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# MEDIA ADVISORY

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## **California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care to Visit Riverside for 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

***Focus of Meeting is Court and Foster Care  
Collaboration with Tribes, Probation and Prisons to  
Better Serve State's 80,000 Foster Children***

The California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care travels to Riverside on June 20-22, 2007 for its sixth quarterly meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to identify more effective ways for courts to collaborate with agencies and tribes that are responsible for the welfare of foster children and their families.

Too often, California's 80,000 foster children find themselves caught between different government systems that prevent them from receiving the services and support they need – to reunify with their families, attend local schools, receive mental health services or other critical supports. The commission's meeting will focus on the importance of collaboration among key government agencies, including courts, foster care, probation, prisons and tribes. Several portions of the meeting will feature pioneering efforts within Riverside County to break down bureaucratic barriers and better serve children and families.

Supreme Court Justice Carlos R. Moreno will chair the commission meeting which features a diverse group of panelists as well as a tour of the California Institution for Women where commissioners will learn about model programs that improve the parenting skills of incarcerated mothers and discuss ways to help prevent foster youth from entering prison. The high-profile, multidisciplinary commission was appointed in 2006 by the Chief Justice to identify ways in which courts and their partners can improve foster care outcomes. Recommendations are due in spring 2008.

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**WHAT: Sixth Quarterly Meeting  
California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care  
Supreme Court Justice Carlos R. Moreno, Chair**

**Opening Dinner: Collaboration Between Courts, Probation and Foster Care**

Hon. Becky Dugan, Riverside Superior Court  
Riverside County Social Service and Probation Officials  
Wednesday, June 20, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**Site Visit to California Institution for Women (closed to media)**

Thursday, June 21

**Commission Dinner: Court Responsibility and Leadership in Ensuring Collaboration**

Hon. Sharon McCully, State of Utah  
Thursday, June 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m

**Commission Meeting: Session on Court Collaboration with Tribes and Foster Care**

Riverside Tribal Alliance, including Hon. Elisabeth Sichel, Riverside Superior Court; Tribal officials; and Riverside County Social Service Officials. Also participating: Officials from the California Attorney General's Office, Social Services and Administrative Office of the Courts.  
Friday, June 22, 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.

**WHEN: Wednesday, June 20 – Friday, June 22, 2007**

**WHERE: Mission Inn Hotel, 3649 Mission Inn Avenue  
Riverside, California**

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