



**MEDIA ADVISORY** 24-09  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Public Meeting and Invitation to Comment on Proposed New Porterville Courthouse**

**What:** A public meeting hosted by the state of California's Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will present information about the new Porterville courthouse proposed for 300 East Olive Avenue, currently the site of the Porterville Fairgrounds and Municipal Ballpark.

This meeting is a necessary step in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. At the meeting, the public and other interested parties will have an opportunity to review and comment on the AOC's Mitigated Negative Declaration, which concludes that, with the AOC's proposed mitigation measures, the proposed Porterville courthouse project will have no significant environmental effect.

The review period extends through 5:00 p.m. on July 3, so those unable to attend the meeting may also review the document and comment. The AOC's CEQA document and other project information, as well as instructions for submitting comments, are available on the California Courts Web site:  
[www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects\\_tulare.htm](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_tulare.htm)

**When:** Thursday, June 25, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

**Where:** City Council Chambers, Porterville City Hall  
291 North Main Street  
Porterville, California 93257

**Who:** The AOC's Office of Court Construction and Management will present plans and project information, and interested parties may present public comments or submit written comments.

**Why:** The new nine-courtroom Porterville courthouse, which will become the South Justice Center, will replace an existing three-courtroom facility in Porterville and a one-courtroom facility in Tulare, which are overcrowded and have poor security and many physical problems. The State Court Facilities Construction Fund will pay for the proposed courthouse project, which will cost approximately \$91 million. The AOC plans to complete construction of the new courthouse in January 2013.

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*the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.*