



Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts  
Office of Communications, 455 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102-3688  
California Courts Infoline 800-900-5980, [www.courts.ca.gov](http://www.courts.ca.gov)

**NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: [Teresa Ruano](mailto:Teresa.Ruano@courts.ca.gov), 415-865-7740

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 9, 2014

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## **Chief Justice Releases Statement on Governor's Proposed 2014–2015 Budget**

SAN FRANCISCO—California Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye issued the following statement in response to the Governor's proposed 2014–2015 Budget Act:

“I appreciate the Governor’s fiscal prudence as well as his recognition of the need for reinvestment in the judicial branch, and I will continue my discussions with the Governor, stressing the critical unmet needs of the branch. The judicial branch has undergone \$1 billion in cuts during the last six years. Californians rely on a fully functioning court system to protect their constitutional rights, secure protective orders, resolve child custody issues, and settle business disputes. I hope to continue this productive dialogue with the executive and legislative branches in the next few months about the needs of those who rely on our courts. Access to justice must be meaningful, universal, and fair— it’s a fundamental right in a functioning democracy.”

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