

2008



Los Angeles Superior Court ANNUAL REPORT



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Los Angeles Superior Court Annual Report 2008 Edition

(Incorporating financial data for Fiscal Year 2007-08)

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A Message *from the Presiding Judge*

By any honest measure, the Los Angeles Superior Court ended 2007 with many proud achievements. Our pride, however is mixed with a certain degree of anxiety over how we may be buffeted by budget issues in 2008.

That said, we are confident that, in addition to being the nation's largest trial court, we remain the nation's finest. We take pride in our broad approach to customer service that ensures that we treat everyone who comes through our doors with dignity and equity. The justice each customer seeks is the justice that we strive every day to provide.

In this Annual Report, you will see a description of how our system contains both the largest courthouse in California (the Stanley Mosk courthouse in downtown Los Angeles) and also the smallest — on Santa Catalina Island. In both, and in every sized courthouse in between, we offer consistently excellent customer service because of our outstanding employees and dedicated bench officers. Space does not permit a complete listing but, in 2007 alone, the Los Angeles Superior Court:



- Organized the first summit on judicial diversity ever held in Southern California. As the issue of diversity became a subject of regular discussion in the judiciary and elsewhere, our efforts were recognized and appreciated.
- Expanded our customer services to a new level, opening three new self-help centers and broadening the offerings throughout what is now a network of 11 such facilities. Thousands of self-represented litigants were provided with new tools to help them navigate the courts.
- Received the coveted Ralph N. Kleps Award of the California Judicial Council for our pioneer program, JusticeCorps, which uses trained university students as guides for self-represented court customers. This program successfully provides court users with an additional layer of access to the courts.
- Expanded our programs to promote jury service by producing a brochure that will be given to each of the hundreds of thousands of jurors appearing in our courts in 2008. The publication provides jurors with some facts about the court system in an attempt to further educate them about the Court.
- Introduced a creative mobile juror-awareness campaign using court delivery vans as rolling billboards. This resulted in positive statewide press for the Court about jury service and helped to promote our dedication to juror services.
- Responded successfully to wildfire emergencies at our Malibu and Catalina Island courthouses, and made sure that critical court operations were maintained. Our disaster planning guaranteed that interruptions during these traumatic events were handled effectively and efficiently.

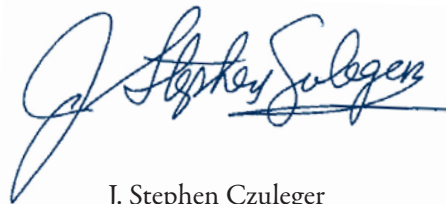
- Worked with the Board of Supervisors to successfully obtain its financial commitment to build two new courtrooms in existing, but vacant, space at the Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse in Lancaster. Ongoing population growth in the north part of our county continues to press the Court's resource's and these new courtrooms are desperately needed.
- Established and expanded training programs for parents who must confront substance abuse and other daunting problems among children in our Dependency Court system. In this, as elsewhere, we are a national leader in providing additional services to the most needy litigants and their children.
- Continued outreach to successfully engage Los Angeles County members of the Legislature and their district offices to help them provide constituent services. This has resulted in a positive new partnership that has benefited the Legislature and the judicial branch.
- Expanded our continuing education programs for our managers, senior managers and top executives. Most importantly, we broadened and enriched continuing judicial education offerings for judges so that we continue to have the finest trial court education program in the state, providing thousands of hours of continuing education to both bench officers and staff.

We did all of these things, and much more. At the same time that we accomplished all of this, our expansive system — with its nearly 50 courthouses, 600 judicial officers and a staff of 5,400 — once again handled record caseloads, especially in criminal and family law.

Our Court persists in providing reliable, consistent, high-quality service, which the public has every right to expect to continue. However, two decades of rapid population growth strains our system and underfunding and safety issues test our Court's responsiveness and ability to be proactive. Thus far, the Court has risen to the challenges and exceeded expectations — this is the wonderful character of the Los Angeles Superior Court.

In 2008, we will continue to face a difficult budget environment, an ever-changing landscape of judicial challenges and further tests of our personal best. Yet, I am confident that each of the judicial officers and employees who make up the Los Angeles Superior Court will also work with diligence and pride in our professionalism to address these challenges.

The pride is well-earned, and contribution of the Court to Southern California is profound. Join with me in celebrating the greatness of the Los Angeles Superior Court — standing for justice, providing full service to all who need it. In the end, the Los Angeles Superior Court is the quintessential model of public justice in action.



J. Stephen Czuleger
Presiding Judge

Looking Back

Looking Forward



As we take this opportunity to reflect upon the past year's events and accomplishments, it is important to think also about the future. Our ability to anticipate the boom and bust of budget cycles has allowed us to plan better, by retrenching in good times, so we are better prepared in the bad.

The past few years of relative budget stability have allowed us to pursue a number of administrative improvements that will serve us well as we face a potential budget crisis:

- Having implemented a new job classification and pay structure, we are better able to attract and keep high-quality staff.
- A comprehensive study of courtwide staffing has improved our ability to effectively and efficiently deploy our staff.
- Broader and more effective partnerships with legal-aid providers give us cost-effective ways to provide quality assistance to litigants without lawyers.
- Partnering with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, we have improved the safety of our courthouses and the efficiency with which they are secured.
- Advances in Web-based services make it easier for people to manage their jury duty, pay their traffic tickets and other things, while at the same time reducing the workload on staff.

These strategies — investing in people, creating partnerships with service providers, and streamlining our own services to make them easier to use — have made the administration of justice in Los Angeles County both leaner and more effective. They will continue to serve us well in meeting our future challenges.

As a branch of government, the courts share the burden of meeting the state's fiscal challenges. At the same time, as the judicial branch, we recognize that cutting services can mean compromising justice — and that is not an option.

Over the coming months, we will be working closely with our justice partners across the county, with our branch colleagues across the state, and with the executive and legislative branches of government, to ensure that the Court can effectively meet its constitutional mandates.

Every day our employees go to work with pride, knowing they work with the best judicial officers in the world, doing some of the most important work anyone could do: providing access to justice. They are great people, with great commitment and incredible talents. The commitment they make every day, and that which I make now for the future, is that we will maintain our standards of excellence through the coming fiscal crisis. The public deserves nothing less.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John A. Clarke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John A. Clarke
Executive Officer/Clerk

Year in Review

In 2007, being the largest trial court in the land meant we were the home of crucial class-action lawsuits, ground-breaking verdicts, innovative court services and a wealth of celebrity litigants who drew international attention.

Unfazed, we used our award-winning resources and seamlessly managed nearly 3 million cases last year. Whether our customers' needs were complicated or simple, they all received star treatment — self-represented litigants, legal professionals, volunteers or celebrities. Our jurors especially were placed in the spotlight as month after month, emotionally charged verdicts drew the world's attention to our courtrooms.

These challenges demanded our best efforts to keep the system humming while juggling sensational court developments from one end of the county to the other, but we kept our commitment and provided stellar service to everyone.

Legislators' Luncheon

An annual event, the Legislators' Luncheon offers judges and administrators the opportunity to discuss proposed legislation and other matters affecting the Court with members of the California State Senate and Assembly who represent Los Angeles County.

Last year, 24 legislative offices participated, and 20 legislators attended. The keynote speaker was Assemblymember Dave Jones, chair of the Judiciary Committee.

The event, held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, has become one of the most important interactions between the Court and Los Angeles County legislators. A seating plan that matches a judge with an individual legislator at every table provides a unique opportunity for meaningful dialogue.



Leadership Conferences

Los Angeles Superior Court judges, executives, administrators and managers participated in various leadership conferences in 2007. Designed to promote continuing education, the conferences provide an opportunity for the Court's leaders to get to know one another and discuss their experiences and issues of concern outside of the work environment.

In addition to the Executive Committee Retreat and the Senior Management Conference, the Court offered conferences for supervisors and mid-level managers. The three conferences, which were off-site to allow participants to concentrate on the issues addressed, were attended by several hundred administrators.

Presentations regarding emergency preparedness, employee relations and e-commerce were especially well received at the senior and mid-level management conferences. Managers attending the conferences were given credit toward fulfilling mandatory continuing education hours.

Legislative Staff Seminar

For the past several years, the Court has invited staff from the Los Angeles County offices of each member of the State Assembly, State Senate and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for a half-day outreach program.

During the seminar, administrators provide an overview of court operations. Areas covered include: traffic, probate, juvenile, criminal, civil, small claims and family law proceedings. Jury, self-help and interpreter services also are discussed.

Attendees are encouraged to ask questions, and each participant leaves with a binder full of valuable information, including spreadsheets, statistics, articles and maps, plus telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for future questions and comments.



Trials Covered, Gavel to Gavel, on Television

When the murder trial of O.J. Simpson ended in 1995, many of our judges expressed concern that live television cameras capturing courtroom events as they unfold during a trial distorted the process. For a decade after the Simpson trial, no judge on our Court allowed camera coverage of an entire criminal trial.

That era ended last year, when three judges permitted network television crews into their courtrooms to shoot video of entire trials. One of them was the murder trial of record producer Phil Spector, which was carried live by Court TV and numerous Internet outlets. The other cases were in San Fernando and Pasadena.

Meanwhile, at the Central Civil West Courthouse last year, two trials involving the pain medicine Vioxx and litigation involving a pesticide manufacturer and a food producer were televised on the Courtroom View Network, which caters to an audience of primarily attorneys. The Internet-based concept may represent one of the future directions of broadcast justice.



Assistance to Other Superior Courts

In Riverside County, the court system had become overwhelmed by many years of exponential growth as the exploding population of Southern California grew into the Inland Empire. By last year, the Riverside County Superior Court was struggling to keep up with its caseload.

The chief justice of California named a former supervising judge of our criminal courts to a task force of 27 judges to identify ways the Riverside County Superior Court could resolve its difficulties.

The team began its work on Aug. 13, 2007. Riverside has 56 judges — a number that is expected to grow by 14 under legislation enacted two years ago.

By year's end, the task force had made a series of recommendations on caseload management and other issues. The Riverside County Superior Court agreed to test a new calendaring system to encourage earlier settlement of disputes and eliminate a backlog of criminal cases by disposing of more of them in the pre-trial phase.

Last year, we also provided a venue for a murder trial transferred to Los Angeles from Fresno County, where defense attorneys argued successfully that there had been prejudicial pre-trial publicity. The trial was for the second of two defendants in an unusual homicide case in which the victim was allegedly submerged in a drum of acid.

The trial was of intense interest in Fresno, but the breadth and diversity of the Los Angeles County population facilitated the seating of a neutral jury. The case was tried in the Van Nuys Courthouse before a Fresno County Superior Court judge. After several weeks of trial time, the jury returned a guilty verdict. In an earlier trial in Fresno, the other defendant in the case had also been convicted.

When a venue change becomes necessary, the chief justice of California contacts courts that may have potential courtroom space and available trial time. With the cross section represented by our jurors, seating an unbiased jury may readily occur, even in high-profile cases.

Our Role in Master Settlements of Complex Cases Involving Thousands of Plaintiffs

Our reputation as a court with the flexibility and resources to resolve very large, very complex cases proved itself last year with major developments in two closely watched matters. In July, more than 500 cases involving alleged sexual abuse by priests within the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles were settled as a group, for a total of more than \$660 million.

The priest matters had national ramifications because the settlement was the largest — in total money and in per-case compensation — of any like case in the United States so far. Several of our judicial officers participated in the mediation process.

