



## Judicial Branch Budget Snapshot Superior Court of California County of Santa Barbara

### Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

Court users are experiencing backlogs and delays in services caused by fewer employees and resources to serve the public

#### Budget Impacts

##### General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- Preliminary hearing, murder and gang cases are backlogged
- Domestic Violence temporary restraining orders are not processed the day they are filed
- Conservatorship investigations take 20% longer to complete
- Most civil, juvenile, and family law case types are no longer filed or heard in the Solvang branch site
- Default judgments now take from 30-60 days to be processed and returned

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

- Self-help services have been reduced due to a reduction in the court's funding allocation
- Child custody mediations that took 3 weeks to schedule in FY 2007-08 have extended to 5 weeks to schedule in FY 2012-13

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

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

- Fewer employees are available to process paperwork and serve the public
- Public counters that closed at 4:30pm in FY 2007-08 now close at 3:00 pm daily

##### Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- Night Court will likely be eliminated, representing 10% of small claims and 90% of traffic cases

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

- 32 full-time staff positions reduced since FY 2007-2008 by attrition
- Employees took 12 furlough days in FY 2009-10, with another 12 furlough days likely in FY 2013-14

##### Impacts: Court Security Services

- Jurors must walk across public streets through unsecured areas to reach the court buildings prior to reaching security screening
- The Historic Courthouse has no perimeter security screening
- Inmates are escorted through public areas to reach trial courtrooms due to lack of secure internal corridors, elevators or stairwells

#### Annual Baseline Allocation

Baseline Allocation FY 2008-2009	\$ 22,809,064
Est. Allocation FY 2012-2013	\$ 15,136,216
Percentage change	-33.6%

Excludes Sheriff security costs and DRAFT (Dependency Representation Administration Funding and Training) Program which are not included in local court budget, also excludes reimbursements for Jurors and Interpreters.

#### Santa Barbara Facilities Overview

Number of court facilities	8
Capital construction projects	1 (delayed to FY 13-14)

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

Population served	427,267
Judicial officers	24
Judicial officers needed	24.8
Filled staff positions FY 08-09	291
Filled staff positions FY 12-13	263

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

Felony filings	2,660
Misdemeanor filings (incl. traffic)	14,764
Infraction filings (incl. traffic)	80,764
Civil filings	8,162
Family and juvenile filings	5,382

#### Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. Arthur A. Garcia
Court Executive Officer	Gary M. Blair