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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court Summit**

*Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye and Superintendent Tom Torlakson  
convene statewide summit to examine truancy and school discipline*

California Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye will welcome multidisciplinary teams from 32 counties to kick off a signature initiative to keep kids in school and out of court at a two-day summit on December 3-4, in Anaheim. California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson will co-convene the event.

“When children are not in school or don’t graduate from high school, they are at greater risk of entering the juvenile justice system,” stated Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye. “The judicial system can’t wait until that happens—we need to recognize this looming problem and create the partnerships needed to return these children to their schools and to become productive members of society.”

**WHAT:** The [Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court Summit](#) will examine how truancy, school discipline, and trauma affect youth and what can be done about it. County teams invited to participate in the summit will learn about promising and proven strategies to keep children engaged in school and hear about alternatives to school discipline policies that can lead to excessive suspensions and expulsions. See [summit agenda](#).

**WHEN:** December 3-4; 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Anaheim Marriott, 700 West Convention Way, Anaheim, CA

**WHO:** Invitation-only event for multidisciplinary teams from 32 counties, including judicial officers, educators, juvenile justice and child welfare professionals, and community leaders

Summit convenors, organizers, and co-sponsors include:

- California Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye
- California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson
- California Attorney General Kamala Harris, California Attorney General

- Diana Dooley, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
- Justice Richard D. Huffman, Chair, California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care
- Judge Stacy Boulware Eurie, Chair, Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court Working Group

**TO ATTEND:** Media interested in attending the summit should contact Christine Cleary, AOC Center for Families, Children & the Courts, 415-865-8792, [christine.cleary@jud.ca.gov](mailto:christine.cleary@jud.ca.gov)

The summit is funded by private foundations, with assistance from the [federal Court Improvement Program](#).

[More information and statistics on truancy and school discipline](#)

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