Then in November, a national master settlement was reached that involves more than 4,000 cases in which adverse reactions to the pain killer Vioxx were alleged. The complex agreement was hammered out by three judges from different parts of the country — including one of ours — and announced at a news conference in New Orleans.

In both situations, a small number of cases remain in litigation because, for various reasons, they were not included in the large overall settlements. A prime objective in resolving mass litigation in this manner is the balance between the right to a just outcome for defendants and plaintiffs alike.

Safe Custody Transfers

Through our Safe Access and Friendly Exchanges for Kids visitation effort, we assisted 321 families in the past fiscal year, representing 3,515 hours of supervised visitation and 57 neutral exchanges for children.

SAFE for Kids manages supervised visits and neutral exchanges of children who may be at emotional or physical risk as a result of their parents' separation or divorce. Ordinarily, family law judicial officers order the supervised visits that give nonresidential parents an opportunity to bond with their children.

Through funding from state and federal agencies, a \$100,000 grant supports monitored visitations at four, nonprofit facilities: Bienvenidos Family Services in Altadena, A Change of

Faces in Lancaster, L.A. Wings of Faith in Los Angeles and the Ness Center in West Los Angeles. Participating families pay a nominal fee for the service.

ADR Video Project and Expansion

As 2007 drew to a close, final production and post-production work was under way on a public education video to help court customers better understand Alternative Dispute Resolution — the process of resolving disputes outside of official court proceedings. Funded by a grant from the Administrative Office of the Courts, the video is comprised of several vignettes, demonstrating the various ADR techniques.

The ADR department also expanded Neutral Evaluation (previously called the Early Neutral Evaluation Program) services courtwide, and the civil harassment mediation program was added at the San Fernando and Compton courthouses, with plans to expand to Long Beach.

After an extensive nationwide review of mediator qualifications, the Court’s ADR Committee recommended new requirements to serve on the Los Angeles Superior Court Civil *Pro Bono* Mediation Panel. We also provided small claims mediation to litigants in the downtown Los Angeles courthouses. Several of these sessions were conducted in Korean and other languages.



New Courtrooms in Antelope Valley, Help in Long Beach

Responding to growing criminal caseloads in the Antelope Valley, Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich secured \$1.3 million in the fiscal year 2007-08 budget for the build out of two additional courtrooms in Lancaster. The Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse opened in 2003, with 15 operating courtrooms and shells for six more. Seventeen judicial officers are currently assigned there.

“This build out will enhance the justice system for the residents in the Antelope Valley and reduce the hardship placed on the families, prosecutors and others who have had to travel great distances to outlying courts to have their cases adjudicated,” Antonovich said of the expansion.

Separately, we added a second courtroom for juvenile cases at the Alfred J. McCourtney Juvenile Justice Center in Lancaster. The center was created by conversion of the former Lancaster Courthouse, which was replaced by the Antonovich facility.

The Board of Supervisors also came to our assistance at the Long Beach Courthouse, where a \$16 million emergency seismic-strengthening project was begun.



2007 Award-Winning Projects

Judicial Council of California
Innovation in the California Courts
 Ralph N. Kleps Award
 JusticeCorps

National Association of Counties Award
 Self-Help Legal Access Center and Law Library

Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission
Traditional Plaque Award
 East Los Angeles Parent Project
 Family Court Services Books for Kids

Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission
Certificates of Recognition
 Parenting Without Conflict Program
 The Non-Professional Conservatorship Training Program
 Diversity Summit



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High-Profile Cases

Only in Los Angeles County can a routine traffic case draw scores of reporters, dozens to hundreds of still and video cameras, a fleet of satellite trucks and news vans, multiple requests for cameras in the courtroom and helicopters buzzing over the courthouse.

Why? The defendant — or the victim, or a key witness — is a celebrity.

With the high saturation of stars living in L.A., it's only natural that from time to time some will, like the rest of the county's population, get into trouble or file for divorce, drawing the attention of the media. But 2007 brought a bumper crop of these matters — more than in any of the past 10 to 15 years.

The Court's Public Information Office and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department collaborate in planning for these cases, often meeting in advance to develop detailed operations plans. We welcome our obligation to litigate these cases, knowing that our volume of celebrity matters commits the court to substantial extra security costs.

PIO handles media coverage, sometimes using a first-come, first-served lottery system or call-ahead seating, so reporters can access the courtroom without unnecessary disruption to the judge and staff. The unit also distributes court documents related to the case, so courtroom clerks can get their work done without the interruption of media calls and visits.

The Sheriff's Department, as always, handles security, striving to maintain order in the courthouse and a safe atmosphere for everyone involved.

Although these cases are sometimes viewed as disruptive of our system, they also create opportunities for us to educate the public about what we do.

A traffic case featuring a young, high-profile celebrity was a valuable opportunity this year for the Court to explain how we try to balance the competing elements that can come into play in high-profile cases. We must, simultaneously, get the star into court safely; treat him/her like any other litigant; understand the media's right to access; and respect the general public's equal right to get to court safely.

To reduce disruption in some of the Court's busiest facilities, celebrity litigants often do not wait in line with the rest of the public at the front door. This avoids packs of media representatives disrupting the lives of hundreds of customers and jurors. That may sound like special treatment, but in reality it is a compromise to make the situation safer for everyone.

In one heavily covered family law custody matter, the Court had the opportunity to showcase its parenting programs. In this particular case, the parents were ordered by a judicial officer to complete the Court's Parenting Without Conflict program, leading reporters to seek more information about this valuable resource that helps divorcing parents resolve issues involving their children more cooperatively and effectively.





Also this year, the Court experienced its first fully televised, gavel-to-gavel criminal trial since the O.J. Simpson murder case in 1994 and 1995. The coverage allowed the Court to let millions of people see how we do our job. Viewers saw a professional, prepared, knowledgeable judge preside over a lengthy, at times complicated, trial.

That judge — and some of his colleagues — have observed that if the court family finds objectionable television police shows and movies that distort the way courts work, the best remedy is to let the public see the real thing.

Behind the glitz and glamour, the swarming paparazzi and the line of satellite trucks on the street are courthouses with hard-working judicial officers hearing thousands of cases — some of which happen to feature celebrities. All of the parties in these cases are our customers. Celebrity matters offer an opportunity for us to educate the public and let the public see our thoughtful judicial officers and successful programs.



Court Publications

Our publications program enjoyed a robust year in 2007. The Annual Report, which is distributed to stakeholders, community members and government officials, provides a vehicle to highlight the accomplishments, changes and challenges of the past year.

Our judicial magazine, *Gavel to Gavel*, was published three times in 2007. In the spring issue, entitled “From Stage and Screen to the Courtroom,” the spotlight fell on judicial officers who first came to the public’s attention not as officers of the Court, but as actors, models and game show contestants.

Other issue themes for *Gavel to Gavel* included family law and court security. The latter issue, which appeared in late December, included harrowing accounts by judges of the dangers judicial officers have and can face.

Partners is a nationally distributed newsletter for juvenile court professionals. The publication is written by judicial officers and research attorneys in our Children’s Court and by lawyers and heads of public and private social service agencies.

Last year, we introduced a new publication, “A Look at Your Superior Court,” made possible by grant funds from the Administrative Office of the Courts. The brochure provides information about the Los Angeles Superior Court to those performing jury duty. It will be given to every juror who reports for service in a 12-month period — a total of more than 900,000 people.

The 5,400 employees of the Los Angeles Superior Court are the subjects, contributors, editors and recipients of the *Court Crier*. Published roughly three times a year, it addresses topics of interest to Court employees, including how employees spend their time outside of court.





Specialty Courts

In operating more than a dozen specialty courts, we handle a wide variety of cases of critical social and legal importance. Subject-specific legal expertise is demanded of judges assigned to these courts, which may convene daily or just a few times a year.

Our specialty courts address drug-addicted defendants, first-time teen offenders accused of low-level misdemeanors, defendants charged with driving under the influence, adult and juvenile mental health evaluations, community outreach and resources, complex civil litigation, domestic violence cases, homeless defendants and informal juvenile traffic defendants.

Recent activities of five specialty courts are summarized below.

■ **Proposition 36 Court** — A new sentencing structure was mandated for convicted, nonviolent drug offenders following the passage of a 2000 ballot initiative.

According to the law, judges in the 19 Proposition 36 courtrooms must place these defendants on probation and order them to complete a drug treatment program. If rehabilitation is completed, defendants may ask the judge to dismiss their charges. If they don't, they may be jailed.

During fiscal year 2005-06, the most recent period for available statistics, our Proposition 36 Courts processed 9,192 participants; 8,540 appeared for their assessment, and 6,597 were placed in treatment.

■ **Teen Court** — First-time offenders ages 11 to 17 may be selected by the Los Angeles County Probation Department to appear in one of our 12 Teen Courts if the offense is a low-level misdemeanor. Established in 1993, Teen Court is an alternative, noncriminal forum for adjudicating eligible juveniles' low-level misdemeanors.

Although a sitting judge presides at the proceedings, trained students act as jurors and courtroom staff. Participating juvenile offenders cannot attend the same high school as their jurors.

■ **Women's Re-entry Court** — Launched in May 2007, the program assists women on parole or probation who are facing another felony conviction. Hearings occur every other Monday at the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Los Angeles.

Re-entry Court candidates are screened by the county public defender, district attorney, state parole officers and staff members at the Prototypes Women's Center. Suitable candidates are then placed in a Pomona residential treatment facility.

Up to 20 women — some with small children — receive individualized treatment, which may include on-site mental health and drug treatment and vocational and medical services.

■ **Drug Court** — Sentences are stayed for nonviolent drug offenders who agree to enter a chemical-abuse rehabilitation program and be closely supervised by one of our 15 Drug Court judges.

We had impressive results after establishing Drug Court in the early 1990s: 75 percent of our Drug Court graduates systemwide do not have another drug arrest within two years

of completing their rehabilitation program.

Our most recent available statistics show 1,054 adults were admitted to Drug Court during FY 2005-06, and 804 entered rehabilitation programs; 311 graduated.

■ **Homeless Court** — In February 2007, an experimental new concept for Homeless Court was tested in Santa Monica. It differs from our traditional approach to Homeless Court, in which participants can clear multiple arrest warrants involving minor offenses.

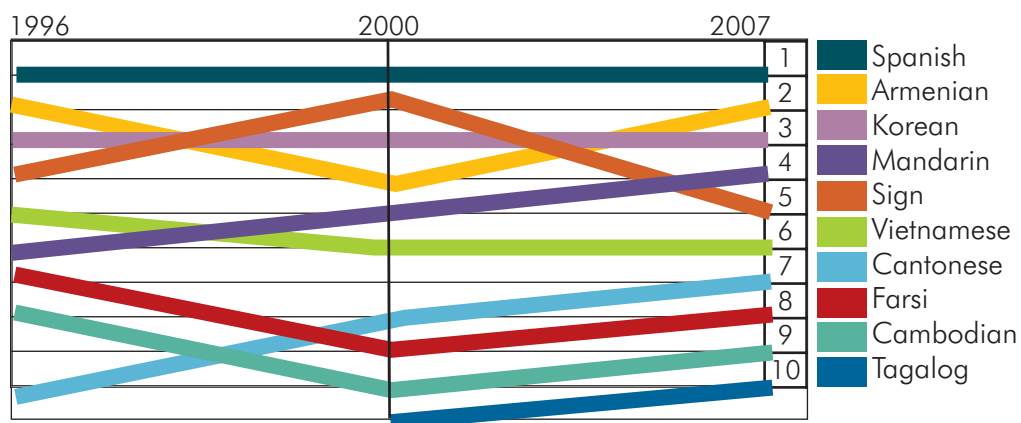
The approach tested in Santa Monica involves chronically homeless defendants who agree to be diverted to supportive services and housing. It aims to reintegrate the defendants into housing and job opportunities by ultimate dismissal of the outstanding warrants and open cases that prevent them from doing so.

