



Judicial Council of California Administrative Office of the Courts

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688

www.courtinfo.ca.gov

REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on June 22, 2012

| | |
|--|--|
| Title | Agenda Item Type |
| Government Code Section 68106: Implementation and Notice by Trial Courts of Closing Courtrooms or Clerks' Offices or Reducing Clerks' Office Hours (Report #12) | Information Only |
| | Date of Report |
| | June 8, 2012 |
| Submitted by | Contact |
| Mary M. Roberts, General Counsel Nancy E. Spero, Senior Attorney Office of the General Counsel | Nancy E. Spero, 415-865-7915 nancy.spero@jud.ca.gov |

Executive Summary

In 2010, the Legislature enacted fee increases and fund transfers for the courts and also added section 68106 to the Government Code. In 2011, the Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 973, which amended section 68106 effective January 1, 2012. As amended, section 68106 directs (1) trial courts to notify the public and the Judicial Council before closing courtrooms or clerks' offices or reducing clerks' office hours on days that are not judicial holidays, and (2) the council to post on its website and relay to the Legislature all such court notices. This is the twelfth report providing information about the implementation of these notice requirements. Since the eleventh report, six courts—Ventura, Los Angeles, Tuolumne, Fresno, Monterey, and Orange—have given such notices. Since section 68106 originally was added, on October 19, 2010, a total of 31 courts have given notice.¹

Six Courts' Notices Since the Last Report

- Effective June 25, 2012, the Superior Court of Ventura County will be suspending all court operations, except for traffic and collections payments at the East County Courthouse branch located at 3855-F Alamo Street, Simi Valley. All operations related

¹ All courts' notices are listed and posted at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/12973.htm>. A few courts have given more than one notice.

to family law, unlawful detainer, small claims and criminal/traffic court will be relocated at the Hall of Justice, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

- Effective June 30, 2012, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County is closing all departments of the Informal Juvenile Traffic Court (in the Compton, Long Beach, McCourtney, Metropolitan, Norwalk, Pasadena, Pomona, Santa Monica, Sylmar, Torrance, and Van Nuys courthouses). In addition, the courtroom staff is being removed, effective June 30, 2012, from 24 civil courtrooms, 24 criminal courtrooms, 3 family law courtrooms, 1 probate courtroom, and 4 juvenile dependency courtrooms.
- Effective July 30, 2012, the Superior Court of Tuolumne County will reduce the hours of the clerk's office filing windows and telephones, Monday-Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A drop box will be available inside both court locations to permit same-day filing documents deposited before 5:00 p.m.
- Effective July 30, 2012, the Superior Court of Fresno County will close the branch courts in Coalinga, Firebaugh, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma. Effective August 6, 2012, it will close the branch courts in Clovis and Kingsburg.
- Effective July 30, 2012, the Superior Court of Orange County will reduce clerk's office hours for each of the branches of the court, Monday-Friday, to 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding judicial holidays. Exceptions are the court sessions for CJ1 will remain 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and night sessions for small claims and traffic court from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., First Tuesday of the Month (Harbor Justice Center-Newport Beach, North Justice Center-Fullerton, West Justice Center-Westminster) and Third Tuesday of the Month (Harbor Justice Center-Laguna Hills, Central Justice Center-Santa Ana).
- Effective July 30, 2012, the Superior Court of Monterey County will reduce the clerk's office hours for the public filing windows, Self-Help Center services and telephones. The public service hours for Salinas, Marina and Monterey Divisions will be Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For the King City Division, the public service hours will be closed on Mondays, and open Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Same-day filing of documents or payments deposited before 4:00 p.m. will be available in drop boxes at each clerk's office.

