

TUOLUMNE

Population: 53,604 • Authorized Judges: 4 • Staff: 35 FTE

Civil Filings: 927 • Criminal Filings: 8,579 • Family/Juvenile Filings: 1,053 • Other Filings: 203

OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

Ensure court clerks are available when and how people need them.

- **Clerk's offices currently close to the public at 3:00 p.m.**

Address increasing problem of procuring per diem court reporters to report felony hearings.

- **The Court currently employs two full-time court reporters and augments staffing with per diem reporters on nearly a daily basis.**

Help more self-represented litigants in family and housing cases at the Self Help/Facilitator's office.

- **Our Self-Help Center is able to remain open to the public 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with a closure at the lunch hour. The Court is challenged in not being able to provide Self-Help and FLF services Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00/4:00 p.m.**

Protect families with emergency orders and restore family stability with mediated custody agreements.

- **Hearings are often delayed because staff attention and resources must be spent on felony jury trials, rather than on civil and family law long-cause matters.**

Reduce wait time for sealing/expunging criminal records to help people get jobs and to protect privacy.

- **We are struggling with delays in JBSIS reporting due to backlogs in criminal dispositions.**

Reduce wait time for businesses and individuals to get money owed in civil disputes.

- **We have been able to reduce some of our backlogs, but still experience delays.**

PRIORITIES FOR REINVESTMENT

Assuming an additional investment in operations funds, we intend to:

- Hire an additional full-time court reporter to address the increasing problem of an insufficient number of court reporters.
- Hire two additional clerks to provide increased window and phone service, which will reduce wait times by 15 minutes per person. We will then be able to re-evaluate if the civil and criminal divisions could extend operations until 4:00 p.m. with the increased staffing.
- Add a half-time FTE Family Law Facilitator in Self-Help to serve four more people a day (replace our contract FLF with a half-time employee) to better serve the public.
- Address inflationary cost increases and make needed adjustments to recruit qualified candidates and retain experienced staff.
- With the loss of the Recidivism Reduction Fund Grant, which the Court used for residential treatment for Adult Drug Court participants, the Court would be able to allocate reinvestment monies to continue providing residential treatment for program participants.