



MEDIA ADVISORY OC 46-11
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Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center Transitions to State

WHAT: The Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Los Angeles transitions today from the county to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) as managing party. The 21-story building in downtown Los Angeles is the largest court facility in the county at 1,000,020 square feet with 61 courtrooms and 101 holding cells. It also houses the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office and Public Defender's Office. Originally known as the Los Angeles Criminal Courts Building when it opened in the early 1970s, the facility was renamed in 2002 to honor Clara Shortridge Foltz, who became the first female lawyer on the West Coast with her admission to the California State Bar in 1878. This building has been the scene of many high-profile trials including the murder trial of former football star O.J. Simpson and the murder trial of record producer Phil Spector.

WHEN: The facility transitions from the county to the state as managing party on Wednesday, June 1, 2011.

LOCATION: Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012

WHY: The transfer is part of a process set in motion by the Trial Court Facilities Act of 2002, the landmark legislation that envisioned a single, comprehensive infrastructure program for court facilities statewide as a final step in the unification of California's trial courts. The law authorized transfer of responsibility for all California court facilities from the counties to the state, ensuring equal access to safe, secure, and adequate court to the benefit of all Californians. By sharing knowledge and resources among all 58 California counties, the AOC applies the state's large-scale purchasing power to create greater efficiencies and cost savings. The Foltz facility becomes the 24th court facility in Los Angeles to transition to the AOC as managing party. The transition of the remaining 14 Los Angeles court buildings should be completed next year.

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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.