Mandate in Government Code Section 68106 (Budget Act of 2010)

In providing fee increases and fund transfers for the courts, the Legislature in its Budget Act of 2010 expressly declared its intention that trial courts remain open to the public on days that are not judicial holidays and that access to court services for civil litigants be preserved to the extent practicable. Statements confirming this intent remain in Government Code section 68106, following its recent amendment.² As amended, the section imposes the following notice requirements on trial courts and the Judicial Council:

- Trial courts must provide written notice to the public at least 60 days before closing any courtroom or closing or reducing the hours of clerks' offices, although "[n]othing in this

² The full text of Government Code section 68106, as amended, is set forth in Attachment A.

section is intended to affect, limit, or otherwise interfere with regular court management decisionmaking, including calendar management and scheduling decisions.”³ The trial court is to provide this notice “by conspicuous posting within or about its facilities, on its public Internet Web site, by electronic distribution to individuals who have subscribed to the court’s electronic distribution service, and to the Judicial Council”⁴ The notice must describe the scope of the closure or reduction in hours, state the financial constraints or other reasons that make the closure or reduction necessary, and invite public comment.⁵ Courts expressly are *not* obligated to respond to comments received.⁶ If a court changes its plan “as a result of the comments received or for any other reason” during the 60-day notice period, however, it must “immediately provide notice to the public” by posting and distributing “a revised notice” using the procedure previously described, including distribution to the Judicial Council.⁷

- The Judicial Council must, within 15 days of receiving a notice from a trial court, “conspicuously” post the notice “on its Internet Web site” and forward a copy to the chairs and vice-chairs of the legislative Committees on the Judiciary, the chair of the Assembly Committee on Budget, and the chair of the Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review.⁸

Implementation Efforts

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), which carries out the directives of the Judicial Council, notified all trial court presiding judges and court executive officers of the enactment of this statutory mandate, and the AOC’s Office of the General Counsel (OGC) provided legal guidance regarding compliance. Trial courts have been requested to e-mail any such notices to the AOC. At the start of this fiscal year and also before the December 2011 holidays, the AOC sent reminders concerning the statutory requirements to all presiding judges and court executives. On January 11, 2012, the AOC’s OGC also issued a statewide memorandum to all presiding judges and court executives describing the recent amendments to Government Code section 68106 and explaining the impact of those changes.

The AOC has placed on the home page of the California Courts website a “Quick Link” to a “Limited Court Service Days” page, which contains information about Government Code section 68106,⁹ and all notices received from trial courts about courtroom or clerks’ office closures or reductions in clerks’ office hours that remain in effect. Since the last report to the council, the notices from the Ventura, Los Angeles, Fresno, Monterey, Orange, and Tuolumne courts have been added.

The AOC has forwarded these notices from these courts to the designated legislative leaders.

³ Gov. Code, § 68106(c).

⁴ *Id.*, § 68106(b)(1).

⁵ *Id.*, § 68106(b)(1)–(b)(2)(A).

⁶ *Id.*, § 68106(b)(2)(B).

⁷ *Id.*, § 68106(b)(3).

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ This page is available at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/12973.htm>

Attachments

1. Attachment A: Government Code section 68106
2. Attachment B: April 19, 2012, notice from Ventura
3. Attachment C: April 19, 2012, notice from Los Angeles
4. Attachment D: May 24, 2012, notice from Tuolumne
5. Attachment E: May 25, 2012, notice from Fresno
6. Attachment F: May 29, 2012, notice from Orange
7. Attachment G: May 30, 2012, notice from Monterey

Government Code section 68106, as amended effective January 1, 2012.

(a) (1) In making appropriations for the support of the trial courts, the Legislature recognizes the importance of increased revenues from litigants and lawyers, including increased revenues from civil filing fees. It is therefore the intent of the Legislature that, to the extent practicable, access to court services for civil litigants be preserved in the allocation of resources by and for trial courts.

(2) Furthermore, it is the intent of the Legislature in enacting the Budget Act of 2010, which includes increases in civil and criminal court fees and penalties, that trial courts remain open to the public on all days except judicial holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays, and except as authorized pursuant to Section 68115.

(b)(1) A trial court shall provide written notification to the public by conspicuous posting within or about its facilities, on its public Internet Web site, and by electronic distribution to individuals who have subscribed to the court's electronic distribution service, and to the Judicial Council, not less than 60 days prior to closing any courtroom, or closing or reducing the hours of clerks' offices during regular business hours on any day except judicial holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays, and except as authorized pursuant to Section 68115. The notification shall include the scope of the closure or reduction in hours, and the financial constraints or other reasons that make the closure or reduction necessary.

