

#### 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 28, 2013

#### Title

Government Code Section 68106: Public Notice by Courts of Closures or Reduced Clerks' Office Hours (Gov. Code, § 68106— Report No. 19)

#### Submitted by

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Date of Report June 11, 2013

#### Contact

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#### **Executive Summary**

Government Code section 68106 directs (1) trial courts to notify the public and the Judicial Council before closing courtrooms or clerks' offices or reducing clerks' regular office hours, and (2) the council to post all such notices on its website and also relay them to the Legislature. This is the 19th report to date listing the latest court notices received by the council under this statutory requirement; since the previous report, four superior courts—those of Orange, Fresno, San Mateo, and Riverside Counties—have issued new notices.

#### **Previous Council Action**

In 2010, the Legislature enacted a Judiciary Budget Trailer Bill with fee increases and fund transfers for the courts that also added section 68106 to the Government Code. Section 68106 requires trial courts to notify the public and the Judicial Council in advance of any closures or reductions in service, and the council in turn to post all such notices on its website and report them to the Legislature. Since the enactment of section 68106, a total of 43 courts have issued

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sen. Bill 857; Stats. 2010, ch. 720, § 13. Attachment A contains the full text of Government Code section 68106, as amended effective January 1, 2011, and June 27, 2012.

notice under its requirements.<sup>2</sup> The Judicial Council has received 18 prior informational reports listing such notices as they have been received.

#### **Notices Received From Four Courts Since Last Report**

This is the 19th report provided to date on trial court notices submitted under Government Code section 68106. Since the previous report, the Judicial Council has received new notices of closures or reduced hours from four trial courts:

Effective July 1, 2013, the Superior Court of Orange County will close the Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills Facility located at 23141 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Hills. All Limited Civil cases pending at the Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills will be transferred to and heard at the Central Justice Center located at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana. All new Limited Civil cases will be heard at the Central Justice Center. All Small Claims, Unlawful Detainer (i.e., landlord-tenant) matters, and Civil Harassment cases pending at the Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills facility will be transferred to and heard at Harbor Justice Center – Newport Beach located at 4601 Jamboree Road, Newport Beach. All new Small Claims, Unlawful Detainer, and Civil Harassment cases will be heard at the Harbor Justice Center – Newport Beach.

Effective July 1, 2013, all Probate and Mental Health cases will no longer be heard at the Lamoreaux Justice Center — all Probate and Mental Health cases will be transferred to and heard at the Central Justice Center located at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana. The Probate and Mental Health Clerk's office located on the first floor of the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana will process all Probate and Mental Health filings.

Effective July 1, 2013, Family Law court operations at the Central Justice Center will be relocated and consolidated with Family Law court operations at the Lamoreaux Justice Center located at 341 The City Drive South, Orange. Family Law cases currently pending at the Central Justice Center will be transferred to and heard at the Lamoreaux Justice Center as of July 1, 2013. The Family Law filing window at the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana will be closed effective 4:00 p.m. on June 28, 2013. The Family Law Clerk's office located at the Lamoreaux Justice Center in Orange will process all Family Law filings.

Effective Monday, July 1, 2013, all Limited Civil cases excluding unlawful detainer (i.e., landlord-tenant) matters pending at the North Justice Center will be transferred to and heard at the Central Justice Center located at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana. All new Limited Civil cases will be heard at the Central Justice Center. North Justice Center will continue to hear small claims, unlawful detainer, and civil harassment proceedings. (Attachment B)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All courts' notices are listed and posted at <u>www.courts.ca.gov/12973.htm</u>. Some courts have given more than one notice.

- 2. The Superior Court of **Fresno** County intends to reduce service hours to the public in all clerks' offices located in the B.F. Sisk Courthouse (Civil, Family Court Services, Family Law, Family Support, Probate and Small Claims) effective July 8, 2013. Filing window and telephone hours shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday. This is a reduction from the current service hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. For convenience, a document drop box, with a time stamp, is located on the 1st floor of the B.F. Sisk Courthouse. (*Attachment C*)
- 3. Effective July 15, 2013, the Superior Court of **San Mateo** County will suspend all calendars and operations at the Central Branch at 800 N. Humboldt Street, with that location only being utilized for trials as assigned by the Presiding Judge. All Traffic and Small Claims trials will be heard only in the Southern Branch in Redwood City. This includes the once a month night court session, which will be conducted in Redwood City on the first Wednesday of each month. The Small Claims Advisory Workshops and services will also be relocated to Redwood City.

