North Annex Jail (located at 1265 "M" Street) for adult criminal arraignment hearings and previously set matters.
- Department 97C at the "M" Street Courthouse (located at 2317 Tuolumne Street) for traffic and criminal infraction walk-in arraignments, morning only, and will assist Departments 95 and 96. Department 97C will also process emergency orders.
- Departments 97A and 97B at the "M" Street Courthouse (located at 2317 Tuolumne Street) as standby trial courtrooms for adult criminal trials, should they need to proceed due to statutory timeframe limitations; domestic violence and restraining order matters; and process emergency orders and urgent cases with statutory timeframe limitations.
- Department 99A at the Juvenile Justice Campus (located at 3333 East American Avenue) for all juvenile delinquency and dependency matters with statutory timeframe limitations.
- Department 99B at the Juvenile Justice Campus (located at 3333 East American Avenue) as a standby trial courtroom for juvenile trials, should they need to proceed due to statutory timeframe limitations, and provide assistance to Department 99A should the need arise.

All other courtrooms will be closed during these dates.

CLERK'S OFFICE

For Clerk's Office services on the above dates, the Fresno Superior Court will have at least one window open at the "M" Street Courthouse, 2317 Tuolumne Street, for each of the following departments: Traffic, Civil/Small Claims, Probate, Family Law/Family Support, and Criminal. The Clerk's Office at the Juvenile Justice Campus (located at 3333 East American Avenue) will remain open for juvenile-related matters (both delinquency and dependency). The Clerk's Office hours on those dates will remain 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Each case-specific window will be open and available to perform all normal Clerk's Office duties. Services from the Self-Help Center and Archives Department will not be available.

These changes are a result of the Court's strategic planning for operational efficiency during this time of year. The temporary relocation of departments from the Main and B.F. Sisk Courthouses to the "M" Street Courthouse on these dates will provide the Court with the opportunity to better utilize staff resources.

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