The Homeless Community Court relies on the notion of “therapeutic justice” — combining consequences and help to address the underlying problems that contribute to “quality-of-life” crimes, such as public inebriation.

The one-year pilot program is the result of a cooperative effort by the city of Santa Monica and the county, spearheaded by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky. Retired Supervisor Edmund D. Edelman is working actively to promote the new concept.

Interpreter Services Division

Top 10 languages requested in Los Angeles County for 10 years



The Drug Store Program



Over three hot October days, the Court participated in a program called “The Drug Store,” a realistic experience for middle school students who witness one of their group arrested on drug charges.

In short order, the students discover the incident is role-playing — with real police officers, judges and a “defendant” played by one of their classmates.

With temperatures nearing 100 degrees and ash raining down from the dozen wildfires raging in Southern California, judicial officers held court in the City of Commerce for two sessions per day.

Although the Drug Store program has been in existence since 1989, last year marked the first time the Court participated in an official capacity. The program is a unique drug awareness program sponsored by the California Department of Justice

The Drug Store was a collaborative effort involving the City of Commerce, Montebello School District, the Los

Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, the Los Angeles County Probation Department, Bell Gardens Police Department, the District Attorney’s Office and the Office of the Public Defender.

Prior to the presentation, sixth-grade teachers solicited the participation of a child in their class, along with his or her parents, to play the role of the drug offender in each installment. Several scenes played out. The first depicted the simulated theft of drugs from a Sheriff’s Department display.

In the remaining scenes, the child would be arrested, prosecuted, placed on probation, overdose from drug use and die. Over the course of three days, more than 1,200 sixth-





grade children from Laguna Nueva, Rosewood Park, Macy and Bell Gardens middle schools observed one of their classmates ostensibly steal methamphetamine and realize the legal and personal consequences of that act.

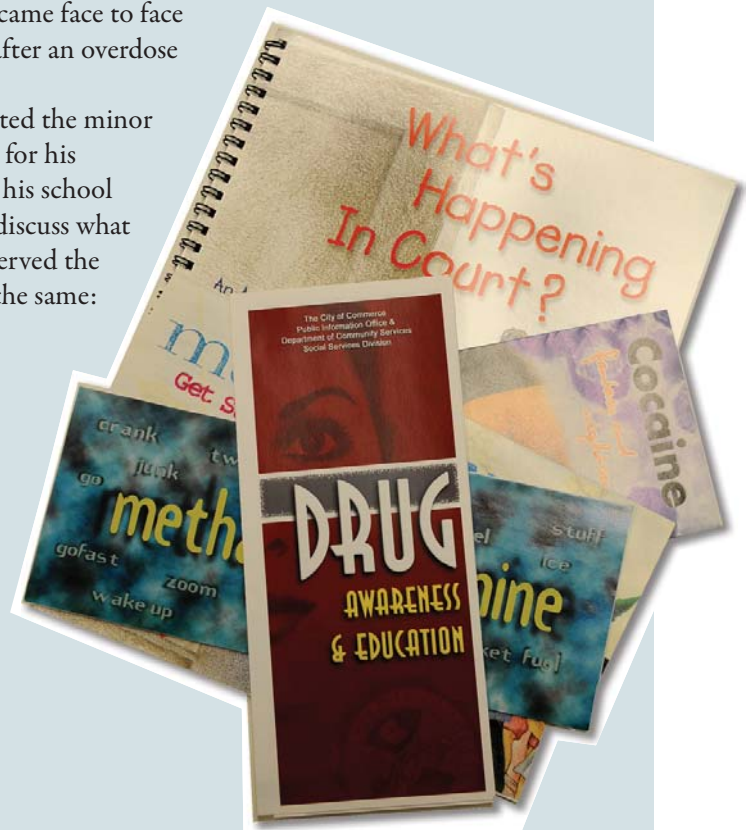
A climactic scene portrayed a simulated

trial before a real judge, in black robe, seated beneath the seal of the Los Angeles Superior Court. To his right was seated a deputy public defender at counsel table. To his left, a deputy district attorney. The bailiff called the courtroom to order and announced the name of the presiding hearing officer.

As the scene played out, most of the student audience remained unaware that the proceeding was fabricated. Yes, they were told, that is a real judge, and that is what happens when a minor goes to court.

As the drama continued to unfold the audience visited a simulated emergency room and, at the end, came face to face with unsuccessful attempts at resuscitation after an overdose and, finally, a funeral.

In the last scene, a youth counselor presented the minor and his parent. The child actor was thanked for his participation in the event to the applause of his school mates. The counselor asked the children to discuss what they had seen and what they felt as they observed the scenes. The answers from each group were the same: “scared,” “sad” and “worried.”



Wildfires Test Our Emergency Response Capabilities

Courthouses have suffered sudden closures before — especially the 1994 shutdown of the San Fernando Courthouse after the Northridge earthquake and the 2006 closure of the Central Civil West Courthouse after a complete electrical failure that took weeks to repair. In 2007, wildfires twice disrupted operations at the Malibu Courthouse and closed the Santa Catalina Island Courthouse for several days.



In May, Catalina experienced a wildfire that burned 4,000 acres, right up to the Avalon city limits, and forced the evacuation of hundreds of island residents. The fire began on Thursday, May 10 a little after noon. At 2:30 p.m., evacuations began on the east side of town, where the courthouse is located. The facility's single judicial assistant secured the courthouse and helped answer telephones in the Sheriff's Office. Once additional deputies were on site, she left for home.

As the fire spread, the J.A. began packing up her family. They stayed awake all night to monitor the fire. On Friday, there was no boat or helicopter service, as no one from the mainland was allowed to come to the island. Generally, court proceedings are

handled on Fridays, but due to the island being shut down, the court went dark.

While the east side of town was still under an evacuation order, Judge Peter Mirich and the J.A. handled a few matters telephonically, and at noon, the courthouse closed. Firefighters were able to get the fire under control overnight, and residents began returning to the island the following day. The courthouse opened on Monday, May 14, ready for business as usual.

The Malibu area was hit twice during the fire season, each time forcing the closure of the Malibu Courthouse. In October, the courthouse was closed for five days due to fires.

The courthouse was not damaged, but some clean-up was necessary. Fires again forced the closure of the Malibu Courthouse in November. It was only closed for a day and a half while the parking lot was used as the command center for fire and police services.

In situations where sudden disaster forces closure of entire facilities, well-developed procedures are brought into play to evaluate the severity of the crisis and identify ways to compensate. As was the case last year, the response included setting new dates for dozens of cases, but the emergency response process also stands ready to quickly identify ways that a stricken courthouse's entire caseload could be relocated.



Self-Help

Courthouses can be confusing places, and the plethora of forms that must be filled out can be intimidating. During the 1990s, the number of individuals appearing without counsel in the county grew significantly. Without funds to engage a lawyer, needy litigants were often forced to fend for themselves in the courts.

In court parlance, self-represented parties are deemed as appearing *in propria persona*, Latin for “in one’s own person.” Our family law staffers assist these individuals, and we also provide multiple resource centers and online services.

To help self-represented parties and others seeking guidance, we expanded and refined our services in 2007. These efforts include additional Internet functions and brochures and new self-help centers in Norwalk, Santa Monica and San Fernando.

The early success of the Norwalk center demonstrates the pent-up demand for better resources for self-represented litigants. Even before its official opening, the Norwalk location was serving more than 100 people a day in a small space with only four computer stations.

Last year, 46,241 customers were helped at the Court’s largest Resource Center for Self-Represented Litigants at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in downtown Los Angeles. An estimated 20 percent were Spanish-speakers. The center spans 14,000 square feet, housing four workshop rooms, 40 available work spaces for litigants and 12 public computers.

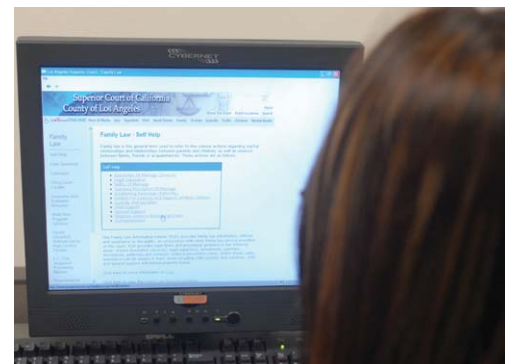
Although the focus is on family law matters, the facility also has free legal assistance for landlord-tenant, probate and domestic violence matters. Important day-of-hearing clinics can be scheduled at the center to update documents, correct documents’ deficiencies and prepare litigants for a courtroom appearance at a family law default hearing.

In addition to Mosk, another estimated 115,000 customers were helped at the three new centers in Norwalk, Santa Monica and San Fernando and the self-help facilities at the Compton, Inglewood, Lancaster, Long Beach, Pomona, Torrance and Van Nuys courthouses.

At the resource centers, services and resources are recommended following a review of a person’s case. Those with relatively simple cases can use the available forms, do-it-yourself legal publications and online forms and legal information to work on their cases with limited assistance.

Unusual or complex cases are referred to legal aid providers and the Los Angeles County Bar Association’s attorney referral service.

Paralegals and volunteers at all 11 self-help centers aid clients in preparing legal documents for final review by an attorney. Every location





stocks more than 100 legal forms, and the staff and volunteers are available to assist clients with their completion.

Our award-winning JusticeCorps is the volunteer backbone of the self-help centers. They serve a year-long assignment assessing case files and assisting clients with document completion under the supervision of staff paralegals or attorneys.

Our first self-help legal access center opened in Van Nuys in 2000 with public funds provided by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. It was relocated last year from a trailer that lacked

secure entry and was expanded and moved inside the Van Nuys East Courthouse.

We are proud of the assistance we offer to self-represented litigants and will continue our work to expand the range of programs and resources we provide, as well as the size and locations of our self-help operations.

Self-Help Center Locations

- **Antelope Valley Self-Help Center**
Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse
- **Compton Self-Help Center**
Compton Courthouse
- **Inglewood Self-Help Legal Access Center**
Inglewood Courthouse
- **Long Beach Resource Center/
Self-Help Center**
Long Beach Courthouse
- **Norwalk Resource Center for
Self-Represented Litigants**
Norwalk Courthouse
- **Pomona Self-Help
Legal Access Center**
Pomona South Courthouse
- **San Fernando Self-Help
Legal Access Center**
San Fernando Courthouse
- **Santa Monica Self-Help
Legal Access Center**
Santa Monica Courthouse
- **Resource Center for
Self-Represented Litigants**
Stanley Mosk Courthouse
- **Torrance Self-Help Center**
Torrance Courthouse
- **Van Nuys Self-Help
Legal Access Center**
Van Nuys Courthouse

See Locations and Court Services on page 61 for addresses



JusticeCorps

We expanded our JusticeCorps legal assistance program last year from 100 volunteers to 140. In addition, a pilot fellowship program was added. JusticeCorps volunteers provide assistance to self-represented litigants. They answer questions, help litigants complete court paperwork and put on workshops.

JusticeCorps fellows are graduates of the JusticeCorps program. Most have completed their college degrees and anticipate law school enrollment.

Fellows provide direct assistance to litigants whose cases are being heard in two family law courtrooms piloting a case-flow-management program.

A critical aspect of this assistance is that the fellows attend the court hearings and accompany the litigant to the resource center to help keep the case on track for disposition.