(2)(A) The notification required pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include information on how the public may provide written comments during the 60-day period on the court's plan for closing a courtroom, or closing or reducing the hours of clerks' offices. The court shall review and consider all public comments received. If the court plan for closing a courtroom, or closing or reducing the hours of clerks' offices, changes as a result of the comments received or for any other reason, the court shall immediately provide notice to the public by posting a revised notice within or about its facilities, on its public Internet Web site, and by electronic distribution to individuals who have subscribed to the court's electronic distribution service, and to the Judicial Council. Any change in the court's plan pursuant to this paragraph shall not require notification beyond the initial 60-day period.

(B) This paragraph shall not be construed to obligate courts to provide responses to the comments received.

(3) Within 15 days of receipt of a notice from a trial court, the Judicial Council shall conspicuously post on its Internet Web site and provide the chairs and vice chairs of the Committees on Judiciary, the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Budget, and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review a copy of any notice received pursuant to this subdivision. The Legislature intends to review the information obtained pursuant to this section to ensure that California trial courts remain open and accessible to the public.

(c) Nothing in this section is intended to affect, limit, or otherwise interfere with regular court management decisionmaking, including calendar management and scheduling decisions.



*Superior Court of
California*

COUNTY OF VENTURA
Hall of Justice
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

*Michael D. Planet
Executive Officer/Clerk
and Jury Commissioner*

April 19, 2012

Jody Patel
Interim Administrative Director
Judicial Council of California - Administrative Office of the Courts
2860 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 400
Sacramento, Ca 95833

**Re: Notification of SUSPENSION OF SERVICES AT THE EAST COUNTY
COURTHOUSE EFFECTIVE June 25, 2012 (Government Code §68106)**

Dear Ms. Patel:

Pursuant to the above code section, the Superior Court of California, County of Ventura, is providing 60 days notice of its plan to suspend all court operations, except for Traffic payments and Collection payments at the East County Courthouse branch located at 3855-F Alamo Street, Simi Valley, California on June 25, 2012. All operations related to Family Law, Unlawful Detainer, Small Claims and Criminal/Traffic Court (except for making criminal/traffic payments) will be relocated to the main courthouse located at the Hall of Justice, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

The proposed changes are due to the continued significant reduction in funding for the California court system. The Ventura Superior Court is facing a \$10.5 million dollar deficit for the fiscal year beginning July 2012, which is projected to increase to \$12.7 million if the Governor's proposed tax initiatives are not passed by the voters in the November general election. (See the attached Public Notice for more information regarding the impact of reductions to the court's funding.)

Jody Patel
Director, Southern Regional Office
April 19, 2012
Page Two

The Court recognizes and regrets that this decision will greatly inconvenience Ventura County residents. However, due to inadequate funding, the Court cannot maintain the current level of services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Planet". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Michael D. Planet
Executive Officer

cc: Christine Patton, Regional Administrative Director

MDP/vjb
Encls.



PUBLIC NOTICE
(Government Code §68106)

Superior Court of California, County of Ventura

**RESPONDING TO THE FISCAL CRISIS THE VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT IS
PLANNING TO SUSPEND SERVICES AT THE EAST COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND
RELOCATE SERVICES TO THE HALL OF JUSTICE IN VENTURA**

The Ventura Superior Court is planning on suspending all court operations, except for Traffic payments and Collection payments at the East County Courthouse branch located at 3855-F Alamo Street, Simi Valley, California on June 25, 2012. All operations related to Family Law, Unlawful Detainer, Small Claims and Criminal/Traffic Court (except for making criminal/traffic payments) will be relocated to the main courthouse located at the Hall of Justice, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

The Ventura Superior Court is facing a \$10.5 million dollar deficit for the fiscal year beginning July 2012, which is projected to increase to \$12.7 million if the Governor's proposed tax initiatives are not passed by the voters in the November general election. In addressing the continuing growing deficit the court must implement additional cost reduction measures including additional layoffs. Family Law, Unlawful Detainer, Small Claims and Criminal/Traffic are case types that are currently also filed and heard at the main courthouse located at the Hall of Justice, 800 South Victoria Avenue. Relocating these cases to the main courthouse will allow for greater efficiencies by processing all the above listed case types in one court location with further reduced staff. While the court regrets that inadequate funding is reducing access to the courts for the citizens of this county, it cannot maintain the current level of services.

