



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Judicial Council Recognizes Court Community for Aiding Hurricane Victims

San Francisco—The Judicial Council today honored volunteers from the California court system for aiding the victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

At a public meeting, the Judicial Council recognized the time and generosity of individuals, courts, and organizations that helped the victims in the Gulf region. Resolutions were presented to the following:

- *Judge William Pate* of the Superior Court of San Diego County, who drove a truckload of equipment and supplies 2,000 miles to Mississippi.
- *The Superior Court of San Diego County*, which organized a second shipment of equipment to Mississippi with assistance from the district attorney, the local bar association, the County of San Diego, and the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District. Judge Pate accepted the resolution on behalf of the court.
- *The Superior Court of Alameda County*, which donated more than \$15,000 to the American Red Cross relief effort—under the leadership of then-Presiding Judge Barbara J. Miller. Presiding Judge George C. Hernandez, Jr. and Judge Miller accepted the resolution on behalf of the court.
- *The Superior Court of Ventura County*, which collected more than \$6,000 and 270 bags of clothing toward the relief effort. Court Executive Officer Michael D. Planet accepted the resolution on behalf of the court.
- *The Superior Court of Riverside County*, which donated more than \$6,600 in vacation, annual, and sick leave to the American Red Cross relief effort. Presiding Judge Sharon J. Waters accepted the resolution on behalf of the court.

(over)

- *The Foundation of the State Bar of California* and the *Administrative Office of the Courts* (AOC), which collaborated to establish the Courts and Families Hurricane Recovery Fund. The fund collected \$5,120 to assist the court community in the affected states. Ms. Leslie Hatamiya, foundation executive director, accepted the resolution on behalf of the foundation, and Ms. Diane Nunn, director of Center for Families, Children & the Courts, accepted the resolution on behalf of the AOC.

The Judicial Council also honored the efforts of court staff in Humboldt, Merced, San Luis Obispo, San Bernardino, Shasta, Siskiyou, and other counties.

*The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.*

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