

# ORANGE

Population: 3,113,991 • Authorized Judges: 124 • Staff: 1475 FTE  
Civil Filings: 60,912 • Criminal Filings: 325,845 • Family/Juvenile Filings: 32,388 • Other Filings: 8,857

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## OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

Ensure court clerks are available when and how people need them:

- **Clerks' Office hours shortened to 4:00 p.m. to minimize processing backlogs;**
- **Forced to eliminate call center due to reduced staffing resources.**

Protect families with emergency orders and restore family stability with mediated custody agreements:

- **Mediation delays caused by judges' increased workloads and judicial vacancies in family law.**

Restore staffing levels in Operations to reduce backlogs and delays in processing and filing documents:

- **Restore call centers across litigation types to enhance access to court services that now require the public to visit a justice center to obtain information or transact court business.**

Help more self-represented litigants in family and houses cases at the Self-Help/Facilitator's office:

- **Self-Help Center closures have forced many litigants to travel far for procedural assistance;**
- **Lack of filing staff in Family and Civil matters at some justice centers has forced some constituents to drive 20-30 miles to file important documents such as emergency protective orders.**

Invest in staff (training, development, and ultimately retention):

- **Losing personnel to other courts taking same positions with higher compensation;**
- **Losing senior and well-trained workforce to retirement and the inability to replace due to the absence of sufficient funding;**
- **Keeping positions unfilled and deleting vacant positions to provide financial resources to negotiate labor contracts.**

Reduce wait time for sealing/expunging criminal records to help people get jobs and to protect privacy:

- **Juvenile Court experiencing 275 hours of pending work in sealing of records, redactions and more each month. This number expected to increase again due to continual shrinking of staff and limited overtime;**
- **Significant backlogs in destruction of cases, particularly marijuana infractions that currently must be manually separated out from non-marijuana violations.**

## PRIORITIES FOR REINVESTMENT

**Assuming an additional investment in operations funds, we intend to...**

- Hire additional clerks to enable the staffing of adequately trained employees to eliminate backlogs as absences occur.
- Maintain and expand services for litigants in family and housing at the Self-Help/Facilitator's Office.
- Provide additional resources to allow for further services to be developed and provided on-line.
- Invest in technology and development of innovative solutions to improve court access.
- Resume significant deferred maintenance of old court facilities.