



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

### Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

- Layoffs have created work backlog, delay in processing cases and closure of services
- All Clerk's Office court services are closed on court closure days
- Court users must travel up to 50 miles one way to use some court services

### Budget Impacts

#### General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- Loss of FLF services at East County Courthouse limits the number of clients that can be served on a daily basis in Self-Help Centers

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

- Closure of East County Courthouse Self-Help Center
- Loss of two Family Law Facilitator attorneys

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

- Laid off 3.8 intermittent court reporters in FY 2012-13
- Parties must now arrange for their own court reporters

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

- Reduced clerks' counter hours by 2 hours
- No savings realized since court personnel use the hours the counters are closed to work on backlogs

#### Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- Courtroom and courthouse closures due to mandatory furloughs
- Moved 2 civil courtrooms and 1 family law courtroom
- Operations at the East County Courthouse (Simi Valley) suspended on June 25, 2012 except traffic arraignments and trials, small claims, and unlawful detainers heard two days a week; traffic and collections payment windows open five days a week

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

- 25 staff laid off in FY 11-12 and FY 12-13
- 42 vacant positions eliminated
- 15 positions eliminated by voluntary retirements
- Instituted 6 to 18 furlough days for all staff
- Vacancy rate of 5.6% in FY 12-13

#### Impacts: Court Security Services

- Reduction of 1 deputy
- Security funding is now the responsibility of the county and no further reductions are expected

### Annual Allocation\*

Total Allocation FY 2008-2009	\$ 46,209,171
Est. Allocation FY 2012-2013**	\$ 40,032,933
Percentage change	-13.4%

\*Does not reflect unfunded cost increases

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

### Ventura Facilities Overview

Number of court facilities	3
Capital construction projects	0

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

Population served	832,970
Judicial officers	33
Judicial officers needed	43.7
Filled staff positions FY 08-09	396
Filled staff positions FY 12-13	352

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

Felony filings	3,995
Misdemeanor filings (incl. traffic)	15,444
Infraction filings (incl. traffic)	134,978
Civil filings	20,794
Family and juvenile filings	11,056

### Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. Brian John Back
Court Executive Officer	Michael D. Planet