



Superior Court of California
County of San Bernardino

Larry W. Allen
Presiding Judge

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San Bernardino, CA 92415-0302

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January 12, 2006

Dia Poole
Administrative Office of the Courts
Office of Governmental Affairs
770 "L" Street, Suite 700
Sacramento, California 95814-3393

RECEIVED
JAN 17 2006
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS (SAC)

RE: RESOLUTION

Dear Ms. Poole:

I am pleased to enclose a Resolution from the San Bernardino County Bar Association regarding the shortage of judges in San Bernardino County.

If you should require my assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to working with you on issues of mutual concern.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry W. Allen".

LARRY W. ALLEN
Presiding Judge

LWA:ajh
enclosure

cc without enclosure:

Judge James C. McGuire, Assistant Presiding Judge
Ms. Tressa Kentner, Court Executive Officer

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS: California is suffering from a severe shortage in the number of Trial Court Judgeships and available courtrooms for civil and criminal matters;

WHEREAS: San Bernardino County is disproportionately impacted by this shortage: Since 1980, the population of San Bernardino County grew by 100% but the total number of new judges in the Trial Courts grew by only 20%;

WHEREAS: San Bernardino County currently has only 63 authorized judgeships and only 12 authorized commissioners;

WHEREAS: The average San Bernardino County criminal judicial officer has 130 felony cases pending trial, twice the recommended caseload, and urgently needs 30 new judges just to handle these criminal cases;

WHEREAS: The average San Bernardino County civil judicial officer has 875 cases pending, twice the average caseload of other Courts in the State, and urgently needs 37 new judges to hear civil cases;

WHEREAS: Residents and businesses in San Bernardino County are suffering significantly decreased access to the Courts, compromised public safety, unstable business climate, and enormous backlogs. In the Central Courthouse in San Bernardino, for example, witnesses and victims sit in the same hallways where the accused are escorted by armed Sheriffs to the courtroom because there is no secured hallway for in-custody travel.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the San Bernardino County Bar Association urges each California Assembly member with constituents in San Bernardino County to enact legislation to seat and fund additional new judgeships and courtroom facilities in San Bernardino County to promote adequate access to the Courts, proper access to justice, proper public safety, a positive business climate, and decrease both civil and criminal case backlogs.



President

12/29/05

Date

Secretary-Treasurer

12/29/05

Date