Anyone wishing to comment on this plan may do so, either by regular mail or e-mail, by June 22, 2012. Please direct your response to:

Michael D. Planet, Court Executive Officer
P.O. Box 6489
Ventura, CA 93006-6489
simiresponse@ventura.courts.ca.gov

Notice of Courtroom Closures Pursuant to Government Code 68106

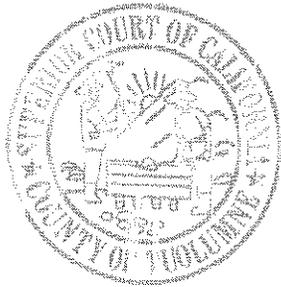
To address significant reductions in funding, the Los Angeles Superior Court is implementing \$30 million in staff reductions by June 30, 2012. The plan includes \$6.8 million in savings from removing courtroom staff from certain courtrooms:

- Central Civil: Departments 1A, 12, 19, 39, 44 and 97; three other courtrooms (Departments 3, 89 and 96) will share two courtroom staffs (Mosk);
- Central Family: Departments 8 and 82 (Mosk);
- Central Probate: Department 99 (Mosk);
- Central Criminal: Departments 43, 44, 48, 55 and 110 (Foltz), 7 (East LA), 70 (Metropolitan), 77 (Hollywood), and 83 (Central Arraignment);
- Juvenile Delinquency Departments 204 (Eastlake), 241 (Inglewood), 278 (Sylmar) and 282 (Pomona);
- East District: Departments 5, J, M and O (Pomona);
- North District: Department A22 (Antelope Valley);
- Northeast District: Departments S (Pasadena) and V (Alhambra);
- North Central District: Departments 3 (Glendale) and C (Burbank);
- North Valley District: Departments F44 (Chatsworth), 4 (Santa Clarita) and F (San Fernando);
- Northwest District: Departments 107, 109, M and Y (Van Nuys);
- South District: Departments 4, 10 and L (Long Beach);
- South Central District: one presently unassigned courtroom, Departments I and O (Compton);
- Southeast District: Departments 2 (Downey), 6 (Whittier), 6 (Bellflower) and Z (Norwalk);
- Southwest District: Departments 6 and 11 (Torrance) and Department N (Inglewood);
- West District: Departments 1 (Santa Monica), 3 (Malibu), 6 (Beverly Hills) and C (Airport).

The above list includes 24 civil courtrooms, 24 criminal courtrooms, three family law courtrooms, one probate courtroom and four juvenile delinquency courtrooms.

In addition, the Court is closing all departments of the Informal Juvenile Traffic Court (in the Compton, Long Beach, McCourtney, Metropolitan, Norwalk, Pasadena, Pomona, Santa Monica, Sylmar, Torrance and Van Nuys courthouses).

More information is available through the Court's Notices to Attorneys, which can be found on the Court's website at www.lasuperiorcourt.org: click on "News and Media", then click on "Notices to Attorneys". Judicial orders implementing these changes can be found on the Court's website at www.lasuperiorcourt.org: click on "Court Rules" and look under the "Special Notices" tab. Comments on this plan can be made through the Court's website: click on "Public Notice and Inquiry".



Superior Court of California County of Tuolumne

Eric L. Du Temple, Presiding Judge
(209) 533-5650 FAX (209) 533-5618

Jeanne Caughell
Court Executive Officer - Jury Commissioner
(209) 533-6984 FAX (209) 533-5618

Dept. 1, 2 & 5

41 W. Yaney Ave.
Sonora, CA 95370

Administrative Services
(209) 533-6984
FAX (209) 533-5618

Arbitration Services
(209) 533-6936
FAX (209) 533-6616

Civil/Probate
(209) 533-5555
FAX (209) 533-6616

Civil Calendar
(209) 533-5555
FAX (209) 533-6616

Family Law
(209) 533-6936
FAX (209) 533-6616

Financial Services
(209) 533-6928
FAX (209) 533-5618

Human Resources
(209) 533-6914
FAX (209) 533-6607

Jury Services
(209) 533-5679
FAX (209) 533-6941

Juvenile
(209) 533-6975
FAX (209) 533-6573

Mediation
(209) 533-6565
FAX (209) 533-6623

Self-Help Center,
Law Library &
ADA Services
(209) 533-6565
FAX (209) 533-6623

Small Claims
(209) 533-6509
FAX (209) 533-6616

Dept. 3 & 4
60 N. Washington St.
Sonora, CA 95370

Criminal
(209) 533-5563
FAX (209) 533-5581

Criminal Calendar
(209) 533-5563
FAX (209) 533-5581

Traffic
(209) 533-5671
FAX (209) 533-5581

May 24, 2012

(Via E-Mail and U.S. Mail)

