



## Judicial Branch Budget Snapshot Superior Court of California County of Modoc

### Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

- The court is stretched to the breaking point. Any additional budget reductions will be devastating and will likely result in the Modoc Court's inability to operate five days a week.
- As of June 30, 2013, the court will have no fund balance to carry over into FY 2013-14.

### Budget Impacts

#### General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- If additional staff or resources are lost due to budget cuts, the public will immediately be impacted by case processing backlogs and service reductions

#### Reduced Public Access: Self-Help/Mediator/Facilitator Services

- Although funding has decreased, the Self-Help Attorney/Family Law Facilitator continues to provide services to the public

#### Reduced Public Access: Court Reporters/Interpreters

- Modoc Court has a single court reporter and the court cannot afford the cost of electronic recording equipment
- A single jury trial using two certified interpreters will consume the Court's entire annual budget for interpreter services
- Case processing will slow dramatically if court reporting or interpreter services are impacted by any additional budget reductions

#### Reduced Public Access: Public Service Counters and Clerks

- Public counters close at 4:00pm but clerks continue to work uninterrupted until 5:00 pm to avoid delays or backlogs in case processing and other duties

#### Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- Modoc operates only one courthouse and no closures have occurred other than the statutory one day per month court closures in FY 2009-2010

#### Staff Reductions: Furloughs, Layoffs, Unfilled Vacancies

- Two staff positions were laid off in 2010, representing 33% of the court's positions, and three vacancies have been left unfilled
- Further layoffs are anticipated if additional budget reductions occur, possibly losing one of two courtroom clerks
- Ongoing furloughs over last 5 years ranged from 1 to 2 days per month; currently, employees take one day per month

#### Impacts: Court Security Services

- Security services have not been reduced; Sheriff provides screening
- Modoc Court does not have perimeter security

#### Fewer Judicial Officers

- Modoc is a two-judge court with 10 total staff supporting them by doing multiple duties at a time

### Annual Allocation\*

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Allocation FY 2008-2009  | \$ 1,323,874 |
| Est. Allocation FY 2012-2013** | \$ 1,097,984 |
| Percentage change              | -17.1%       |

\*Does not reflect unfunded cost increases

\*\*For comparison purposes only, includes court security funding

### Modoc Facilities Overview

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Number of court facilities    | 1 |
| Capital construction projects | 0 |

### Judicial Workload/Employees as of Dec. 2012:

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Population served               | 9,566 |
| Judicial officers               | 2     |
| Judicial officers needed        | 2     |
| Filled staff positions FY 08-09 | 14.5  |
| Filled staff positions FY 12-13 | 10    |

### Case Statistics (Fiscal Year 2010-11)

|                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Felony filings                      | 110   |
| Misdemeanor filings (incl. traffic) | 302   |
| Infraction filings (incl. traffic)  | 1,418 |
| Civil filings                       | 184   |
| Family and juvenile filings         | 253   |

### Court Leadership

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Presiding Judge         | Hon. Francis W. Barclay |
| Court Executive Officer | Linda Ostoja            |