



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Mariposa Superior Court to Celebrate Completion of Court Facilities Act**

### *Chief Justice to Present Resolution at June 27th Ceremony*

Mariposa—The Superior Court of Mariposa County will take a special place in state history tomorrow when it celebrates being the first court in California to complete all provisions under the Trial Court Facilities Act of 2002. That act authorizes the state stewardship of trial court facilities under the governance of the Judicial Council.

The historic event will be celebrated at a ceremony at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 27, 2006, at the Mariposa Courthouse at 10th and Bullion Streets, Mariposa. Built in 1854, the building is the oldest courthouse in California.

Speakers will include Chief Justice Ronald M. George, Chair of the Judicial Council; Mr. Lee Stetson, Chair, Mariposa Board of Supervisors; Presiding Judge Wayne Parrish, Superior Court of Mariposa County; Mr. William C. Vickrey, Administrative Director of the California Courts; and MaryAlice Kaloostian, District Director, 14th Senate District.

“This ceremony marks a significant juncture in the history of California courts,” stated Chief Justice Ronald M. George. “The agreement among Mariposa County officials, the Superior Court of Mariposa County, and the Judicial Council reflects the spirit of collaboration envisioned by the Trial Court Facilities Act, which will enable state courthouses to become safer and more accessible to the public.”

“On behalf of my court, I am very pleased to take part in this milestone,” said Presiding Judge Parrish. “It is especially noteworthy that Mariposa is not only home to California’s oldest continually operating courthouse but now is the first county to complete implementation of the Trial Court Facilities Act. This is important not only to the state judicial branch but to the citizens of Mariposa County as well.”

(over)

“The Mariposa courthouse is an historic landmark and a symbol of justice in our county since 1854, and we are delighted to celebrate this collaboration with the judicial branch of government,” said Mr. Lee Stetson, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. “We are extremely pleased to welcome Chief Justice George and Presiding Judge Parrish.”

Signed into law in 2002, the Trial Court Facilities Act is designed to ensure that all Californians have equal access to safe, secure, and adequate court facilities. The law implements the key recommendation of the statewide Task Force on Court Facilities—that the state assume full responsibility for ownership and maintenance of court facilities.

To view the text of the Trial Court Facilities Act, visit the California Courts Web site at [www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/files/sb1732.pdf](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/files/sb1732.pdf).

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*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.*