Effective July 15, 2013, the following changes will be implemented at the Northern Branch located at 1050 Mission Road in South San Francisco:

- Four of the six courtrooms will be closed and only criminal preliminary hearing calendars for northern jurisdiction cases will be held at this location. All other northern criminal calendars will be consolidated and heard at the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- The Northern Criminal Clerk's Office will close and consolidate with the Criminal Clerk's Office on the 4th floor of the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- All requests for domestic violence and civil harassment retraining orders (TRO's) will need to be submitted to the Family Law or Civil Clerk's Office in Room A on the first floor of the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- All Traffic and Small Claims trials will be heard only in the Southern Branch in Redwood City. (Attachment D)
- 4. The Superior Court of **Riverside** County is considering the closure of or reduction of hours at the Blythe courthouse, located at 265 N. Broadway, and the Temecula courthouse, located at 41002 County Center Drive, #100, as of a date to be determined, but no sooner than July 22, 2013. (*Attachment E*)

#### **Mandate in Government Code Section 68106**

In providing fee increases and fund transfers for the courts in the Judiciary Budget Trailer Bill in 2010, the Legislature expressly declared its intention that trial courts remain open to the public on all days that are not judicial holidays and that access to court services for civil litigants be preserved to the extent practicable. Statements in Government Code section 68106 affirmed this intent, and the recent amendment of the statute strengthened it.

Section 68106 imposes the following 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 section is intended to affect, limit, or otherwise interfere with regular court management decisionmaking, including calendar management and scheduling decisions." 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 . . . ." 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. Courts expressly are *not* obligated to respond to comments received. If a court changes its plan "as a result of the comments received or for any other reason" during the 60-day notice period, it must "immediately provide notice to the public" by posting and distributing "a revised notice" using the procedure previously described, including distribution to the council. The change in plan does not require notification, however, beyond the original 60-day period.
- 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 both houses' Committees on the Judiciary, the chair of the Assembly Committee on Budget, and the chair of the Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review.<sup>9</sup>

#### **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 Legal Services Office (LSO) provided legal guidance to help courts comply with the requirements of the statute. Trial courts have been requested to e-mail such notices to Debora Morrison, LSO Senior Attorney, who has provided legal review of the courts' notices since Government Code section 68106 first took effect in 2010.

To fulfill the Judicial Council's obligations under section 68106, the AOC has placed on the home page of the California Courts website a prominent link to the Reduced Court Services page (<a href="https://www.courts.ca.gov/12973.htm">www.courts.ca.gov/12973.htm</a>), which contains a summary of Government Code section 68106 and all notices received from trial courts about closures of courtrooms or clerks' offices or reductions in clerks' office hours. <sup>10</sup> Since the previous report to the council, the notices from the courts detailed above have been added to the web page. The AOC has also forwarded the notices from these courts to the designated legislative leaders.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Gov. Code, § 68106(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id.*, § 68106(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id.*, § 68106(b)(1), (2)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Id.*, § 68106(b)(2)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id.*, § 68106(b)(3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Id.*, § 68106(b)(2)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id.*, § 68106(b)(3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The Reduced Court Services page has been updated recently, so that court notices now are grouped according to whether the 60-day period has expired or not, making it easier to identify new notices at a glance.

#### **Attachments**

Attachment A: Government Code section 68106

Attachment B: Notice from the Superior Court of Orange, April 30, 2013

Attachment C: Notice from the Superior Court of Fresno County, May 3, 2013

Attachment D: Notice from the Superior Court of San Mateo County, May 13, 2013

Attachment E: Notice from the Superior Court of Riverside County, May 23, 2013

#### **Government Code section 68106:**

- (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 courts give the highest priority to keeping courtrooms open for civil and criminal proceedings. It is also the intent of the Legislature that, to the extent practicable, in the allocation of resources by and for trial courts, access to court services for civil litigants be preserved, budget cuts not fall disproportionately on civil cases, and the right to trial by jury be preserved.
- (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 Grange

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF COURT CLOSURE

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 68106 AND CALIFORNIA RULES OF COURT 10.620

## NOTICE OF CLOSURE OF HARBOR JUSTICE CENTER – LAGUNA HILLS AND REASSIGNMENT OF CASES TO OTHER LOCATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pursuant to Government Code section 68106, the Superior Court of California, County of Orange is providing a 60 day notice of the closure of the Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills facility located at 23141 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Hills, California 92653.