Judicial Council of California
Administrative Office of the Courts
Attention: Christine Patton
Regional Administrative Director
Bay Area/Northern Coastal Regional Office
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

**RE: Superior Court of California, County of Tuolumne
Notice of Reduction in Operating Hours - All Clerk's
Offices Will Close at 3:00 p.m., Effective July 30, 2012**

Dear Ms. Patton:

Please see the enclosed Public Notice entitled, "Notice of Reduction in Operating Hours - All Clerk's Offices Will Close at 3:00 p.m. - Effective July 30, 2012".

As required by Government Code Section 68106(b), please accept this notice to the Judicial Council that the Superior Court of California, County of Tuolumne, intends to reduce the hours the clerk's offices are open in both of our courthouse facilities. As noted above, the change is effective as of July 30, 2012.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE**

JEANNE CAUGHELL
Court Executive Officer and
Jury Commissioner
jeanne@tuolumne.courts.ca.gov

JC/jb
Enc.

Superior Court of California, County of Tuolumne

PUBLIC NOTICE

May 23, 2012

Notice of Reduction in Operating Hours – All Clerk's Offices will Close at 3:00 p.m.

Effective July 30, 2012

Pursuant to Government Code Section 68106, and rule 10.620(f)(6) of the California Rules of Court, the Superior Court of California, County of Tuolumne is providing 60 days notice of the court's decision to reduce the hours for the public filing windows and telephones in the clerk's offices.

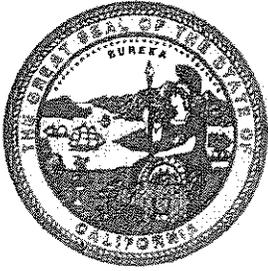
Effective **Monday, July 30, 2012**, the hours of the clerk's office filing windows and telephones will be Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This change reduces the number of hours the clerk's office filing windows and telephones are currently open to the public (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). A document drop box will be available inside both court locations to permit the same-day filing of documents deposited before 5:00 p.m.

The Tuolumne Superior Court determined a reduction in hours was necessary due to ongoing and anticipated reductions to the court's budget. As a part of the Judicial Branch of government, the Superior Court receives its annual budget allocation through the Judicial Council of California, which is an entity funded by the state. Due to the state's budget crisis, the amount of funding the trial courts receive from the Judicial Council has significantly decreased in recent years. As of fiscal year 2011-12, \$623,744 has been cut from the budget of the Tuolumne Superior Court. The court expects these reductions to be ongoing, and anticipates even deeper cuts in 2012/2013.

In the current fiscal year (2011-12), court funding was reduced by 6.8%. The court anticipates a budget reduction in excess of 15% in fiscal year 2012-13. As a result of these ongoing funding reductions, the court has instituted various cost saving measures, including freezing vacancies, implementing mandatory unpaid furloughs, reengineering court processes for efficiencies, and reducing expenditures for services and supplies.

Staffing in the clerk's offices has been significantly impacted by unfilled vacancies and furloughs. A reduction in the hours the clerk's offices will be open to the public will help court staff to timely process cases and prepare court calendars.

The public may provide written comments no later than July 23, 2012, on the court's plan for reducing the hours of the clerk's office filing windows and telephones. Written comments may be directed to the Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of California, County of Tuolumne, 41 W. Yaney, Sonora, CA 95370, or by email to joyce@tuolumne.courts.ca.gov.



Superior Court of California
County of Fresno

Tamara Beard
Executive Officer / Clerk / Jury Commissioner
Sheran Morton – Patricia Wallace-Rixman
Assistant Executive Officers

May 25, 2012

Ms. Jody Patel, Regional Administrative Director
Administrative Office of the Courts – Judicial Council of California
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California, 94102

Re: NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE §68106

In accordance with Government Code §68106, the Superior Court of California, County of Fresno hereby provides notice of the permanent closure of the Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Kingsburg, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma branch courts.

