



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

### Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

- Delays exist in every facet of the processing, the hearing, the disposing of cases, and post disposition processing
- Large backlog and long delays in processing civil, family law and probate case documents and cases
- Assistance to self-represented litigants has been decimated

### Budget Impacts

#### General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- Family law litigants must wait up to seven hours to file documents
- Reduced number of customers that can be served in a day by limiting front counter transactions

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

- In person Self-Help services closed in July 2012; 70% of family law litigants are unrepresented and cannot get any self help service
- Reduced number of family law facilitator positions from 13 to 8
- Help with forms, telephone response, assistance via email and referrals for services are nearly gone

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

- Court reporters have been reduced from 68.1 in FY 08/09 to 62.6 in FY 12/13
- Beginning in FY 12/13, the court no longer is reimbursed for the Interpreter Coordinator

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

- Reduced front counter hours by an average of 5 hours per week
- Telephone hours reduced by an average of 10 hours per week
- 25 counter-service windows have been closed across entire court

#### Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- Using the equivalent of three less courtrooms
- Implemented janitorial service cuts; only the most basic of services are provided

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

- Reduced available workforce by 230 positions since 2008
- Future layoffs anticipated
- Hiring freeze since 2008

#### Impacts: Court Security Services

- Eliminated most after-hours security
- Reducing all non-mission critical security functions

#### Fewer Judicial Officers

- Called upon assigned judges to keep pace with caseload
- Reduced frequency of filling vacant judgeships and SJO positions

### Annual Allocation\*

Total Allocation FY 2008-2009	\$ 110,203,947
Est. Allocation FY 2012-2013**	\$ 97,986,988
Percentage change	-11.1%

\*Does not reflect unfunded cost increases

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

### Sacramento Facilities Overview

Number of court facilities	10
Capital construction projects	1 (indefinitely delayed)

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

Population served	1,435,153
Judicial officers	72.5
Judicial officers needed	93.6
Filled staff positions FY 08-09	864
Filled staff positions FY 12-13	632

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

Felony filings	9,021
Misdemeanor filings (incl. traffic)	49,557
Infraction filings (incl. traffic)	207,059
Civil filings	84,768
Family and juvenile filings	29,589

### Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. Laurie M. Earl
Court Executive Officer	Christina M. Volkers