MARIN

Population: 255,846 • Authorized Judges: 12 • Staff: 108 FTE

Civil Filings: 3,491 • Criminal Filings: 36,464 • Family/Juvenile Filings: 2,128• Other Filings: 770

OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

Restore local court services and reopen courtrooms.

• Due to insufficient funds and reduced funding, Marin has not been able to implement a modern case management system (CMS). This has not allowed Marin to provide any local court services that other courts throughout the state are currently providing such as access to electronic records, efiling, and electronic noticing.

Reduce wait time for businesses and individuals to get money owed in civil disputes.

Due to insufficient funds and the inability to update our case management systems (CMS), the CMS is outdated and is costly to maintain. As a result, there is an increase in wait time for civil case processing.

Protect families with emergency orders and restore family stability with mediated custody agreements.

 Due to insufficient funds, staff training has been severely limited which has prevented the Clerk's Office from adequately supporting the family law and juvenile divisions.

Help more self-represented litigants in family and housing cases with at the Self Help/Facilitator's office.

• Since staffing is extremely low in this department, self-help hours have been cut which means only a few people (i.e., on average 4 to 6 people) are receiving assistance each day.

Ensure court clerks are available when and how people need them.

The Clerk's Office is not able to fill vacant positions due to a variety of reasons such as using salary savings to offset our decreasing budget. This may lead to additional backlogs as well as reducing clerk's office hours.

Reduce wait time for sealing/expunging criminal records to help people get jobs and to protect privacy.

 Backlogs are a normal part of the workload, and the backlogs will continue to increase due to reduced staffing and insufficient funding.

PRIORITIES FOR REINVESTMENT

Assuming an additional investment in operations funds, we intend to...

- Help fund the modernization of a case management system which would allow Marin to provide additional court services to the public such as electronic access to court records and electronic filing.
- Hire 3 clerks to further support our family law and juvenile departments to increase and promote stability and safety in the community.
- Hire 1 clerk for the self-help office in order to restore office hours and services.

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