



Lake



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Judicial Branch Budget Snapshot Superior Court of California County of Lake

Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

- Delays in processing have created dramatic impacts on citizens of the county and court users
- Individuals have lost employment opportunities because the court was unable to process the background search information requested by the potential employer
- Individuals have been cited for driving on a suspended license because the court has been unable to process the DMV paperwork to have the hold removed from the license
- Delays of up to five months in processing of transferred criminal cases, resulting in defendants placed on probation remaining unsupervised by the Probation Department after they are sentenced

Budget Impacts

General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- Civil and family law cases are taking approximately 60-75 days longer to get to trial
- Wait times of up to one hour to speak with a clerk on the phone

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

- Self-help/family law facilitator services likely to be reduced or eliminated in FY 14/15, as a result of the limitation to the amount of reserves the court can carry forward year to year

Reduced Public Access: Court Reporters/Interpreters

- Reduced expenditures for court reporters by eliminating one court reporter position and using staff more efficiently
- Further reductions likely without funding restoration

Reduced Public Access: Public Service Counters and Clerks

- Reduced public counter and phone hours to 8:00 am to 1:00 pm each day

Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- Closed all courtrooms for 16 limited service days in FY 12/13, on which all courtrooms, phones, and public counters were closed

Staff Reductions: Furloughs, Layoffs, Unfilled Vacancies

- Reduced staff levels by 33.5% in the past five years
- Instituted furloughs of up to 14 days in FY 09/10 through FY 12/13
- Additional furloughs or layoffs likely in FY 13/14 without funding restoration

Impacts: Court Security Services

- Reduced number of security screening staff at entrance of branch court

Fewer Judicial Officers

- Reduced subordinate judicial officer to a part-time (0.6 FTE) position

Annual Allocation*

Total Allocation FY 2008-2009	\$ 5,085,791
Est. Allocation FY 2012-2013**	\$ 4,044,399
Percentage change	-20.5%

*Does not reflect unfunded cost increases

**For comparison purposes only, includes court security funding

Lake Facilities Overview

Number of court facilities	3
Capital construction projects	1 (delayed pending FY 13/14 budget)

Judicial Workload/Employees as of Dec. 2012:

Population served	63,266
Judicial officers	4.8
Judicial officers needed	5.2
Filled staff positions FY 08-09	43
Filled staff positions FY 12-13	28.6

Case Statistics (Fiscal Year 2010-11)

Felony filings	787
Misdemeanor filings (incl. traffic)	2,101
Infraction filings (incl. traffic)	7,188
Civil filings	1,832
Family and juvenile filings	1,190

Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. Stephen Owen Hedstrom
Court Executive Officer	Krista LeVier

