



**Superior Court of California
County of Fresno**

Tamara Beard
Executive Officer / Clerk / Jury Commissioner
Sheran Morton – Patricia Wallace-Rixman
Assistant Executive Officers

May 25, 2012

Ms. Jody Patel, Regional Administrative Director
Administrative Office of the Courts – Judicial Council of California
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California, 94102

Re: NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE §68106

In accordance with Government Code §68106, the Superior Court of California, County of Fresno hereby provides notice of the permanent closure of the Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Kingsburg, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma branch courts.

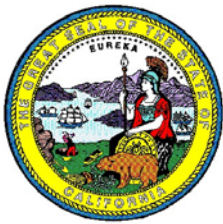
As you know, on May 14th of this year, Governor Jerry Brown announced unprecedented and severe funding cuts to the State's judicial branch. Despite the Fresno Superior Court's history of prudent fiscal planning, effective cost-cutting measures, and revenue generating strategies, the Court now faces an immediate deficit of \$5.4 million in the 2012-13 fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2012. Simply stated, this is the most severe fiscal crisis that the Court has ever faced and well beyond anything that could have been anticipated. In light of such a drastic situation and with less than 45 days until the start of the fiscal year, the Court has had to quickly explore options for reducing costs and increase efficiency. Due to the urgency of the situation, it was necessary to make difficult decisions quickly. The Court concluded that closing the branch courts would realize a significant and immediate cost savings and that consolidating these operations into the courts in downtown Fresno area would improve efficiency. Therefore, pursuant to California Government Code §68106, the Superior Court of Fresno County is hereby giving urgent notice that the courts in Coalinga, Firebaugh, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma will close effective July 30, 2012. Clovis and Kingsburg will close effective August 6, 2012. The Court has made the necessary finding of good cause and required urgency to proceed with the closures as provided for in California Rules of Court, Rule 10.620(e). The Court is abiding by all of the procedural requirements set out in rule 10.620 applicable to immediate action.

Please understand that this decision was not made without significant analyses, contemplation, and debate. Everyone at the Fresno Superior Court understands and regrets that closing the branch courts will be inconvenient for residents who live outside the Fresno metropolitan area. The centralization of Court services in the City of Fresno, however, will provide the opportunity to improve operational efficiency for core court services. The Court will do its best to minimize the overall impact and make the transition as easy as possible. A copy of each public notice is attached.

Sincerely,

Tamara L. Beard
Court Executive Officer

cc: Hon. Gary D. Hoff, Presiding Judge
Hon. Gary Orozco, Assistant Presiding Judge



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF FRESNO



NOTICE OF COURT CLOSURES

ON THE IMMINENT CLOSURE OF THE CLOVIS, COALINGA, FIREBAUGH, KINGSBURG, REEDLEY, SANGER, AND SELMA BRANCH COURTS

The State of California's fiscal crisis has caused all government agencies to closely examine all operations and expenditures, and to evaluate cost efficiencies and effectiveness, wherever necessary. Despite the Fresno Superior Court's history of prudent fiscal planning, effective cost-cutting measures, and revenue generating strategies, the Court now faces an immediate deficit of \$5.4 million in the 2012-13 fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2012. Simply stated, this is the most severe fiscal crisis that the Court has ever faced and well beyond anything that could have been anticipated. In light of such a drastic situation and with less than 45 days until the start of the fiscal year, the Court has had to quickly explore options for reducing costs and increase efficiency. Due to the urgency of the situation, it was necessary to make difficult decisions quickly. The Court concluded that closing the branch courts would realize a significant and immediate cost savings and that consolidating these operations into the courts in downtown Fresno area would improve efficiency. **Therefore, pursuant to California Rule of Court, Rule 10.620(e) & (f), the Superior Court of Fresno County is hereby giving urgent notice that the courts in Coalinga, Firebaugh, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma will close on July 30, 2012. Clovis and Kingsburg will close effective August 6, 2012.**

The centralization of Court services in the City of Fresno, however, will provide the opportunity to improve operational efficiency for core court services. The Court will do its best to minimize the overall impact and make the transition as easy as possible. Any interested person or entity who wishes to comment in writing may do so by any of the following methods:

E-mail: Infodesk@fresno.courts.ca.gov

-OR-

Correspondence: ATTN: Administration
1100 Van Ness Avenue
Fresno, CA, 93724

As required by California Rule of Court, Rule 10.620 all public input received shall be provided to the person or persons making these difficult decisions.