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

#### **Limited Civil**

Effective Monday, July 1, 2013, all Limited Civil cases pending at the Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills will be transferred to and heard at the Central Justice Center located at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, California 92701. All new Limited Civil cases will be heard at the Central Justice Center.

Small Claims, Unlawful Detainer, and Civil Harassment

Effective Monday, July 1, 2013, all Small Claims, Unlawful Detainer (i.e., landlord-tenant) matters, and Civil Harassment cases pending at the Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills facility will be transferred to and heard at Harbor Justice Center – Newport Beach located at 4601 Jamboree Road, Newport Beach, California 92660. All new Small Claims, Unlawful Detainer, and Civil Harassment cases will be heard at the Harbor Justice Center – Newport Beach.

Please refer to the updated Court Designation List for information on where matters will be heard/tried (http://www.occourts.org/media/pdf/court-designation-list.pdf).

#### **Invitation to Comment**

Public comments regarding this notice of closure of the Harbor Justice Center – Laguna Hills can be directed to: <a href="mailto:publicnoticecomment@occourts.org">publicnoticecomment@occourts.org</a>



## Superior Court of California County of Grange

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN COURT LOCATION

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 68106 AND CALIFORNIA RULES OF COURT 10.620

# ALL PROBATE AND MENTAL HEALTH CASES WILL BE HEARD AT THE CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER AND WILL NO LONGER BE HEARD AT THE LAMOREAUX JUSTICE CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pursuant to Government Code section 68106, the Superior Court of California, County of Orange is providing a 60 day notice of the change in court location for Probate and Mental Health matters heard and documents filed at the Lamoreaux Justice Center, located at 341 The City Drive South, Orange, California 92868.

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

Effective Monday, July 1, 2013, all Probate and Mental Health cases will be transferred to and heard at the Central Justice Center located at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, California 92701. The Probate and Mental Health Clerk's office located on the first floor of the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana will process all Probate and Mental Health filings.

Additionally, the Name Change calendar currently heard in Department L73 of the Lamoreaux Justice Center will be transferred to Department C19 of the Central Justice Center effective July 1, 2013.

The Adoption calendar currently heard in Department L53 of the Lamoreaux Justice Center will be transferred to Department L73 effective July 1, 2013.

Please refer to the updated Court Designation List for information on where matters will be heard/tried (<a href="http://www.occourts.org/media/pdf/court-designation-list.pdf">http://www.occourts.org/media/pdf/court-designation-list.pdf</a>).

#### **Invitation to Comment**

Public comments regarding this change in location for Probate and Mental Health matters can be directed to: <a href="mailto:publicnoticecomment@occourts.org">publicnoticecomment@occourts.org</a>



## Superior Court of California County of Grange

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN COURT LOCATION

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 68106 AND CALIFORNIA RULES OF COURT 10.620

# ALL FAMILY LAW CASES WILL BE HEARD AT THE LAMOREAUX JUSTICE CENTER AND WILL NO LONGER BE HEARD AT THE CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pursuant to Government Code section 68106, the Superior Court of California, County of Orange is providing a 60 day notice of the change in court location for Family Law matters heard at the Central Justice Center, located at 700 Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, California 92701.

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

Effective Monday, July 1, 2013, Family Law court operations at the Central Justice Center will be relocated and consolidated with Family Law court operations at the Lamoreaux Justice Center located at 341 The City Drive South, Orange, California 92868.

Family Law cases currently pending at the Central Justice Center will be transferred to and heard at the Lamoreaux Justice Center as of July 1, 2013.

The Family Law filing window at the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana will be closed effective 4:00 p.m. on June 28, 2013. The Family Law Clerk's office located at the Lamoreaux Justice Center in Orange will process all Family Law filings.

Please refer to the updated Court Designation List for information on where matters will be heard/tried (http://www.occourts.org/media/pdf/court-designation-list.pdf).

#### **Invitation to Comment**

Public comments regarding this change in location for Family Law matters can be directed to: publicnoticecomment@occourts.org



## Superior Court of California County of Grange

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN COURT LOCATION

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 68106 AND CALIFORNIA RULES OF COURT 10.620

# LIMITED CIVIL CASES (EXCLUDING UNLAWFUL DETAINER CASES) WILL BE HEARD AT THE CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER AND NO LONGER BE HEARD AT THE NORTH JUSTICE CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pursuant to Government Code section 68106, the Superior Court of California, County of Orange is providing a 60 day notice of the change in court location for Limited Civil matters pending at the North Justice Center, located at 1275 North Berkeley, Fullerton, California 92838.

