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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Public Meeting and Invitation to Comment on Proposed New Courthouse In South Gate**

**What:** A public meeting hosted by the California Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will present information about the new courthouse in South Gate proposed for the Superior Court of Los Angeles County's Southeast District. The proposed site is located on two contiguous parcels in the 4000 blocks of Firestone Boulevard and Ardmore Avenue in the city of South Gate.

This meeting is a necessary step in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. At the meeting, the public and other interested parties will have an opportunity to review and comment on the AOC's draft initial study and mitigated negative declaration.

The review period extends through 5 p.m. on May 22, 2011, so those unable to attend the meeting may also review the document and comment. The AOC's draft CEQA document and other project information, as well as instructions for submitting comments, are available on the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/2791.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/2791.htm). For the draft report, click the Background tab.

**When:** Thursday, May 5, 2011, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

**Where:** City of South Gate Council Chambers, 8650 California Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280

**Who:** The AOC's Office of Court Construction and Management will present project information and a brief overview of the draft initial study and mitigated negative declaration, and interested parties may present public comments or submit written comments.

**Why:** The proposed project would be a three-story building, approximately 35 feet high, housing nine courtrooms in approximately 118,000 square feet and would include surface parking. It would replace the Huntington Park Courthouse, a shared-use building that is functionally and physically deficient and among the worst in the state in terms of security, overcrowding, and physical condition. It also would restore service to South Gate, where the courthouse was closed because of budget cuts in 2004. The project will be funded by Senate Bill 1407, which finances critically needed courthouse construction, renovation, and repair through a portion of judicial branch fees, fines, and penalties, with no impact on the state's General Fund. The AOC plans to complete construction of the new courthouse in 2015. More information on the project: [www.courts.ca.gov/2791.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/2791.htm)

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