



Judicial Branch Budget Snapshot Superior Court of California County of San Bernardino

Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

- San Bernardino County at 20,000 square miles is the largest geographic county in the contiguous United States. Many court users have to travel much farther to attend jury service, court hearings, and to obtain court services. Court users in distant areas with minimal/negligible public transportation must drive up to 6 hours or more round trip to access services.
- Centralizing/consolidating remaining calendars in fewer departments may cause delays in obtaining hear dates for practitioners and litigants.

Budget Impacts

General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- From July through September 2012, staff turned away 560 persons at the end of the day due to an inability to serve them, and an additional 2,244 persons left the court without waiting for services

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

- Self-help staff was reduced by 4 positions since June 2012
- Potential additional staff reductions in SH/FL may result in a total funding reduction of over \$750,000 since June 2012
- Court no longer provides forms; litigants without technology in poorest areas spend extra hours in line waiting to purchase them

Reduced Public Access: Court Reporters/Interpreters

- FY 2012-13 reductions will include 15 court reporter positions for civil and misdemeanor criminal cases
- No reductions in interpreters implemented or anticipated at this time

Reduced Public Access: Public Service Counters and Clerks

- Clerk's Office is now closed to the public at 3:00 p.m. daily

Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- Twin Peaks Courthouse closed in FY 2006-07, Redlands courthouse closed in FY2009-10 and Chino courthouse closed in FY 2012-13.
- One courtroom was closed in Joshua Tree.
- Night Court was eliminated countywide as of March 2013.
- Barstow, Needles, and Big Bear District courthouses will be closed as of May 6, 2013

Staff Reductions: Furloughs, Layoffs, Unfilled Vacancies

- Furloughs instituted for all fiscal years since FY 2009-10
- Court has kept many positions vacant since FY 2008-09
- Phase II of the cost reduction plan calls for eliminating 44 positions

Impacts: Court Security Services

- Reductions in court security have resulted from courthouse/courtroom closures

Fewer Judicial Officers

- Assigned judges have been reduced and commissioner positions left vacant

Annual Allocation*

Total Allocation FY 2008-2009	\$ 120,021,452
Est. Allocation FY 2012-2013**	\$ 94,361,335
Percentage change	-21.4%

*Does not reflect unfunded cost increases

**For comparison purposes only, includes court security funding

San Bernardino Facilities Overview

Number of court facilities	18
Capital construction projects	1

Judicial Workload/Employees as of Dec. 2012:

Population served	2,063,91
Judicial officers	91 (only 86 funded)
Judicial officers needed	156.1
Filled staff positions FY 08-09	1,000
Filled staff positions FY 12-13	984 (as of 7/12) (946.5 as of 12/12) (920 current as of 3/13)

Case Statistics (Fiscal Year 2010-11)

Felony filings	19,100
Misdemeanor filings (incl. traffic)	95,260
Infraction filings (incl. traffic)	289,791
Civil filings	71,275
Family and juvenile filings	43,630

Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. Marsha G. Slough
Court Executive Officer	Mr. Stephen H. Nash