



Superior Court of California County of Solano BUDGET SNAPSHOT



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

January 2014

Budget and Program Priorities for FY 2014-15

Increase access to the public, restore services and create efficiencies through technology. Currently, staff must turn away approximately 20 clients per day from Self-Help. Court Investigators are behind in their review of reports. With the increase in backlogs in the Civil Law & Motion and Traffic calendars, parties wait up to 4 months for a hearing.

Self-Help / Mediation / Facilitator Services

- Reduced office hours of Solano Legal Access Center and Family Law Facilitator offices.
- Restraining orders are the only matter handled on Fridays.
- Court is closed for walk-ins on Wednesdays; clients seen that day by appointment only.
- Reduced self-help services at the Vallejo courthouse.

Court Reporters / Investigator Services

- Eliminated court reporters from misdemeanor cases in FY 2011-12.
- Court Investigators have substantial backlog of review reports for conservatorship cases.

Counters / Clerks / Telephones

- Reduced clerk's office hours by one hour per day in FY 2011-12.
- Reduced hours by another hour effective 1/14/13.
- Unable to restore clerk's office hours with current proposed allocation.

Staff Impacts / Furloughs / Layoffs / Unfilled Vacancies

- Laid off three regular positions in FY 2011-12.
- Instituted furloughs in FY 2009-10 and FY 2012-13.
- Current vacancy rate strains remaining staff.

Budget Considerations

Budgeted Revenues* FY 2013-2014	\$22,405,042
Total Revenues* FY 2008-2009	\$27,367,489
Five-Year Revenue Reduction <small>*Excludes Sheriff-Provided Security</small>	-\$4,962,447
Current Year Unfunded Employee Health Benefits and Retirement Costs	-\$958,996
Share of \$60 million augmentation	\$758,555

Court Demographics

Population Served	413,786
Square Miles Covered	907
Total Number of Court Facilities	4
Filled Staff Positions FY 2013-2014	209
Filled Staff Positions FY 2008-2009	265
Lost Positions in 5 years	-56 (21% reduction)

Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. E. Bradley Nelson
Court Executive Officer	Brian K. Taylor
Executive Office Contact	(707) 207-7475

Budget Challenges for FY 2014-15

Staffing shortages have created significant backlogs in Civil, Family Law, Traffic and the Court Investigators Office. Closing clerks' offices early limits access for the public and increases errors and inefficiencies with case flow processing due to reduced staffing. Self Help Center must continue to turn people away on a daily basis.