As you know, on May 14th of this year, Governor Jerry Brown announced unprecedented and severe funding cuts to the State's judicial branch. Despite the Fresno Superior Court's history of prudent fiscal planning, effective cost-cutting measures, and revenue generating strategies, the Court now faces an immediate deficit of \$5.4 million in the 2012-13 fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2012. Simply stated, this is the most severe fiscal crisis that the Court has ever faced and well beyond anything that could have been anticipated. In light of such a drastic situation and with less than 45 days until the start of the fiscal year, the Court has had to quickly explore options for reducing costs and increase efficiency. Due to the urgency of the situation, it was necessary to make difficult decisions quickly. The Court concluded that closing the branch courts would realize a significant and immediate cost savings and that consolidating these operations into the courts in downtown Fresno area would improve efficiency. Therefore, pursuant to California Government Code §68106, the Superior Court of Fresno County is hereby giving urgent notice that the courts in Coalinga, Firebaugh, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma will close effective July 30, 2012. Clovis and Kingsburg will close effective August 6, 2012. The Court has made the necessary finding of good cause and required urgency to proceed with the closures as provided for in California Rules of Court, Rule 10.620(e). The Court is abiding by all of the procedural requirements set out in rule 10.620 applicable to immediate action.

Please understand that this decision was not made without significant analyses, contemplation, and debate. Everyone at the Fresno Superior Court understands and regrets that closing the branch courts will be inconvenient for residents who live outside the Fresno metropolitan area. The centralization of Court services in the City of Fresno, however, will provide the opportunity to improve operational efficiency for core court services. The Court will do its best to minimize the overall impact and make the transition as easy as possible. A copy of each public notice is attached.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Beard", written over a horizontal line.

Tamara L. Beard
Court Executive Officer

cc: Hon. Gary D. Hoff, Presiding Judge
Hon. Gary Orozco, Assistant Presiding Judge



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF FRESNO



NOTICE OF COURT CLOSURES

ON THE IMMINENT CLOSURE OF THE CLOVIS, COALINGA, FIREBAUGH, KINGSBURG, REEDLEY, SANGER, AND SELMA BRANCH COURTS

The State of California's fiscal crisis has caused all government agencies to closely examine all operations and expenditures, and to evaluate cost efficiencies and effectiveness, wherever necessary. Despite the Fresno Superior Court's history of prudent fiscal planning, effective cost-cutting measures, and revenue generating strategies, the Court now faces an immediate deficit of \$5.4 million in the 2012-13 fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2012. Simply stated, this is the most severe fiscal crisis that the Court has ever faced and well beyond anything that could have been anticipated. In light of such a drastic situation and with less than 45 days until the start of the fiscal year, the Court has had to quickly explore options for reducing costs and increase efficiency. Due to the urgency of the situation, it was necessary to make difficult decisions quickly. The Court concluded that closing the branch courts would realize a significant and immediate cost savings and that consolidating these operations into the courts in downtown Fresno area would improve efficiency. Therefore, pursuant to California Rule of Court, Rule 10.620(e) & (f), the Superior Court of Fresno County is hereby giving urgent notice that the courts in Coalinga, Firebaugh, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma will close on July 30, 2012. Clovis and Kingsburg will close effective August 6, 2012.

The centralization of Court services in the City of Fresno, however, will provide the opportunity to improve operational efficiency for core court services. The Court will do its best to minimize the overall impact and make the transition as easy as possible. Any interested person or entity who wishes to comment in writing may do so by any of the following methods:

E-mail: Infodesk@fresno.courts.ca.gov

-OR-

Correspondence: ATTN: Administration
1100 Van Ness Avenue
Fresno, CA, 93724

As required by California Rule of Court, Rule 10.620 all public input received shall be provided to the person or persons making these difficult decisions.



Superior Court of California County of Orange

PUBLIC NOTICE OF REDUCED COURT HOURS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 68106 AND CALIFORNIA RULE OF COURT, RULE 10.620

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: MAY 29, 2012

Pursuant to Government Code section 68106, the Superior Court of California, County of Orange is providing 60 days' notice of the reduction of hours of operation for each of the branches of the court.

Effective Monday, July 30, 2012 and except as provided below, the regular hours of operation for the Clerk's offices will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding judicial holidays. Clerk's offices shall be closed for the transaction of business after 4:00 p.m.