One of the goals is not only to assist the litigant with paperwork, but also educate them, so that they fully understand the nature of the proceedings, what was said during the hearing, and the purpose of the documents they are filing.

Undergraduate JusticeCorps members serve a minimum of 300 hours for one year, which is the equivalent of one day per week throughout at least the academic year. This qualifies them for a \$1,000 education award. They receive no other compensation, other than mileage reimbursement and parking.

Fellows work full-time for one year and receive a monthly living allowance of \$1,660. On completion of 1,700 service hours, they also qualify for a one-time education award of \$4,725 for tuition or payment of student loans.

Undeniably, the service the JusticeCorps members and fellows provide us and the public offers far more value than the costs of administering and staffing the programs.

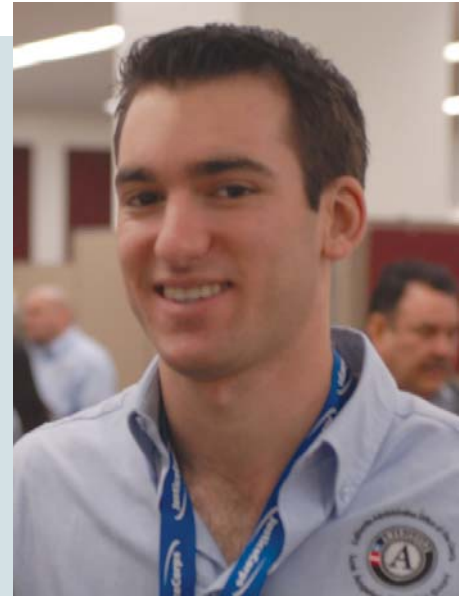
There are currently 11 fellows. The personal stories of two of them tell a great deal about what JusticeCorps is all about.



Robbie Contreras is a UCLA graduate who will begin law school at Penn State University in August 2008. A fluent Spanish-speaker, Robbie is the son of a retired Imperial County Superior Court judge.

Robbie describes himself as having “come from two worlds” growing up so close to the border, and this has fostered a desire in him to assist those in need. After he finished his JusticeCorps volunteer year, he returned to his home in El Centro and worked to establish a self-help access center for the superior court there.

Collaborating with a court attorney, he helped establish community partnership workshops focusing on family law matters. Robbie is interested in a career in international relations.



Christine Ro is also a graduate of UCLA and anticipates enrolling in law school in 2008. As this is written, she had applied to nine.

Christine has a passion, she says, for “helping others get over barriers and increase their access to justice.”

Her work with the Court, particularly in the area of family law, has fueled her desire to assist others, but she emphasizes that ‘having heart’ is not enough.

Providing assistance to people requires the correct skill set and the ability to discern the parameters within which she can work with her customers.

Christine assists litigants who speak Korean, which she learned from her grandparents and through college courses. She says the number of Korean-speaking litigants coming to the resource center has increased, consistent with the growth of the center itself. She plans to study public-interest law.





www.lasuperiorcourt.org

The Los Angeles Superior Court's award-winning Web site brings court and case information and services to the public, in their homes and offices, 24 hours a day.

The site — www.lasuperiorcourt.org — offers a more diverse array of services than any other court Web site in California – and possibly the country. Electronic access to court information is a win-win situation for both the public and the Court.

In addition to the obvious benefit of being able to use the services on demand, users can avoid the hassle of driving to a courthouse — battling traffic and expending time, effort and gas. Court staff also benefits from fewer telephone calls and shorter lines.

The Web site provides a great deal of general information about the Court and court processes; answers frequently asked questions regarding civil, family law and probate proceedings; and offers case and calendar information, links to self-help and employment opportunities.

Our e-commerce services can be found on the main page, in a section labeled “[LAeCourt Online](#).” They include:

Traffic Tickets

Under this option, a user can pay a traffic ticket, request an extension regarding a traffic ticket, request traffic school, reserve a traffic court date and many other options related to traffic tickets.

E-File Small Claims

This selection provides information regarding filing small claims cases and contains the option for filing those cases electronically.

Civil Case Documents

From this section, a user can download scanned images of general jurisdiction (lawsuits greater than \$25,000) civil case documents that have been filed at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse.

Civil Party Index

A user can search by name for litigants in civil, small claims, family law and probate cases in the Los Angeles Superior Court. The index returns a list of litigant names, corresponding case types, filing dates, filing locations and available imaged documents.

Criminal Defendant Index

A user can access an index of defendants in criminal cases in the Los Angeles Superior Court. The index returns a list of case numbers and filing dates related to the party/company name submitted. If available, counts, current charges, disposition and disposition dates are included.

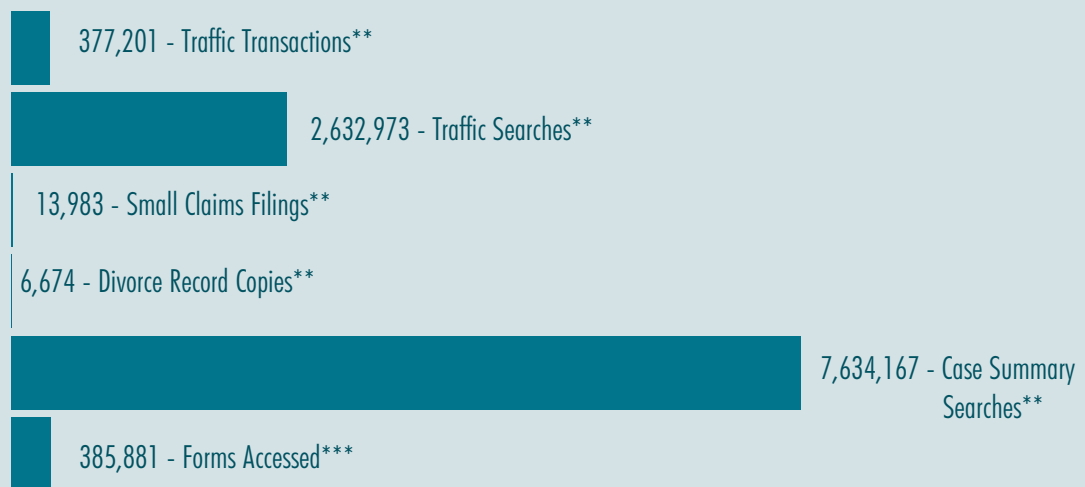
Divorce Record Copies

A user can order family law divorce judgments from the Court's Archives and Records Center.

During the past year, the Court's online services continued to be of tremendous benefit to the public, as demonstrated by the number of times these processes were used in 2007.

Use of the Criminal Defendant Index* and traffic ticket transactions accounted for about 80 percent of all online services used by the public.

Online Usage



(*transaction figures for 2007 not available at time of publishing)
(** transactions occurring between 12/1/2006 and 11/30/2007)
(*** transactions occurring between 2/7/2007 and 11/30/2007)

Family Law

Our expanded family law services assist all county residents with cases concerning child custody, divorce and separation, domestic violence, restraining orders, paternity and financial support, and we are also highly regarded for our specialized parent-training services.

The Court's successful Parenting Without Conflict course was widely publicized in 2007 after celebrity couples were ordered to receive parenting-skills training for parents with high-conflict custody disputes.

Divorced couples in the six-week course practice communication skills and discuss confrontational behavior, which can negatively affect children.

Separated parents also are benefiting from new, family law brochures, which describe how to create a plan for shared child-rearing. The seven, age-specific brochures address children's emotional and physical needs from newborn to age 18. A separate brochure suggests custody options during vacations and holidays.

In September, the family law department convened an all-afternoon training session on emergency protective orders (EPOs) that involved 38 municipal and county law enforcement departments.

An EPO protects people from physical, emotional and financial abuse — even if they can't get to the Court to obtain such an order. Although restraining orders are usually obtained from the Court, it falls to police officers or deputies to request an EPO when the courts are closed, say on a holiday or weekend. Once in hand, an EPO is valid for seven days.

During the training session, the family law supervising judge instructed 66 police officers and deputies in an EPO's legal eligibility and proof requirements, and how to obtain an EPO anytime of the day or night through the county operator.

Other judicial officers taught segments on obtaining current EPO forms, evaluating violent situations and restraining order application procedures. All presentations were supported by a packet of instructional materials.

These programs and others — child waiting rooms, self-help legal access centers and family law educational materials — generated national recognition for our Court.

During October, Harvard Law School invited our judicial leaders to introduce the core curriculum at the National Judicial Conference on Leadership, Education and Courtroom Best Practices in Self-Represented Litigation hosted by the Self-Represented Litigation Network.

Our assistant presiding judge chaired California's delegation and led its action-plan development for judicial education on self-represented litigants.

After reviewing our training module for new judges, the delegation will support statewide judicial education concerning self-represented litigants. Judicial officers from 30 states attended the conference — including six chief justices.

Nearly 40,000 divorce and separation cases were filed in Los Angeles County during 2006. Additionally, more than 17,000 domestic violence restraining order requests and more than 5,500 requests to establish paternity were filed with the Court.



In an effort to help litigants finalize their divorces, some family law judges ordered parties to attend a status conference on their case. Some couples were shocked to learn they were still married. Others had reconciled. But others had simply been waiting for some direction from the Court.

The judges suggested resolutions tailored for each case, often directing former couples to the Court's Resource Center for Self-Represented Litigants or community legal aid organizations.

The successful initiative helped hundreds of litigants finalize the process they came to the Court to initiate.

Court-employed attorneys and paralegals at the Family Law Facilitator's office help clients with child support, spousal support and health insurance issues. With offices in the 13 courthouses hearing family law cases, the facilitator's staff personally assisted some 23,000 clients last year, and 75,000 more were helped by phone.

By operating field clinics and workshops at homeless centers, jails and community centers, the Family Law Facilitator's staff also served many non-traditional constituencies.

In addition, nearly 100,000 clients were helped at nine additional self-help legal information facilities in courthouses throughout the county.



Parenting Plan Brochures

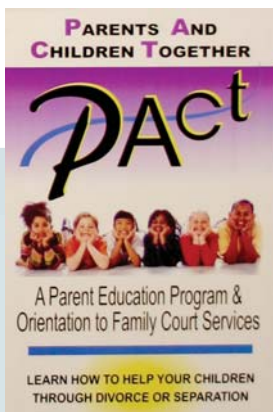
In 2007, Family Court Services created a series of brochures for divorced and separated parents trying to share child-rearing responsibilities.

The colorful "Creating a Parenting Plan" pamphlets address children's emotional and physical needs from: newborn to 3, 3 to 5, 6 to 9, 10 to 13 and 14 to 18. A separate brochure for holidays and vacations encourages scheduling flexibility, so children can deepen their ties with both parents.

The series includes tips to make a parenting plan successful. For example:

- Communicate and keep each other informed about your child's needs;
- Make your best effort to create similar routines in both households;
- Shield your child from any conflict between you and the other parent;
- Be a role model to your children by showing respect for each other as parents;
- Be on time and make sure all parenting-plan changes are by mutual agreement; and
- Set aside negative feelings about the other parent.

Each pamphlet has an introduction linking children's emotional and physical needs to their age, emphasizing the need to reassure children that both parents will always play a major role in their lives.



The PACT Program

Children are greatly affected when their parents divorce or separate, and our Parents and Children Together program helps families adjust to their changing situations. With few exceptions, PACT is a free, mandatory, three-hour parent training and family law services orientation for parents of minor children. Adults must attend the program before participating in either mediation or a family court hearing. PACT helps parents address arrangements for their children, including visitation and custody.

Parties may initially turn to the Court, believing a hearing is the only way to resolve any disagreement. However at PACT, parents find that our child custody mediators can help them reach agreements, and there is no charge for the service.

