



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

HALL OF JUSTICE
400 COUNTY CENTER

REDWOOD CITY, CALIFORNIA 94063-1655

JOHN C. FITTON
COURT EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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May 13, 2013

Ms. Debora Morrison
Senior Attorney
Legal Services Office
Judicial Council of California-Administrative Office of the Courts
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688

Re: Notification Pursuant to Government Code Section 68106

Dear Ms. Morrison,

The Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo is providing notice of a reduction in services at our Northern Branch located at 1050 Mission Road in South San Francisco and Central Branch located at 800 N. Humboldt Street in San Mateo, effective July 15, 2013. We will close four of our six courtrooms in our South San Francisco branch and only criminal preliminary hearing calendars for northern jurisdiction cases will be held at this location. All other northern criminal calendars will be consolidated and heard in Redwood City. We will also be suspending all calendars and operations in our San Mateo branch with that location only being utilized for trials as assigned by our Presiding Judge. All traffic and small claims trials will be heard only in the Southern Branch in Redwood City. The Northern Criminal Clerk's Office will close and consolidate with our Criminal Clerk's Office in Redwood City. All criminal filings will need to be submitted to the criminal clerk's office in the Hall of Justice in Redwood City. We will no longer offer the ability to obtain domestic violence and civil harassment restraining orders at the Northern branch location, so parties will be re-directed to Redwood City for assistance. Attached are the two public notices regarding those changes that we are posting in our court facilities today.

This change is a result of the unprecedented and ongoing State budget cuts to the trial courts of more than \$1 billion over the past five years. The San Mateo County Superior Court has seen a dramatic reduction in its budget as a result of these State cuts to the judicial branch and unfunded cost increases. As a result of these State cuts, the San Mateo Superior Court has been forced to reduce its workforce by over 30% to-date. Going forward, the court has been informed by the Governor and the State Legislature that they must absorb additional State budget cuts. Further, changes in trial court funding methodology will result in added reductions to the San Mateo Superior Court over the next 5 years if the State does not fully fund the trial courts. These State cuts and funding reductions will require further workforce reductions, necessitating further reductions in court services, unless these cuts are eliminated and essential, complete trial court funding is provided.

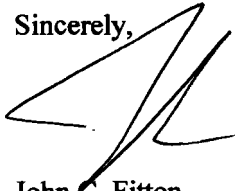
The court greatly regrets the necessity of reducing these services. In fact, we've worked hard to delay them. Despite the excessive State cuts to the trial courts, we've worked diligently to continue to prioritize public safety issues and meet the essential needs of court users and litigants while reducing expenses to stay in line with our authorized level of funding. Steps the court has already taken over the last five years

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to operationalize the ongoing cuts have been considerable, including but not limited to maximizing technology and business process re-engineering efficiencies, cutting all non-personnel costs, renegotiating service contracts, consolidating trial court services and clerks offices, reducing employee wages due to mandated court closures, increasing benefit contributions and significantly reducing our workforce through normal attrition, incentive programs and layoffs. We have also reduced court calendars and clerk's office public counter and phone hours in addition to spending a sizable portion of our reserves. With significantly fewer employees to handle the work of the court, we must continually take steps to balance our essential court workload as we strive to become even more efficient and operate within our means.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this subject. I can be reached at (650) 599-1763.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John C. Fitton', written over a horizontal line.

John C. Fitton
Court Executive Officer

cc: Honorable Robert D Foiles, Presiding Judge
Honorable Joseph C. Scott, Assistant Presiding Judge
Rodina Catalano, Deputy Court Executive Officer
Susan Maxwell, Senior Court Services Manager

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Pursuant to Government Code section 68106)

REDUCED CRIMINAL CALENDARS/SERVICES

NORTHERN BRANCH

Effective July 15, 2013, the following changes will be implemented at our Northern Branch located at 1050 Mission Road in South San Francisco:

- Four of our six courtrooms will be closed and only criminal preliminary hearing calendars for northern jurisdiction cases will be held at this location. All other northern criminal calendars will be consolidated and heard at the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- The Northern Criminal Clerk's Office will close and consolidate with the Criminal Clerk's Office on the 4th floor of the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- All requests for domestic violence and civil harassment restraining orders (TRO's) will need to be submitted to the Family Law or Civil Clerk's Office in Room A on the first floor of the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- All Traffic and Small Claims trials will be heard only in the Southern Branch in Redwood City.