The financial constraints imposed by the California state fiscal crisis, as well as the repeated decreases in state court funding, compel this reduction in court hours.

Exceptions:

- The court sessions for CJ1 will remain 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Night sessions for small claims and traffic court will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as follows:

First Tuesday of the Month

Harbor Justice Center – Newport Beach
North Justice Center – Fullerton
West Justice Center – Westminster

Third Tuesday of the Month

Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills
Central Justice Center – Santa Ana

Invitation to Comment. All public comments regarding this reduction in hours can be directed to: ctfeedback@occourts.org.



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

240 Church Street • Salinas, California 93901 • (831) 775-5400

May 30, 2012

Ms. Jody Patel
Interim Administrative Director of the Courts
Judicial Council of California - Administrative Office of the Courts
455 Golden Gate Avenue, 5th Floor
San Francisco, California 94102-3688

Dear Ms. Patel:

Pursuant to the requirements of Government Code section 68106, Monterey County Superior Court (the Court) is providing sixty day notice of the Court's Executive Committee decision to reduce the Clerk's Office hours for the public filing windows, Self-Help Center services and telephones. The changes in the Clerk's Office hours will not affect the courtroom calendars or schedules.

Effective July 30, 2012, the Court's public service hours will be as follows:

| | |
|---|--|
| *Salinas, Marina and Monterey Divisions | Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. |
| *King City Division | Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Closed Mondays |

**except on all state recognized holidays*

The Court has implemented numerous reduction measures over the past four years in an effort to absorb continuing state funding reductions while making efforts to minimize negative impact to access to court services. Unfortunately, the Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013 state budget presents additional funding reductions to trial courts. The Court has worked diligently to streamline and automate processes, reduce operational expenses by renegotiating contracts, implementing additional procurement restrictions, restructuring and consolidating divisions and has also offered a Voluntary Separation Incentive Program resulting in an additional 10% decrease of the workforce. Unfortunately, the Monterey County Superior Court cannot continue to operate with full daily public access and also maintain appropriate paperwork processing times for orders, judgments and other documentation filed with the Court.

A copy of the Court's notice to the public is attached to this letter and will be posted on the Court's public website at: www.monterey.courts.ca.gov. Pursuant to California Rules of Court 10.620(f)(6), the Court has also released the public notice to the local media, bar association, district attorney, public defender, county counsel, and law enforcement agencies.

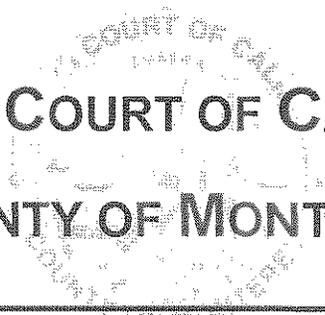
Sincerely,



Hon. Timothy P. Roberts
Presiding Judge



Connie Mazzei
Court Executive Officer



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF MONTEREY**

PUBLIC NOTICE*

REDUCED CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS

EFFECTIVE MONDAY, JULY 30, 2012

Effective Monday, July 30, 2012, all Monterey County Superior Court branches will reduce service hours for the public filing windows, Self-Help Center services and telephones as noted below. The changes in public service hours will not affect the courtroom calendars or schedules.

**Salinas, Marina and Monterey
Branches**

Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm**

King City Branch

Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
Closed Mondays**

Due to the catastrophic reductions in funding, Monterey County Superior Court has implemented numerous reduction measures, including downsizing the Court's workforce in order to operationalize four years of continuing and deepening state funding cuts resulting in a cumulative 24% reduction to trial court funding to-date. Trial courts will receive additional funding reductions in Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

Document drop boxes are located outside each Clerk's Office for filing papers or submitting payments. Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 2.210(b) any document deposited in a court's drop box up to and including 4:00 pm on a court day is deemed to have been deposited for filing on that day.

Comments may be submitted to mediainfo@monterey.courts.ca.gov

*Government Code section 68106 requires trial courts to provide notice to the public at least 60 days before closing any courtroom or closing or reducing the hours of clerks' offices by conspicuous posting within its facilities and on its public website.

**Except on all state recognized holidays. A complete list of holidays may be found on the Court's public website at: www.monterey.courts.ca.gov