Through PACT, parents begin to understand what their children may be thinking and feeling, and how they can best meet their children's emotional needs.

A PACT session also offers guidelines for conducting and concluding satisfactory negotiations with a former spouse or partner.

Among the PACT directives for parents:

- Never fight in front of your children;
- Answer children's questions about your separation in an age-appropriate way;
- Allow your children to express their feelings; and
- Reassure your children that they are loved and that your separation is not their fault.

PACT sessions are conducted twice a month at these courthouses: Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley, Norwalk, Pomona South, Santa Monica, Torrance and Van Nuys East.

PACT is held once a month at the Compton, Long Beach, Metropolitan, Pasadena and Stanley Mosk courthouses. Mosk offers one session in English and one session in Spanish.

A detailed schedule is available by calling the PACT information number: (888) 889-9900.

Probate



Although the Probate Department is best known for settling estates

of decedents, it also handles cases involving children, when their parents are unable to care for them, and adults, who need someone else to manage their living arrangements and finances.

During the past fiscal year, there were 11,098 probate filings, and 5,060 of these involved settling decedents' estates. The remaining filings included 1,473 adult conservatorships and 1,487 children's guardianships.

Trust proceedings are the fastest growing area of probate filings, totaling 1,634 during the last fiscal year.

A recent California law mandating training and qualifications for professional conservators, and increasing the Court's oversight of conservatees, is significantly impacting probate department operations.

Despite static funding, our probate investigations staff nearly doubled in size — and contracted another five investigators — to perform the 10,000 investigations required annually by the new legislation.

Two initiatives by the probate department's supervising judge will spark new awareness for elderly conservatees: a volunteer elder-advocacy corps and the Elder Abuse Prevention Task Force.

Following discussions with the nonprofit Wise & Healthy Aging organization in Santa Monica, a visitation program for stay-at-home elders was jointly developed. Called Advocates for Conserved Elders (ACE), a formal proposal for funding was then submitted to the California Community Foundation.

The foundation granted the \$235,000 proposal, allowing ACE volunteers to visit and monitor the well-being of conservatees without close friends or family.

ACE participants will be recruited from throughout the county and extensively trained by the Wise & Healthy Aging staff.

The Elder Abuse Prevention Task Force, which is chaired by the supervising judge of the probate department, involves 20 nonprofit and government organizations. At its quarterly meetings, the task force coordinates elder abuse response services and exchanges program information.

The Court also provides training for nonprofessional conservators on the first Monday of each month in the Resource Center for Self-Represented Litigants at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in downtown Los Angeles.

DEPARTMENT 11
PROBATE MASTER CALENDAR

Juvenile



When people outside the legal realm hear the word “juvenile,” they might automatically think “bad kids” or “little criminals.” In our world, however, the term is both very simple — children under the age of 18 — but also quite complicated since there are two significantly different types of juvenile cases — delinquency and dependency.

Delinquency Court does deal with youth who are accused of crimes. Our hope, however, is that we can catch these children early and rehabilitate them. It doesn’t always work, but sometimes it does, and we celebrate these success stories. Some children have other problems, such as mental illness or drug addictions, which, if properly handled, can be resolved — turning their lives around for the better.

Dependency Court has nothing to do with criminal acts of children. Its focus is to protect children from abuse and neglect.

Dependency Court judicial officers aim to keep the family intact, but the most important thing is the child’s safety. This may mean removing a child from an abusive home, at least temporarily, until the home conditions are improved.

The Juvenile Court has experienced a lot of exciting developments in 2007, and we anticipate even more progress in 2008. Some of our accomplishments are listed below.

Dependency Court Offers Assistance to Dependent Children and Parents with Drug Problems

In collaboration with our justice partners, a new protocol was developed in the Dependency Court last year to identify dependent youth who may have a substance abuse problem. The goal is to improve the health of the child and to help him or her avoid entering the juvenile delinquency system.

The protocol provides a system for screening and assessing at-risk youth and referring them to treatment providers. The Court monitors the children as they move through the process. Having an established process also assists those involved with dependent children (attorneys, social workers, caregivers, etc.) in their efforts to encourage and support a healthy lifestyle.

This past summer, the Court awaited the graduation of the first class of parents in a pilot program designed to aid parents of children in Dependency Court with their substance abuse problems.

In 2006, a grant enabled the establishment of a Dependency Drug Court, which provides most of the services of a typical adult drug court program. While there is no guarantee that children will be returned to their parents, the goal of the program is to facilitate family reunification by helping parents provide a healthy environment for their children.

Parents receive intensive services and strict oversight by county Department of Children and Family Services workers and the Court. Twenty-two families participated in the program over the course of a year. Positive changes in the parents' behavior have been obvious to those working with them and have resulted in mothers being reunited with their children.

The program's success is attributed to a rigorous schedule of bi-weekly meetings with the parents to monitor their progress. The program is being expanded to four additional courts in January 2008.

Partnership Conference

In October, the Los Angeles Juvenile Court, in conjunction with Cal State L.A. and numerous other co-sponsors, held its 12th annual Partnership Conference at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

About 1,100 judicial officers, attorneys, social workers, probation officers and others attended and had the opportunity to learn from 29 workshops and two informative plenary sessions.

2008 Outlook

The agenda for 2008 includes committee work on a wide diversity of issues such as psychotropic medications, obesity, dental health, delinquency representation and disproportionate minority representation in the foster care system.

In addition, the Juvenile Court is considering an expansion of its dependent youth substance abuse protocol and its dependency and delinquency drug courts.



Adoption Saturday

Adoption Saturday, our innovative and nationally recognized event that finalizes adoptions for dozens to hundreds of foster children on a single day, celebrated a decade of service to families last year. Fittingly, the milestone was marked by a November Adoption Saturday in which the adoptions of more than 200 children were consummated. Since the events began in 1998, they have seen

more than 10,000 children join permanent families.

Adoption Saturday was originated by our Juvenile Court presiding judge, in partnership with the Alliance for Children's Rights, Public Counsel, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services and major law firms. As always on Adoption Saturday, the festive 10th anniversary installment brought out hundreds of family members and friends to

help newly adopted children celebrate the day.

Fifteen volunteer judges handled the adoptions at the Edmund D. Edelman's Children's Court.



Facilities



Without fanfare, the Los Angeles Superior Court in mid-2007 took its first step toward transferring ownership of all of its courthouses from Los Angeles County to the state of California. This process marks our reaching the final phase of the process of unifying the superior and former municipal courts.

For the Long Beach Courthouse, which has, unfortunately, become something of a symbol for the statewide need for new and upgraded courthouses, this moment cannot come too soon. For us, the need is all the more urgent since fully three quarters of our buildings do not meet current seismic safety standards. In addition, most of them are outmoded, cramped and difficult working environments for the judges and employees assigned to them — not to mention the customers who use them.

It is likely that sometime in the first half of 2008, the ownership of the Long Beach Courthouse will pass legally to the state. An urgent, \$16 million project to relieve some of the courthouse's most pronounced earthquake vulnerabilities will be completed in that same period.

Because the need in Long Beach is so great, an earthquake safety upgrade was authorized and paid for by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, even though building ownership is about to fall out of county hands.

Long Beach is hampered not just by seismic risk, but by leaky ceilings, inadequate parking, inoperable escalators and the overall design of the building, which requires, among other things, that defendants in custody be escorted through the same hallways that are often jammed with witnesses, jurors, spectators and other court customers.

Replacing the Long Beach Courthouse will be a time-consuming, extraordinarily expensive process. There is no time schedule for even the first phase. There is also the cost — more than \$340 million at today's prices. The amount is certain to increase before construction can begin. The earliest completion date for a new courthouse is 2013, although even preliminary design work has not yet begun and financing remains uncertain.

Cost considerations also have prompted a historic step for courthouses in California. For the first time, consideration is being given to developing a new courthouse through a public-private partnership. If this process is negotiated successfully, a commercial developer could make the initial investment in construction of the new courthouse, leasing the facility back to the Court.

The county's decision to shore up the Long Beach Courthouse was the first of two in which the Board of Supervisors approved use of county money for improvements on a courthouse the county will no longer own. In mid-2007, the board agreed to invest about \$2 million to increase the capacity of the Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse in Lancaster by adding two courtrooms.



Space was available in the structure because it was designed to accommodate future expansion when it opened in 2002. Still more expansion is possible as the Antelope Valley's rapidly rising population explodes further. Additional courtrooms also could be built at the Chatsworth Courthouse — which opened in 2003 and was also designed with future expansion in mind.



To anyone who has visited one of our courthouses in the last year or two, the reality of the system is quite obvious: The Court is bursting at the seams, struggling with antiquated buildings with serious, long-term maintenance challenges. Nearly all of them were designed and built long before the computer era, so electrical wiring and communications infrastructure is outdated or, in some cases, nearly nonexistent.

Altogether, statewide, the Administrative Office of the Courts faces a staggering \$8.9 billion worth of courthouse expansion and replacement projects that need to be completed to keep pace with California's growing population. As prioritized by the AOC, Los Angeles County priorities include the Huntington Park, Santa Clarita and Stanley Mosk courthouses.

Under this statewide facilities master plan, the Long Beach project would conclude site selection by the end of 2008. Plans would be developed by 2010, with construction scheduled to begin in 2011 and conclude in 2013.

In the case of Mosk — the largest courthouse in the United States with just shy of 100 civil courtrooms in downtown Los Angeles — the situation is further complicated by the uncertain status of the courthouse in the larger Grand Avenue Plan redevelopment. Despite its size, Mosk has outgrown its caseload, and demands for services there have exceeded the capabilities of the building. Replacing it will cost at least \$900 million — likely more than \$1 billion.

