



Superior Court of California

County of Alpine

BUDGET SNAPSHOT



JUDICIAL COUNCIL
OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

February 2015

Budget and Program Priorities for FY 2015-16

The staffing levels are at a bare minimum, no further reductions are possible, and even a modest increase in case filings will be a challenge if the Alpine Court is to deliver quality, accessible services to the public

Self-Help / Mediation / Facilitator Services

A recent contract change for Self-Help services reduced the scope of the program to realize cost savings

Court Reporters / Interpreter Services

- Calendars were consolidated to effect savings on contract court reporter services; the court has no court reporter employees
- The court has no interpreter employees and uses telephonic services

Staff Impacts / Furloughs / Layoffs / Unfilled Vacancies

Two positions have been eliminated since 2009 by layoffs, retirement and termination, and those positions were not filled

Court Security / Safety / Facilities

Security is no longer part of the court's budget

Availability of Judicial Officers

- Two Alpine Court judges are regularly assigned to other regional courts, including Amador, El Dorado, Mono, Inyo and others

Infrastructure

- Technology – The Court does not have funding for technology staff. It must contract out for technology services. This is very inefficient and expensive.
- Human Resources – The CEO must manage all HR related tasks including payroll and benefits.
- Finance/Purchasing – The Court does not have funding to hire staff to comply with the Judicial Branch Contracting Law/Manual or other statutes and regulations recently enacted.

Counters / Clerks / Telephones

- The court is operating with only 4 full-time employees
- Public counters remain open without reduction of hours except during the mandatory furlough period in FY 2009-10

Courtrooms and Court Houses

- Alpine Court uses courtrooms in neighboring El Dorado County when necessary for unscheduled, in-custody criminal matters
- Alpine has a historical courthouse that only has one courtroom.

Court Demographics

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Population Served | 1,079 |
| Square Miles Covered | 743 |
| Total Number of Court Facilities | 1 |

Court Leadership

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Presiding Judge | Hon. Thomas Kolpacoff |
| Court Executive Officer | Kim Kampling |
| Executive Office Contact | (530) 694-2113 |

Budget Challenges for FY 2015-16

In this era of reductions, the Court could not function without the assistance of the Judicial Council staff for duties and roles previously performed by court staff. "We have reached our limit," the Presiding Judge said.