



MEDIA ADVISORY OC 24-11
Contact: Philip Carrizosa, 415-865-8044

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Groundbreaking for New Courthouse in Long Beach

Chief Justice to Deliver Keynote for Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse

Who: Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye will speak at a ceremony to mark the start of construction for the new courthouse in Long Beach. The new building will be named in honor of former Governor George Deukmejian, who will also attend. Other speakers will include Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster, Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, state Senator Alan S. Lowenthal, state Assembly Member Bonnie Lowenthal, and Administrative Director of the Courts William C. Vickrey. Presiding Judge Lee Smalley Edmon, of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, will welcome guests and make introductions.

When: Thursday, April 7, 2011, 1:30 –2:30 p.m.

What: The event will include remarks and a ceremonial groundbreaking.

Where: New courthouse site: Magnolia Avenue at Third Street, downtown Long Beach.

Why: This project will improve public access and security and increase the efficiency of court operations by replacing the dilapidated Long Beach courthouse, one of the worst in the state. The project is also the first courthouse in the United States to be delivered through Performance-Based Infrastructure, an innovative arrangement in which the state has engaged a private company to finance, design, build, operate, and maintain the building. Targeted for completion and occupancy in late 2013, the new building will house 31 courtrooms and offices for Los Angeles County justice partners. The parking structure across Broadway from the new building will also be renovated and expanded to more than 900 spaces. The state owns the land and the building throughout the 35-year agreement, with annual service payments beginning when the court occupies the building. More information about the project is on the California Courts website at www.courts.ca.gov/2784.htm.

Members of the media wishing to attend the ceremony may contact the Public Information Office of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County at 213-974-5227.

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