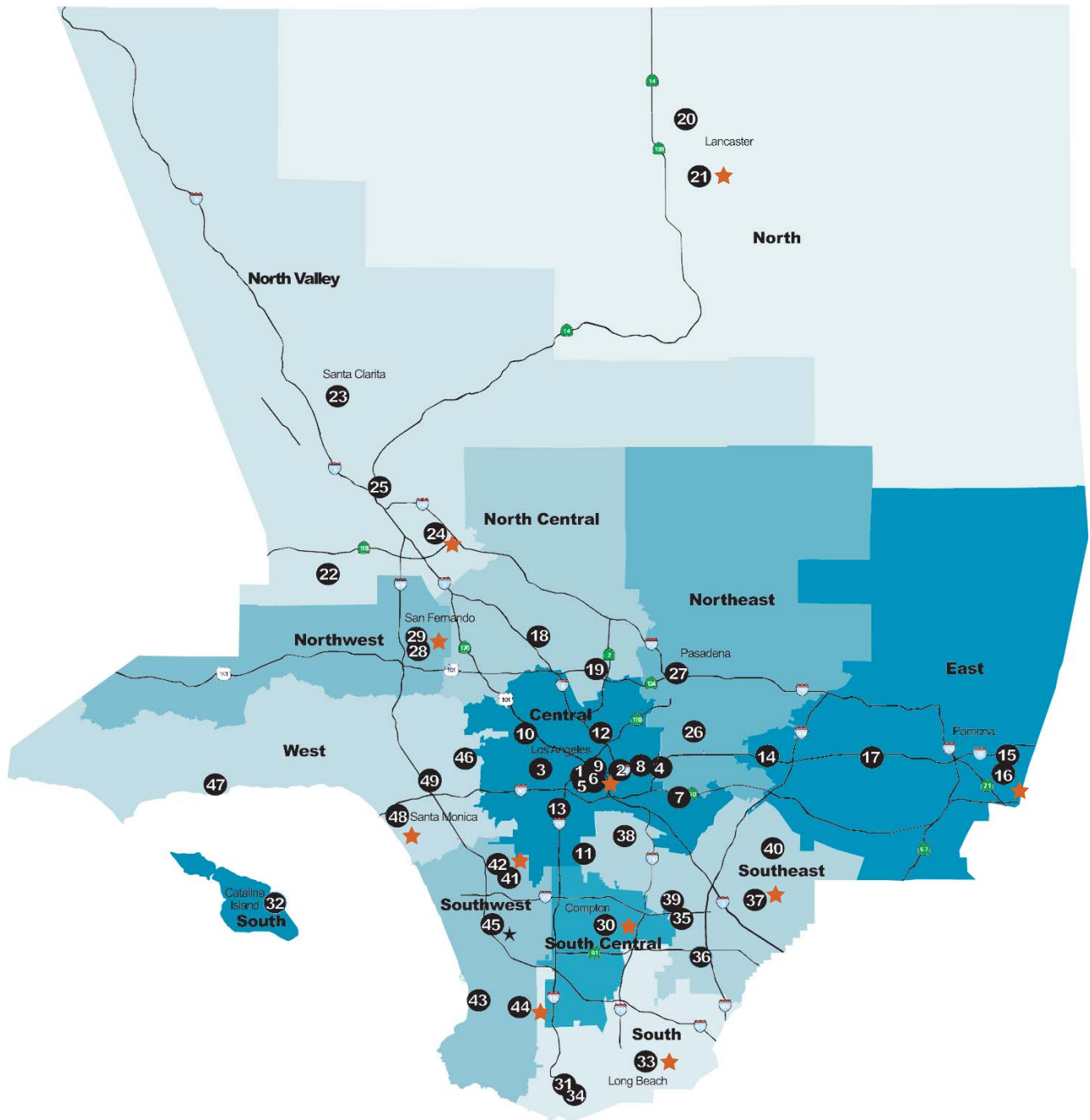
The fate of Mosk remains uncertain, however, since no determination has been made of whether it is to be replaced as part of the overall downtown redevelopment and, if so, what would be built and where. A block from Mosk, preliminary construction operations are already under way for a new United States courthouse. No firm completion date for the project has been set.

Beginning in 2008, management and then legal title to the remaining courthouses in Los Angeles County will pass to the state. The public is unlikely to notice any difference in operations as this ownership change evolves. Even as legal title is transferred, Los Angeles County will remain responsible for maintenance of the buildings for at least the next two years.

Just as 2007 was a challenging year for how we make the best of our inadequate facilities, 2008 will bring more of the same.



Districts, Courthouses and Self-Help Centers



Districts and Court Locations

CENTRAL

County Records Center.....	1
Central Arraignment Court	2
Central Civil West	3
Edmund D. Edelman Children’s Court	4
Stanley Mosk Courthouse	5
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center.....	6
East Los Angeles Courthouse	7
Eastlake Juvenile Court	8
Hall of Records.....	9
Hollywood Courthouse.....	10
David V. Kenyon Juvenile Justice Center.....	11
Mental Health Court	12
Metropolitan Courthouse.....	13

EAST

El Monte Courthouse	14
Pomona Courthouse, North	15
Pomona Courthouse, South	16
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NORTH CENTRAL

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NORTH

Alfred J. McCourtney Juvenile Justice Center.....	20
Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse	21

NORTH VALLEY

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Compton Courthouse.....	30
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SOUTH

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SOUTHEAST

Downey Courthouse.....	35
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SOUTHWEST

Inglewood Courthouse	41
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Redondo Beach Courthouse	43
Torrance Courthouse.....	44

WEST

Airport Courthouse*	45
Beverly Hills Courthouse.....	46
Malibu Courthouse	47
Santa Monica Courthouse	48
West Los Angeles Courthouse	49

 Self-Help Center Locations

* Geographically located in Southwest District

From One Extreme to the Other, A Look at Two Courthouses



Many residents of Los Angeles County are probably unaware that there is a courthouse on Santa Catalina Island. Part of the South District, the Catalina Courthouse is the smallest courthouse in the state. Located in the city of Avalon, and serving a population of just under 3,700 residents, the Catalina Courthouse handles traffic, civil, small claims and criminal matters.

While the facility is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, court appearances are handled on Fridays only. Judicial Assistant Donna Lopez is the only full-time employee. On Fridays, Judge Peter J. Mirich comes to the island and is accompanied by a bailiff, court reporter, deputy district attorney and an interpreter.

On the other end of the spectrum, the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in downtown Los Angeles is the largest courthouse in the United States in terms of the number of courtrooms.

Mosk is part of the Central District, which includes the Clara Shorridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center, Central Civil West, Mental Health Court, Central Arraignment Courts and the Metropolitan, Hollywood and East Los Angeles courthouses.

General civil, limited civil, small claims, unlawful detainer, family law and probate cases are heard at Mosk in its 99 courtrooms. The Appellate Division also is located at Mosk, along with the Court's executive offices, human resources, finance and other administrative offices. Some 1,366 employees currently staff Mosk.

Statistical Comparisons — FY 2006-07

	Catalina	Mosk
Limited Civil Filings	9	21,934
Small Claims	20	16,854
Courtrooms	1	99
Gross Square Footage	1,976	794,459
Number of Employees	1	1,366



Stanley Mosk and Catalina courthouses circa 1960



Long Beach Courthouse

For more than a decade, our Long Beach Courthouse has symbolized the challenges posed by outdated, sometimes decrepit and overcrowded facilities.

Long Beach has endured chronically inoperable elevators and escalators, architecture that frequently requires that dangerous defendants in custody be moved about the courthouse through public hallways, a literal growing gap between two parts of the courthouse that were constructed at different times and a crumbling structure that presents seismic safety issues.

Long Beach's problems have been extensively chronicled in local news media and in our own magazine, *Gavel to Gavel*, among many other places.

In 2007, work began on an emergency earthquake safety upgrade that is scheduled for completion in this year. The \$16 million upgrade, authorized by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, will ensure that the building can be safely evacuated in the event of a serious earthquake.

For many years, however, there has been a growing recognition that the deficiencies of the Long Beach Courthouse cannot be overcome, and the facility needs complete replacement. As a state review of the courthouse last year concluded: "This outdated and undersized building is and will remain incapable of meeting the region's growing demand for court services."

In the second half of 2007, the Board of Supervisors and the Administrative Office of the Courts began the process of transferring ownership of the Long Beach Courthouse from the county to the state. Eventually, every courthouse will change ownership, but Long Beach is the first in our jurisdiction. The final steps in the transfer process are to occur in the first quarter of this year.

Also last year, the AOC revised its priorities for statewide courthouse replacement, and Long Beach moved up to near the top of the list. The new structure would house 31 courtrooms.

Like the larger countywide and statewide dilemma of courthouse replacement and expansion, however, the Long Beach solution is far from in view. Replacement of the courthouse would cost more than \$340 million at today's prices. Construction costs have been rising rapidly, however, and the ultimate total price is difficult to project.

With the exception of two court facilities that are in rented space, all of our courtrooms were built in conventional public building fashion — financed, constructed and owned by Los Angeles County.

Today's environment is far different, however, so consideration is being given to a major shift toward creation of a public-private partnership in which a commercial developer would construct the courthouse — probably on land already owned by the city of Long Beach or the county. The state would, essentially, lease the courthouse back over several decades.

The concept is untested in courthouse construction. However, in August of 2007 the AOC began the process of examining the legal and practical feasibility of building courthouses in this fashion. As this Annual Report goes to press, the search for a potential private partner is in its very first phase.

Courthouse Security



All litigants who enter a Los Angeles Superior Court facility must empty their pockets, send their belongings through weapons screening and pass through a metal detector. Sometimes lines snake down the block as jurors, attorneys, employees and court customers pile into our courthouses each morning and afternoon — but that’s a small inconvenience to be safe.

The Court contracts with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department to provide security. Every day, disputes are litigated in our courtrooms that have the potential to turn confrontational. It is our obligation — and a responsibility we take very seriously — to ensure that no one enters a courthouse with a weapon and that any altercations are dealt with swiftly and carefully.

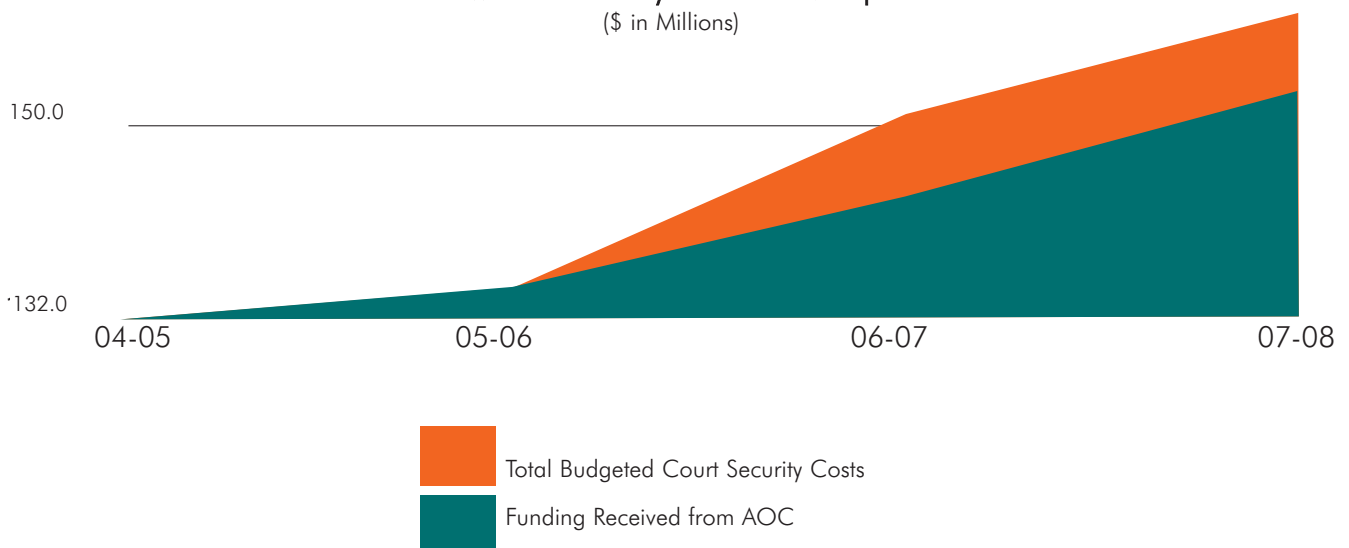
Making sure the judicial officers, employees, attorneys and customers who access our facilities are safe is a big-ticket endeavor. But the safety of our 600 judicial officers, 5,400 employees, hundreds of thousands of jurors and millions of litigants and other customers requires that we do everything we can to assure security.

Three years ago, our security costs were \$132.3 million. Now, in fiscal year 2007-08, they are projected to reach \$169.4 million — an increase of \$37.1 million. That is simply more money than we have under current funding allocation guidelines.

Last year, we received \$6.9 million less than was needed to cover our funding needs. For FY 2007-08, the funding shortfall will total \$12.3 million.

We also realize that costs are driven by the need of the Sheriff’s Department to remain competitive in the law enforcement salary marketplace for Los Angeles County — where dozens of agencies compete vigorously for the most capable personnel. By statute, we are required to use the Sheriff’s Department for security.