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

Effective Monday, July 1, 2013, all Limited Civil cases excluding unlawful detainer (i.e., landlord-tenant) matters pending at the North Justice Center will be transferred to and heard at the Central Justice Center located at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, California 92701. All new Limited Civil cases will be heard at the Central Justice Center. North Justice Center will continue to hear small claims, unlawful detainer, and civil harassment proceedings.

Please refer to the updated Court Designation List for information on where matters will be heard/tried (<a href="http://www.occourts.org/media/pdf/court-designation-list.pdf">http://www.occourts.org/media/pdf/court-designation-list.pdf</a>).

#### **Invitation to Comment**

Public comments regarding this change in location for Limited Civil matters can be directed to: publicnoticecomment@occourts.org

## SUPERIOR COURT, COUNTY OF FRESNO NOTICE- PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE of 07/08/2013



#### RE: Reduced Clerk's Office Hours for the B.F. Sisk Courthouse

The Court intends to reduce service hours to the public in all clerks' offices located in the B.F. Sisk Courthouse (Civil, Family Court Services, Family Law, Family Support, Probate and Small Claims) effective Monday, July 8, 2013. Filing window and telephone hours shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday. This is a reduction from the current service hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. The changes in public service hours will not affect the courtroom calendars or courtroom operations. The Self-Help Center hours will remain open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily; except Wednesday, when the Self-Help Center is closed.

For your convenience, a document drop box is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the B.F. Sisk Courthouse.

- This drop box has a time stamp. All documents must be time-stamped prior to being deposited.
- Documents time-stamped at or before 5:00 p.m. will be processed as of the date deposited.
- Documents time-stamped after 5:00 p.m. will be processed as of the next business day.
- Documents not time-stamped will be processed as of the next business day.
- Check or money order only. <u>Please do NOT deposit cash in the drop box.</u>

Due to the catastrophic 24% reduction to trial court funding, the Fresno Superior Court has implemented various cost saving measures, including: closing of the seven (7) branch courts, unpaid employee furloughs, freezing vacancies, layoffs, reengineering court processes for efficiencies, and reduction of expenditures for services and supplies.

Staffing in the clerk's offices has been significantly impacted by unfilled vacancies and furloughs. A reduction in business hours will allow court staff to file documents, process cases and prepare court calendars timely.

Comments may be submitted by email: infodesk@fresno.courts.ca.gov

-OR-

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

<sup>\*</sup>Pursuant to Government Code section 68106, this proposal has been published for public comment with a deadline of July 2, 2013.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Notice will also be posted pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 10.620(g).

#### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

(Pursuant to Government Code section 68106)

# REDUCED CALENDARS/SERVICES CENTRAL BRANCH

**Effective July 15, 2013**, we are suspending all calendars and operations in our Central Branch at 800 N. Humboldt Street, with that location only being utilized for trials as assigned by our Presiding Judge. All Traffic and Small Claims trials will be heard only in the Southern Branch in Redwood City. This includes the once a month night court session, which will be conducted in Redwood City on the first Wednesday of each month. The Small Claims Advisory workshops and services will also be relocated to Redwood City.

This change is a result of the unprecedented and ongoing State budget cuts to the trial courts of more than \$1 billion over the past five years. The San Mateo County Superior Court has seen a dramatic reduction in its budget as a result of these State cuts to the judicial branch and unfunded cost increases. As a result of these State cuts, the San Mateo Superior Court has been forced to reduce its workforce by over 30% to-date. Going forward, the court has been informed by the Governor and the State Legislature that they must absorb additional State budget cuts. Further, changes in trial court funding methodology will result in added reductions to the San Mateo Superior Court over the next 5 years if the State does not fully fund the trial courts. These State cuts and funding reductions will require further workforce reductions, necessitating further reductions in court services, unless these cuts are eliminated and essential, complete trial court funding is provided.

The Traffic Clerk's Office is located at 500 County Center in Redwood City. Their public counter hours are 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday and 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. A drop box for traffic payments and correspondence is also available at the 500 County Center location in Redwood City.

The Small Claims Clerk's Office is located in Room A on the first floor of the Hall of Justice at 400 County Center in Redwood City. Their public counter hours are 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. A drop box for small claims filings and correspondence is also available at the Hall of Justice in Redwood City on the first floor.

