



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

HALL OF JUSTICE  
400 COUNTY CENTER  
REDWOOD CITY, CALIFORNIA 94063-1655

JOHN C. FITTON  
COURT EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
CLERK & JURY COMMISSIONER

(650) 363-4516  
FAX (650) 363-4698  
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August 31, 2012

Ms. Debora Morrison  
Senior Attorney  
Office of the General Counsel  
Judicial Council of California - Administrative Office of the Courts  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688

Re: Notification Pursuant to Government Code Section 68106

Dear Ms. Morrison,

Our court will be implementing certain courtroom, calendar and/or service changes at our Northern Branch in South San Francisco and Central Branch in San Mateo effective November 1, 2012. Attached are the two public notices regarding those changes that we are posting in our court facilities today.

These actions are made necessary due to the severe, ongoing and increasing court budget cuts from the State over the past five years. The share of these unprecedented State cuts for the San Mateo Superior Court is over \$16 million, necessitating a reduction of over 30% of our workforce to-date.

The court greatly regrets the necessity of reducing these services – in fact, we've worked hard to delay them. Despite the excessive State cuts to the trial courts, we've worked diligently to continue to prioritize public safety issues and meet the essential needs of court users and litigants while reducing expenses to stay in line with our authorized level of funding. Steps the court has already taken over the last five years to operationalize the ongoing cuts have been considerable, including but not limited to cutting all non-personnel costs, renegotiating service contracts, consolidating trial court services and clerks offices, reducing employee wages due to the mandated court closures, increasing benefit contributions and significantly reducing our workforce through normal attrition, incentive programs and layoffs. We've also spent a sizable portion of our reserves. With significantly fewer employees to handle the work of the court, we must continually take steps to balance our essential court workload as we strive to become even more efficient and operate within our means.

Please contact me at (650) 363-4516 if you have any questions regarding these changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John C. Fitton".

John C. Fitton  
Court Executive Officer

cc: Honorable Beth Labson Freeman, Presiding Judge  
Rodina Catalano, Deputy Court Executive Officer

# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(Pursuant to Government Code section 68106)

### COMPLEX CIVIL LITIGATION/CEQA HEARINGS

#### CENTRAL BRANCH

**Effective November 1, 2012**, Complex Civil Litigation and CEQA hearings will no longer be held at the Central Branch located at 800 North Humboldt Street in San Mateo. Department #2, the Honorable Marie S. Weiner and her courtroom staff will be relocating to the Hall of Justice in Redwood City and all hearings for complex and CEQA cases assigned to Department #2 will be conducted in Redwood City, *unless otherwise specified by the court*. The drop box for complex civil/CEQA filings will no longer be available at the Central Branch location.

This change is a result of the unprecedented and ongoing State budget cuts to the trial courts of more than \$1 billion dollars over the past five years. San Mateo County Superior Court's share of these cuts, as approved by the Legislature and the Governor, has been over \$16 million dollars which has necessitated a workforce reduction of approximately 30% of our staff to date.

**Effective November 1, 2012** all complex civil litigation and CEQA filings must be submitted to the Civil Clerk's Office, located at the Hall of Justice, 400 County Center-Room A, Redwood City, CA 94063 either in person during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday) or by mail. A drop box is also available at the Redwood City location outside the Civil Clerk's Office-Room A.

The public is invited to comment on this change prior to implementation. To ensure prompt review and consideration, comments should be submitted electronically through the Court's website at [www.sanmateocourt.org](http://www.sanmateocourt.org) (click on "Invitation to Comment"). For those without easy internet access, comments may be mailed to:

Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo  
Attn: Rodina Catalano, Deputy Court Executive Officer  
400 County Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063

**All comments must be received no later than October 31, 2012.**

# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(Pursuant to Government Code section 68106)

### **FAMILY LAW CALENDARS/SERVICES-NORTHERN BRANCH**

**Effective November 1, 2012**, Family Law calendars will no longer be heard at the Northern Branch located at 1050 Mission Road in South San Francisco. The Wednesday morning OSC/Motion calendar and the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (DVPA) calendars heard on Friday will be heard at the Hall of Justice in Redwood City. Additionally, the Northern Branch Criminal Clerk's Office will no longer accept domestic violence or civil harassment restraining orders for filing. The Family Law Facilitator/Self Help Office will continue to offer a reduced schedule of services at the Northern Branch, as staffing allows.

This change is a result of the unprecedented and ongoing State budget cuts to the trial courts of more than \$1 billion dollars over the past five years. San Mateo County Superior Court's share of these cuts, as approved by the Legislature and the Governor, has been over \$16 million dollars which has necessitated a workforce reduction of approximately 30% of our staff to date.

**Effective November 1, 2012** all domestic violence restraining orders must be submitted to the Family Law Clerk's Office, located at the Hall of Justice, 400 County Center-Room B, Redwood City, CA 94063 and all civil harassment restraining orders must be submitted to the Civil Clerk's Office in Room A of the Hall of Justice. Documents may be submitted either in person during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday) or by mail. A drop box will remain available at the Northern Branch outside the Criminal Clerk's Office. Documents submitted in the Northern Branch drop box will be sent to Redwood City the following business day for processing.

The public is invited to comment on these changes prior to implementation. To ensure prompt review and consideration, comments should be submitted electronically through the Court's website at [www.sanmateocourt.org](http://www.sanmateocourt.org) (click on "Invitation to Comment"). For those without easy internet access, comments may be mailed to:

Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo

Attn: Rodina Catalano, Deputy Court Executive Officer

400 County Center - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Redwood City, CA 94063

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