



Judicial Branch Budget Snapshot Superior Court of California County of Mendocino

Key Budget Challenges/Priorities

- Litigants are waiting much longer for services at the public counter and on the telephone
- Reductions to court reporter services require litigants to provide their own court reporters
- Substantial decrease in family law mediation services

Budget Impacts

General Budget Reduction Impacts to the Public

- Litigants travel up to 70 miles to the Ukiah Courthouse

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

- Combined the Self-Help Center with the Facilitator's Office
- Mediation services for newly filed cases are limited to one session per family per Family Law court filing
- Family Court Custody and Visitation Evaluations no longer made available to the Family Court judge
- Self-Help hours reduced by one hour per day

Reduced Public Access: Court Reporters/Interpreters

- Litigants must bring family members or friends to interpret at the Self-Help Center
- Laid off two full-time court reporters and left one part-time position vacant

Reduced Public Access: Public Service Counters and Clerks

- Reduced telephone hours by 2 hours per day and counter hours by 1 hour per day

Closures: Courtrooms and Courthouses

- Closed a single courtroom branch court in Willits on December 31, 2009 – a 33% reduction in Mendocino courthouses
- Calendar in Covelo and Point Arena changed from once per month to once every other month
- 2013 Thanksgiving and Christmas season hours will be reduced

Staff Reductions: Furloughs, Layoffs, Unfilled Vacancies

- Instituted lay offs and reduced workforce with vacancy rate of 20%
- 13 mandatory furlough days for all employees in 2010
- 5 mandatory furlough days for all employees in 2013

Impacts: Court Security Services

- Reduction of two positions in perimeter security at the Willits Branch Center in January 2010

Annual Budget

Total Allocation FY 2008-2009	\$ 8,356,133
Total Allocation FY 2012-2013	\$ 6,525,751
Percentage change	-21.9%

Mendocino Facilities Overview

Number of court facilities	2
Capital construction projects	1 (delayed)

Judicial Workload/Employees as of Dec. 2012:

Population served	87,572
Judicial officers	8.4
Judicial officers needed	7.7
Filled staff positions (FTE)	58
Staff positions needed	74

Case Statistics (Fiscal Year 2010-11)

Criminal filings	19,542
Civil filings	1,652
Felony filings	1,010
Juvenile delinquency filings	244
Jury trials	33

Court Leadership

Presiding Judge	Hon. Richard James Henderson
Court Executive Officer	Caryn A. Downing

