



**MEDIA ADVISORY** OC 49-10  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Chief Justice Ronald M. George to Speak at B. F. Sisk Courthouse Dedication**

**Who:** Chief Justice Ronald M. George will speak at a ceremony to celebrate the renovation and rededication of the B. F. Sisk Courthouse in downtown Fresno. Other speakers will include Presiding Judge M. Bruce Smith of the Superior Court of Fresno County; Justice Brad R. Hill of the California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District; and Ronald G. Overholt, Chief Deputy Director, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

**When:** October 4, 2010, 3–4 p.m.

**What:** The dedication program will include remarks and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. A tour of the new courthouse will follow.

**Where:** 1130 O Street, Fresno

**Why:** The B. F. Sisk Courthouse is almost ready for its new occupant, the Superior Court of Fresno County. Originally constructed in 1967 as a federal courthouse, it was vacated in 2006 when the Robert E. Coyle United States Courthouse was dedicated. The federal government then agreed to convey the title for \$1 for use by the superior court with the stipulation that the building be used for the administration of justice. The five-story building formerly housed 8 federal courtrooms, chambers, and federal justice agencies. During the renovation, 3 large courtrooms were refurbished for complex civil matters, and the remaining space was renovated to create 12 additional courtrooms and related support spaces for the public and staff. The renovation also included new or major improvements to seismic, life safety, mechanical, electrical, voice-data, and security systems. The superior court's civil and family law divisions, with 15 judicial officers and 178 staff, will move into the B. F. Sisk Courthouse when the court takes occupancy in November. The courthouse was renovated under the direction of the AOC. Construction began in July 2008 and was completed on schedule and within the \$70.9 million project budget.

More information about the project:

[www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects\\_fresno\\_sisk.htm](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_fresno_sisk.htm)

Members of the media wishing to attend the dedication or arrange for a tour may contact Superior Court of Fresno County Media Coordinator Sherry Spears at 559-457-1605 or [sspears@fresno.courts.ca.gov](mailto:sspears@fresno.courts.ca.gov).

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