How Our Security Deficit Developed
(\$ in Millions)





Every year, more than 200,000 restricted items are discovered at weapons screening stations, including handguns, knives, daggers, dirks, blades, pellet guns, billy clubs, nunchucks, razors and handcuffs. Depending on the situation, deputies may deny entry to a patron with a restricted item, or agree to hold the item until a person completes his or her court business.

Besides protecting the public, the Sheriff's Department also has a special group of deputies who investigate threats made against our judicial officers.

Each year, the Judicial Services Unit (previously known as the Security Operations Unit) investigates about 200 threats — the bulk of which are angry letters or other inappropriate correspondence. Annually, roughly a dozen cases turn out to be legitimate threats, which require monitoring or arrests.

In December, we tackled the topic of security in an issue of our judges' magazine, *Gavel to Gavel*. Judicial officers wrote compelling, well-received stories, many of which are frightening — death threats; a judge and his wife who were murdered at their home; defendants hiding and using weapons in court; a threat against a judge's child; a gun held to a prosecutor's head; a hit list found in a solitary confinement cell that included the name of a judge. The list goes on.

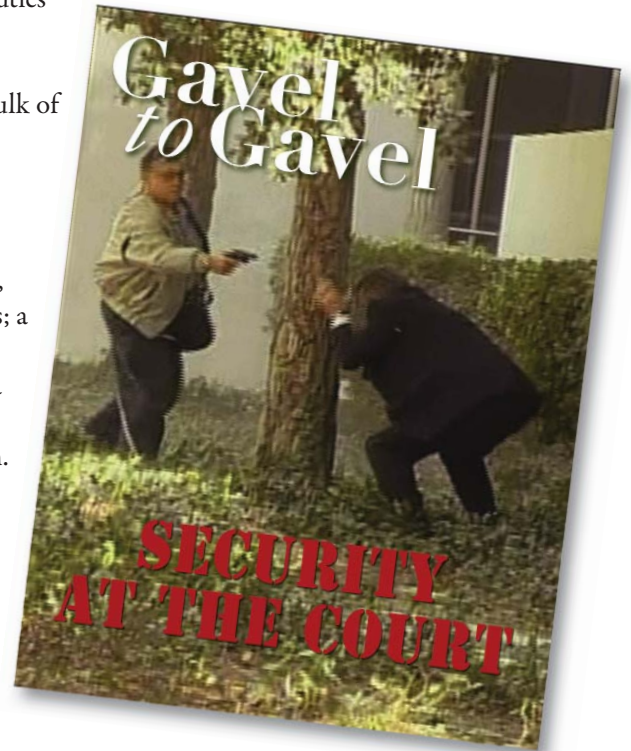
A big part of the problem is that Los Angeles County has security needs unlike any other county in the state. We have high-profile cases weekly — if not daily — that require us to have additional deputies. A single minor court appearance by a celebrity can require more than a dozen deputies to manage the inevitable crush of media and assure uninterrupted access to the Court for all customers.

Gang territory surrounds or borders more than a dozen of our courthouses, creating a volatile atmosphere. It is not uncommon for two or more multi-defendant, multi-victim gang murder cases to be on trial simultaneously in some of our courthouses. This creates constant security demands that are unseen anywhere else in California.

As the largest court in the state, we have more dangerous inmates to transport, hold in our court lockups and return to their cells than anywhere else. Many of these lockups are older, inefficient facilities that require intensive staffing levels to operate safely.

The Court maximizes every dollar we are allocated to work with the sheriff to provide the best security we can. Nearly 90 percent of the Court's security personnel are at or near the highest salary range. This is not by plan, but is a function of the reality of the organization's structure.

Preserving the safety of our litigants, staff and judicial officers — and how to pay for it — is always on the minds of Court leadership, as we constantly assess and reassess how to improve upon our already-tight security, while continuing to struggle with inadequate resources.



Jury Service

The willingness of everyday citizens to give up their precious time to serve on a jury is arguably the most critical element to running a civil or criminal courtroom smoothly.

Without jurors, most accused criminals could not stand trial, and a wide range of civil disputes could not be resolved.

Although it is a civic duty, and required for most Americans, the Court's Juror Services division does not take its jurors for granted. One of our key goals for the years to come is to continue to tweak and refine our system so that the average citizen will only have to serve once every three to four years — instead of annually or every two years.

We know that serving as a juror is a rewarding opportunity to be part of the judicial system, but we also realize that it can interrupt other important things in life, such as job schedules and child care arrangements.

What helps us tremendously with our goal is when more citizens respond to their summons, therefore giving us a larger pool of eligible jurors. We draw our potential jurors from voter registration records and state Department of Motor Vehicles records.

Last year, we set records for jury service with more citizens qualifying to serve — 1,055,995 in fact — than ever before and the fewest — 249,497 — being excused. This translated to an impressive 644,101 jurors performing jury service in 5,540 trials at 38 courthouses.

These results cap our long-term trend of increasingly positive citizen support for jury service. Indicating a growing recognition as an integral part of citizenship, our juries routinely include members from all professions, including judges, doctors, gardeners, entrepreneurs, teachers, mechanics, attorneys, dentists, plumbers and food workers.

The effort was greatly helped since countywide adoption of "One-Trial" jury service in 2002, whereby everyone called for jury service is excused now after serving one day or one trial. Nowadays, jurors can easily register for jury service and request to postpone their service with a telephone call to (800) 778-5879.

Postponements also may be requested on our Web site: www.lasuperiorcourt.org, which has a wealth of information about jury service and answers to frequently asked questions.

Special accommodations are available to hearing-impaired jurors and those with mobility impairments.

Once registered, jurors are "on call" for week, and many are never asked to report. Those reporting will be excused the same day if not selected for a panel or jury. If selected, jury trials usually last less than a week.

Beginning on the second day of service, jurors are paid \$15 a day by the Court and are reimbursed for mileage, totaling more than \$6.5 million paid out during fiscal year 2006-07.

According to data collected from that time period, the average amount of time a juror spent in jury service was 1.25 days. Once excused, jurors have finished their obligation for a year.



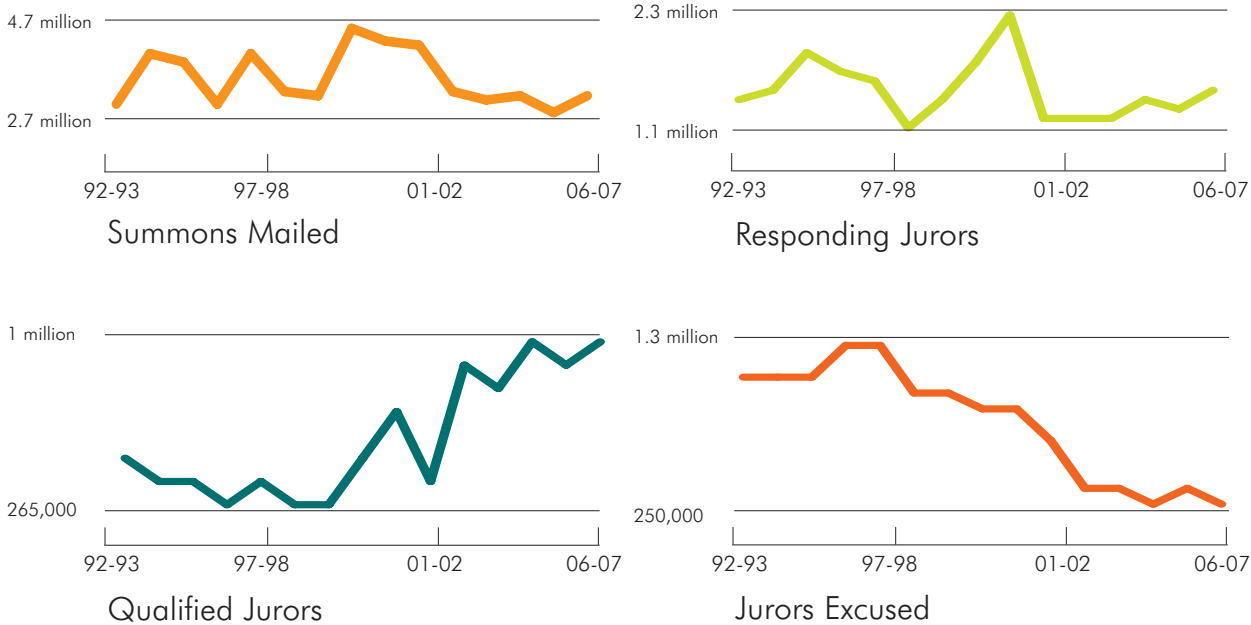
In September, the U.S. Postal Service put on sale 40 million first-class stamps that call attention to jury service as an essential obligation of citizenship. Judges' organizations and legal profession organizations from across the country proposed the stamp. The stamp is one more way to keep the concept of jury service on the minds of everyone in the country.

Jurors who want to transfer their service to a different courthouse, or who want to be excused, must make their request in writing and mail it in the court-supplied envelope accompanying their summons.

Employers are not allowed under California Labor Code to discriminate against employees who take time off for jury service, as long as the worker gives reasonable notice. Jurors receive a form at the end of their service certifying the number of days served.

Juror sanction hearings are held on a weekly basis throughout the county for citizens who fail to respond to jury service notices mailed on three separate occasions to their last known address. Offenders may face stiff fines, plus a new jury service assignment.

Los Angeles Superior Court Yields of Qualified Jurors at New High



Free Internet for Jurors

Free wireless Internet access arrived late last year in the jury assembly room at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in downtown Los Angeles. The convenient new service can be accessed by jurors with the wireless laptop computer connections.

Plans are in place to extend wireless or hard-wired Internet access to each of our 33 jury assembly rooms by the end of 2008. We recognize that for a majority of our jurors, being unable to access the Internet and e-mail is being too far away.

We also spruced up assembly rooms at the Van Nuys, Burbank, Glendale, El Monte and West Covina Courthouses. El Monte is typical, with seating for 100 jurors, and work tables with ample laptop space, enabling jurors to work comfortably on their professional or personal business.

Redecorating the jury assembly rooms in the Inglewood and Hollywood courthouses is on the drawing board for 2008. Each project will include new furnishings, carpeting and paint.





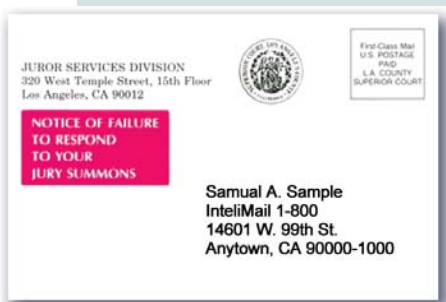
Court Vans Promote Jury Service

Throughout the spring and summer, a dozen Court delivery vans promoted jury service via colorful placards attached to both sides of the vehicles. Proclaiming, “Pull Up a Chair ... Jury Service ... You Be the Judge,” the rolling billboards were the core

element in a highly visible campaign, reaching millions of motorists on the county’s freeways and roads.

During the months-long awareness campaign, drivers also helped distribute a new multimedia pamphlet, “A Look at Your Superior Court.” The marketing piece explains the Los Angeles Superior Court’s role in the community, and details how citizens performing jury service perform a critical role in the justice system and how important it is to respond to jury summonses.

Through a grant from the Administrative Office of the Courts, the juror service pamphlet will be distributed to each of the hundreds of thousands of jurors reporting to a courthouse over the next year.



R.S.V.P. Postcards

Maybe it’s the red box announcing “Notice of Failure to Respond to Your Jury Summons” that gets their attention, but last year a simple postcard generated impressive response rates month-after-month and helped jurors avoid sanctions and a possible fine.

