



*SUPERIOR COURT OF  
CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SOLANO*

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## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Date: September 8, 2014  
Fairfield, California

### **OLD SOLANO COURTHOUSE RENOVATION DEDICATION SEPTEMBER 18, 2014**

**What:** The dedication ceremony, open to the public, will celebrate the grand opening of the newly renovated Old Solano Courthouse for the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, in Fairfield.

**Who:** The ceremony will include remarks by Presiding Judge E. Bradley Nelson, California State Senators Lois Wolk and Noreen Evans, who is also a member of the California Judicial Council, California State Assemblyman Jim Frazier, and Solano County Board of Supervisor's Chair Linda Seifert.

**When:** Thursday, September 18, 2014, 12 p.m.

**Where:** Old Solano Courthouse stairs, 580 West Texas Street, Fairfield, CA

**Why:** The event celebrates the culmination of more than 14 years of planning for and renovations to the Old Solano County Courthouse. Designed by architect E.C. Hemmings, the historic courthouse is considered an outstanding example of Beaux Arts architecture, with its flat roof and expansive exterior colonnades. The 1911 building served as a functioning courthouse until the 1970s, but has been vacant since 2005.

The renovation includes three civil courtrooms, a civil clerk's office, jury assembly room, an alternative dispute resolution/mediation center, and staff office space. It restores the historic building with complete mechanical, electrical, life safety, plumbing, telecommunications, and accessibility upgrades. Particular attention was paid to seismic safety: the building's unreinforced masonry was retrofitted with reinforced concrete walls. The newly renovated courthouse is designed to be energy-efficient and is expected to achieve LEED Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. Throughout the process, great care was taken to restore the court's historic elements, such as the marble flooring and staircase, original light fixtures, and decorative elements, including the original clock in the main entry. The San Francisco-based architectural firm of Hornberger + Worstell, recognized for its achievements in restoration and modernization

of historic buildings, designed the project. Plant Construction Company managed the project through construction. The court will open for business on September 22, 2014.

As stated by Presiding Judge E. Bradley Nelson, “because of the perseverance and effort of many, this project was able to stay the course through good and bad economic times. The citizens of Solano County should be proud that this important piece of their history is now restored and able to serve justice once again.”

The Old Solano Courthouse renovation was the first project funded by [SB1407](#) to go into construction. For more information about the project, visit the California court’s website at [www.courts.ca.gov/facilities-solano.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/facilities-solano.htm).

This event is open to the public. Those needing accommodation due to a disability are requested to contact the ADA Coordinator at 707-207-7473 at least 48 hours in advance of the event.

Members of the media wishing to attend the ceremony should send inquiries to Brian Taylor, Court Executive Officer, or call 707-207-7475.

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