The public is invited to comment on this change prior to implementation. To ensure prompt review and consideration, comments should be submitted electronically through the Court's website at www.sanmateocourt.org (click on "Invitation to Comment"). For those without easy internet access, comments may be mailed to:

Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo

Attn: Rodina Catalano, Deputy Court Executive Officer

400 County Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Redwood City, CA 94063

All comments must be received no later than July 12, 2013.

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

(Pursuant to Government Code section 68106)

# REDUCED CRIMINAL CALENDARS/SERVICES NORTHERN BRANCH

**Effective July 15, 2013**, the following changes will be implemented at our Northern Branch located at 1050 Mission Road in South San Francisco:

- Four of our six courtrooms will be closed and only criminal preliminary hearing calendars for northern jurisdiction cases will be held at this location. All other northern criminal calendars will be consolidated and heard at the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- The Northern Criminal Clerk's Office will close and consolidate with the Criminal Clerk's Office on the 4th floor of the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- All requests for domestic violence and civil harassment retraining orders (TRO's) will need to be submitted to the Family Law or Civil Clerk's Office in Room A on the first floor of the Hall of Justice in Redwood City.
- All Traffic and Small Claims trials will be heard only in the Southern Branch in Redwood City.

This change is a result of the unprecedented and ongoing State budget cuts to the trial courts of more than \$1 billion over the past five years. The San Mateo County Superior Court has seen a dramatic reduction in its budget as a result of these State cuts to the judicial branch and unfunded cost increases. As a result of these State cuts, the San Mateo Superior Court has been forced to reduce its workforce by over 30% to-date. Going forward, the court has been informed by the Governor and the State Legislature that they must absorb additional State budget cuts. Further, changes in trial court funding methodology will result in added reductions to the San Mateo Superior Court over the next 5 years if the State does not fully fund the trial courts. These State cuts and funding reductions will require further workforce reductions, necessitating further reductions in court services, unless these cuts are eliminated and essential, complete trial court funding is provided.

**Effective July 15, 2013** all criminal filings and documents must be submitted to the Criminal Clerk's Office at the Hall of Justice-400 County Center-4<sup>th</sup> floor, Redwood City, CA 94063 either in person during public counter hours (8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Fridays) or by mail. A drop box is also available at the Redwood City location outside the Criminal Clerk's Office on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.

The public is invited to comment on these changes prior to implementation. To ensure prompt review and consideration, comments should be submitted electronically through the Court's website at www.sanmateocourt.org (click on "Invitation to Comment"). For those without easy internet access, comments may be mailed to:

Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo

Attn: Rodina Catalano, Deputy Court Executive Officer

400 County Center, 2nd Floor

Redwood City, CA 94063

All comments must be received no later than July 12, 2013.



### Superior Court of California County of Riverside

May 20, 2013

## COURT ANNOUNCES INTENTION TO CLOSE BLYTHE COURTHOUSE COMMENT DEADLINE EXTENDED

The Riverside Superior Court is considering the closure of or reduction of hours at the Blythe courthouse, located at 265 N. Broadway, as of a date to be determined, but no sooner than July 22, 2013. The court finds it necessary to take this action because the significant continuing reductions in state funding for superior courts and resulting cuts in the Riverside court's budget require this action.

Pursuant to California Government Code, section 68106(b), the court is seeking input from the public regarding the planned closure or reduction of hours. Any interested person or entity who wishes to comment must send the comment to the court in writing or electronically. Written comments should be directed to the court at P.O Box 1547, Riverside, CA 92502. Those interested in submitting comments electronically should e-mail them to webassistance@riverside.courts.ca.gov.

Comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 19, 2013.



### Superior Court of California County of Riverside

May 20, 2013

## COURT ANNOUNCES INTENTION TO CLOSE TEMECULA COURTHOUSE COMMENT DEADLINE EXTENDED

The Riverside Superior Court is considering the closure of or reduction of hours at the Temecula courthouse, located at 41002 County Center Drive, #100, as of a date to be determined, but no sooner than July 22, 2013. The court finds it necessary to take this action because the significant continuing reductions in state funding for superior courts and resulting cuts in the Riverside court's budget require this action.

Pursuant to California Government Code, section 68106(b), the court is seeking input from the public regarding the planned closure or reduction of hours. Any interested person or entity who wishes to comment must send the comment to the court in writing or electronically. Written comments should be directed to the court at P.O Box 1547, Riverside, CA 92502. Those interested in submitting comments electronically should e-mail them to webassistance@riverside.courts.ca.gov.

Comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 19, 2013.