This change is a result of the unprecedented and ongoing State budget cuts to the trial courts of more than \$1 billion over the past five years. The San Mateo County Superior Court has seen a dramatic reduction in its budget as a result of these State cuts to the judicial branch and unfunded cost increases. As a result of these State cuts, the San Mateo Superior Court has been forced to reduce its workforce by over 30% to-date. Going forward, the court has been informed by the Governor and the State Legislature that they must absorb additional State budget cuts. Further, changes in trial court funding methodology will result in added reductions to the San Mateo Superior Court over the next 5 years if the State does not fully fund the trial courts. These State cuts and funding reductions will require further workforce reductions, necessitating further reductions in court services, unless these cuts are eliminated and essential, complete trial court funding is provided.

Effective July 15, 2013 all criminal filings and documents must be submitted to the Criminal Clerk's Office at the Hall of Justice-400 County Center-4th floor, Redwood City, CA 94063 either in person during public counter hours (8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Fridays) or by mail. A drop box is also available at the Redwood City location outside the Criminal Clerk's Office on the 4th floor.

The public is invited to comment on these changes prior to implementation. To ensure prompt review and consideration, comments should be submitted electronically through the Court's website at www.sanmateocourt.org (click on "Invitation to Comment"). For those without easy internet access, comments may be mailed to:

Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo

Attn: Rodina Catalano, Deputy Court Executive Officer

400 County Center, 2nd Floor

Redwood City, CA 94063

All comments must be received no later than July 12, 2013.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Pursuant to Government Code section 68106)

REDUCED CALENDARS/SERVICES

CENTRAL BRANCH

Effective July 15, 2013, we are suspending all calendars and operations in our Central Branch at 800 N. Humboldt Street, with that location only being utilized for trials as assigned by our Presiding Judge. All Traffic and Small Claims trials will be heard only in the Southern Branch in Redwood City. This includes the once a month night court session, which will be conducted in Redwood City on the first Wednesday of each month. The Small Claims Advisory workshops and services will also be relocated to Redwood City.

This change is a result of the unprecedented and ongoing State budget cuts to the trial courts of more than \$1 billion over the past five years. The San Mateo County Superior Court has seen a dramatic reduction in its budget as a result of these State cuts to the judicial branch and unfunded cost increases. As a result of these State cuts, the San Mateo Superior Court has been forced to reduce its workforce by over 30% to-date. Going forward, the court has been informed by the Governor and the State Legislature that they must absorb additional State budget cuts. Further, changes in trial court funding methodology will result in added reductions to the San Mateo Superior Court over the next 5 years if the State does not fully fund the trial courts. These State cuts and funding reductions will require further workforce reductions, necessitating further reductions in court services, unless these cuts are eliminated and essential, complete trial court funding is provided.

The Traffic Clerk's Office is located at 500 County Center in Redwood City. Their public counter hours are 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday and 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. A drop box for traffic payments and correspondence is also available at the 500 County Center location in Redwood City.

The Small Claims Clerk's Office is located in Room A on the first floor of the Hall of Justice at 400 County Center in Redwood City. Their public counter hours are 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. A drop box for small claims filings and correspondence is also available at the Hall of Justice in Redwood City on the first floor.

The public is invited to comment on this change prior to implementation. To ensure prompt review and consideration, comments should be submitted electronically through the Court's website at www.sanmateocourt.org (click on "Invitation to Comment"). For those without easy internet access, comments may be mailed to:

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