



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

### Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

- In spite of operational efficiencies, a structural deficit exists and staffing levels will be reduced via layoffs in FY 2013-14 if funding is not restored or labor contracts concessions cannot be negotiated.
- All projects to improve delivery of service and enhance efficiencies have stalled if there is a cost attached. Court cannot fully automate minute orders in all courtrooms, upgrade the phone system, or contract for payroll services.

### Budget Impacts

#### General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- Public has been impacted by reduced and interrupted service delivery caused by inadequate staffing levels in every court division
- Restraining orders are no longer returned the same day, but within 24 hours; files are archived offsite and retrieved only once per week

#### Reduced Public Access:

##### Self-Help/Mediator/Facilitator Services

- Family law facilitator is contracted for only 12 hours per week (Thursday afternoons and Fridays only), resulting in increased wait times for assistance and appointments scheduled weeks out

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

- Court reporter position vacated due to retirement in FY2011-12 remains unfilled due to budget reductions
- Court has no interpreters on staff and no resources to certify staff; interpreters must be brought in from out of county at a premium cost

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

- Public hours reduced to 8am to 3pm daily to complete processing and meet court deadlines and calendars, causing longer lines as public rushes to meet the earlier closing time

#### Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- No courtroom closures have occurred and none are anticipated

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

- Over the past 5 years, 12.5 vacant positions have not been filled due to budget reductions, resulting in a vacancy rate of 26% in FY2011-12
- All staff were furloughed 10 days in FY2009-10, 12 days in FY2010-11, 18 days in FY2011-12, and 5 days in FY2012-13

#### Impacts: Court Security Services

- For the past 4 years, the County Sheriff has been unable to assign the perimeter security deputies provided for in the Court/County MOU due to funding or recruitment/retention issues

#### Fewer Judicial Officers

- Court is still setting hearings within statutorily required timeframes, but calendars are increasing in size, causing longer wait times in court
- Jury failure to appear notices have been eliminated

### Annual Allocation\*

Total Allocation FY 2008-2009	\$ 4,516,326
Est. Allocation FY 2012-2013**	\$ 3,567,385
Percentage change	-21%

\*Does not reflect unfunded cost increases

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

### Tuolumne Facilities Overview

Number of court facilities	3
Capital construction projects	1 (delayed to FY 14-15)

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

Population served	55,365
Judicial officers	4.8
Judicial officers needed	4.5
Filled staff positions FY 08-09	43
Filled staff positions FY 12-13	35

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

Felony filings	648
Misdemeanor filings (incl. traffic)	2,300
Infraction filings (incl. traffic)	5,770
Civil filings	1,361
Family and juvenile filings	1,162

### Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. Eleanor Provost
Court Executive Officer	Jeanine D. Tucker