Since November 2006, the reminder postcard has garnered a 20 percent response rate from jurors who previously ignored their summons. Exactly 86,056 postcard respondents ultimately qualified for jury duty, and, of those, 21,710 served.

The card further reminds recipients that jury service is “mandatory” and a “vital aspect of citizenship.” It also provides a telephone number for jury service registration any time of day — **(800) SRV-JURY** or **(800) 778-5879**.

Judicial Education



Our Judicial Education Seminars program — an initiative launched in March 2005 — continued to improve and grow last year, proving why it is one of our proudest achievements.

JES provides judges with an effective way to continue their judicial education beyond the experience they gain daily on the bench.

As of early December, JES already had offered roughly 30 programs in 2007 with 850 attendees participating in 3,600 hours of instruction.

The goals for JES are three-fold: expand on core learning offered by the state's California Center for Judicial Education and Research; develop "best practices" among judges; and promote collegiality among the Court's civil and criminal judicial officers.

Although it is not a requirement, the guideline set by the Administrative Office of the Courts concerning continuing judicial education is that state trial court judges complete 30 hours of training every three years.

Subordinate judicial officers, however, including commissioners and referees, are required to fulfill the 30-hour

guideline with coursework determined by the presiding judge.

Because our judicial education emphasis is so strong, our judges are often called upon to act as faculty in training programs all over California. The Bench Bar Biannual Conference, sponsored by the California Judicial Council, was held in Anaheim last fall, with dozens of our judges and several staff members leading sessions.

Many of our judges were also invited to a faculty summit organized by the AOC at which advanced teaching methods of judicial education were demonstrated and refined. Several of our experienced judge-instructors led sessions that received broad acclaim.

Los Angeles Superior Court judges traditionally have taken continuing education courses provided by judicial education organizations, such as CJER. JES was designed by former Presiding Judge William MacLaughlin to supplement and expand upon this core learning.

JES is unique in that all classes are held in Los Angeles County, allowing bench officers to stay local, therefore also avoiding travel costs and minimizing time away from their courtrooms.

While many CJER programs are put together by staff, JES curricula are developed by our judges, drawing on the high-level of expertise exhibited by the Los Angeles Superior Court's 600 judicial officers.



Faculty training includes a variety of teaching methods, including the use of video clips, role-playing activities, hypothetical situations and case law. The teaching methods are interactive, drawing on the experiences of each student.

The program features small classes and peer-to-peer teaching by teams of judicial officers who have completed a week of training on the latest adult education methods.

The wide range of classes held this year includes:

- Advanced Evidence: Expert Issues in Complex Criminal Cases,
- Writs of *Habeas Corpus*,
- Family Law Seminar,
- Introduction to Search Warrants,
- Disruptive Defendants and Problem *Pro Pers*,
- Civil Case Management,
- A Criminal Judge's Guide to Dealing with Difficult Attorneys,
- Mastering Proven Techniques for Successful Settlements,
- Large Issues in Small Claims,
- Civil Expert Witnesses, and
- Discovery Issues

Besides JES, we also provide numerous other educational events and opportunities for judicial officers, including the Diversity Summit, the Family Law Annual Seminar, probate classes, computer software training, the judicial leadership class and the Legislative Staff Seminar.



Courtesy of Lionsgate

'Crash' Course

A 'Crash' Course on Fairness in the Courts" is an innovative judicial fairness education course that uses thought-provoking clips from the Academy Award-winning movie "Crash" to raise issues and stimulate discussion.

The Paul Haggis-directed film, which explores race relations in modern-day Los Angeles, follows roughly a dozen L.A. residents from a variety of races and social classes as they intersect — in effect, crash into one another — over a 36-hour period.

The class, which has been two years in the making, was first developed as a project of the Judicial Fairness Education Subcommittee of the Los Angeles Superior Court's Access and Fairness Committee.

The course, which is conducted as a small group seminar, is team-taught by judicial officers and focuses on judicial ethics as they apply to the many fairness issues that may arise in the courtroom. The judicial officers taking the course learn to recognize access and fairness issues in their courtrooms and how to implement practical solutions and strategies for dealing with them.

An intensive, full-day faculty development program was held in August. A pilot session of the "Crash" course was held on Oct. 30, where it received positive responses from participants. It will be offered twice in the spring of 2008 as part of the regular JES course offerings. It is expected to be eligible for two hours of Judicial Elective Ethics credit.



Judicial Jeopardy

The Los Angeles Superior Court's Education Governing Committee encourages JES faculty to be creative when approaching judicial education. Commissioner Michele E. Flurer, assigned to the San Pedro Courthouse, is among those who have taken

this recommendation to heart, wowing judicial officers with a Jeopardy-style game.

The commissioner, who came to the Court in June 2006, created the game in PowerPoint as a presentation for a faculty development course. Besides her duties on the bench, Commissioner Flurer trains judicial officers who have been reassigned to handle traffic cases but haven't heard those cases in two or more years.

Her version of the Jeopardy game focuses on five areas of Traffic Court: fines, arraignments, trials, sentencing and trial by declaration. Commissioner Flurer already was familiar with PowerPoint but received additional pointers from her then-12-year-old son and Eddie Davis of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Following its popular debut, the game has been requested at several other training events, including a faculty summit on new technology that was held at AOC headquarters in May in San Francisco.

Commissioner Flurer said the game can be adapted to teach any subject and has acted as a "great ice breaker" during training sessions. Other judicial officers have asked for copies to create their own versions.

"Judges and commissioners are very competitive," she said.

Of course, part of the allure might be the prizes. ... Winners receive See's chocolates.

Diversity *in the Court*



The issue of diversity continues to be of great importance to the presiding judge and executive management of the Los Angeles Superior Court. In 2007, we proudly highlighted the diversity of our 2006 judiciary in the Annual Report. As we noted then, only Alameda County has a greater proportion of judges who are members of a minority group.

Last year, the Los Angeles Superior Court welcomed 24 new judicial officers. The number of minorities represented among the Los Angeles Superior Court's bench officers remains positive and on the rise.

The addition of five female judges, four of whom are Hispanic and one who is Native American, are of particular note. We are also pleased to report that Asian/Pacific Islanders were also well-represented among the new judges.

Change comes slowly to institutions, but as we see the number of minority students increasing in the state's law schools, we hope to ultimately see those numbers reflected proportionately within our judiciary.

While only the governor has the power to appoint judges, the Los Angeles Superior Court is using various means to encourage female attorneys and lawyers of color to become law clerks and externs, in the hope that these positions might ultimately lead to a career on the bench.

In the 2007 Annual Report, we chose to focus our attention on the racial and gender diversity of the 5,400 members of the Court's staff. The selection of the people who support the work of our judges and make our system

successful is a critical process and one wherein the Court bears the responsibility for hiring a diverse work force.

We asked ourselves if the members of our staff reflect the diversity of the communities we serve, and we are proud to state that they do. When the Los Angeles Superior Court unified with the Los Angeles Municipal Court and the 22 other judicial districts throughout Los Angeles County in 2000, the consolidation of the various human resource departments provided new opportunities to recruit from all points in the county. Sixty-seven percent of the Court's staff belongs to a minority group.

Our efforts to build and maintain a diverse work force have been very successful. One area where we have seen a dramatic change in the past 20 years is in the number of women in the Court's work force. Seventy-five percent is now female. The judicial assistant trainee classes continue to have a majority of women in them. This position is a stepping stone to management positions; therefore, the number of female managers continues to increase accordingly.

More than half of the administrator positions, and more than three quarters of the supervisor and manager positions in the Court are also held by women.



We are proud to say that our work force is extremely diverse — both in terms of gender and race. Our entire staff is 31 percent Anglo and 33 percent Latino. More than half of our employees are women. We approach the racial proportions of Los Angeles County in general based on the most recent U.S. Census estimates. More than a third of our court managers and supervisors are Latinos, as well.

On the bench, nearly a third of our judges are members of minority groups and we have more Latino judges, proportionately, than any other large court in the state. Interestingly, 5.4 percent of our judges describe themselves as multiracial. This, too, is the highest rate of any large court in the state.

Alameda County Superior Court, with 67 judges (compared with our more than 425), is numerically California's most racially diverse, but our bench increasingly reflects the vibrant culture of Los Angeles County. Judges come to the Court through appointment by the governor or election to seats that become vacant through retirements or resignations.

Diversity Summit — First of Its Kind



The Los Angeles Superior Court continued its efforts to encourage and support diversity last January by sponsoring a Diversity Summit — the first of its kind. The summit focused on diversity within the judiciary and sought to broaden understanding both inside and outside of the legal profession of the challenges of creating a diverse bench, including discussion of diversity among the Court's judges.

The summit's roughly 230 attendees included former Gov. Gray Davis; Timothy Simon, appointments secretary for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger; Superior Court Judge Burt Pines, who served as judicial appointments secretary to Gov. Davis; retired Judicial Appointments Advisor John G. Davis; State Bar President Sheldon Sloan; senior judges of the Los Angeles Superior Court; and deans of leading Los Angeles County law schools.

Use of Resources

As we begin this year, we know that budget pressures may increase through the conclusion of the 2007-08 fiscal year, and may continue through 2008-09. It would be irresponsible not to prepare to address these difficulties promptly and effectively, and we are doing so.

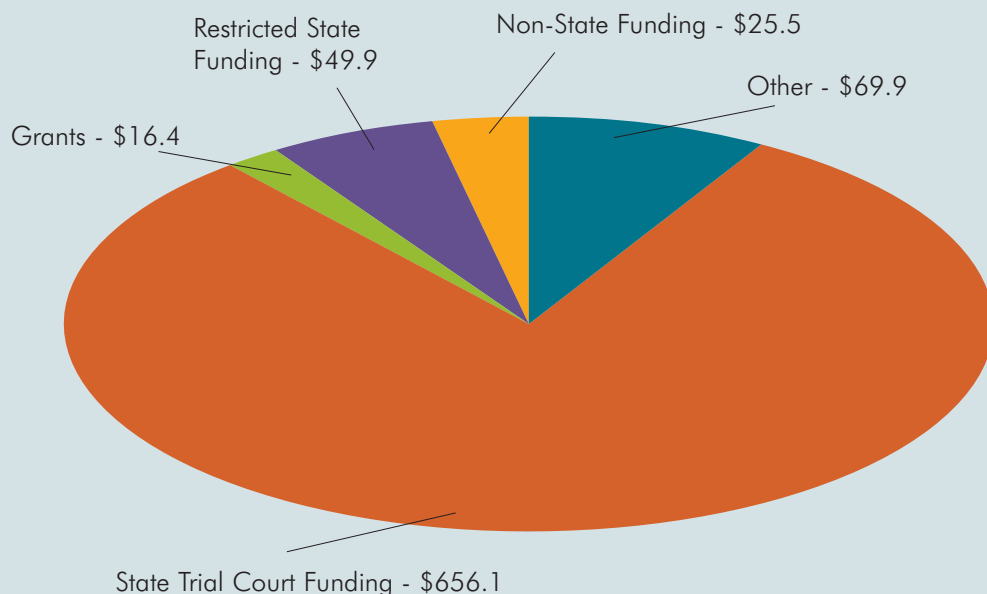
Nevertheless, to ensure safe and full delivery of our services to a rapidly growing county, we know that employee benefits and costs associated with security and facilities will present particular challenges. We must not only deliver our services within these limitations, but we must also continue to be able to attract dedicated staff members on whom we so rely.

The immediate future for trial court budgets is uncertain, requiring that we continue to employ the most prudent approach to our budget as possible. As always, we are committed to this goal.

Fiscal Year 2007-08 (Allocated) Total Budget \$817.7 Million

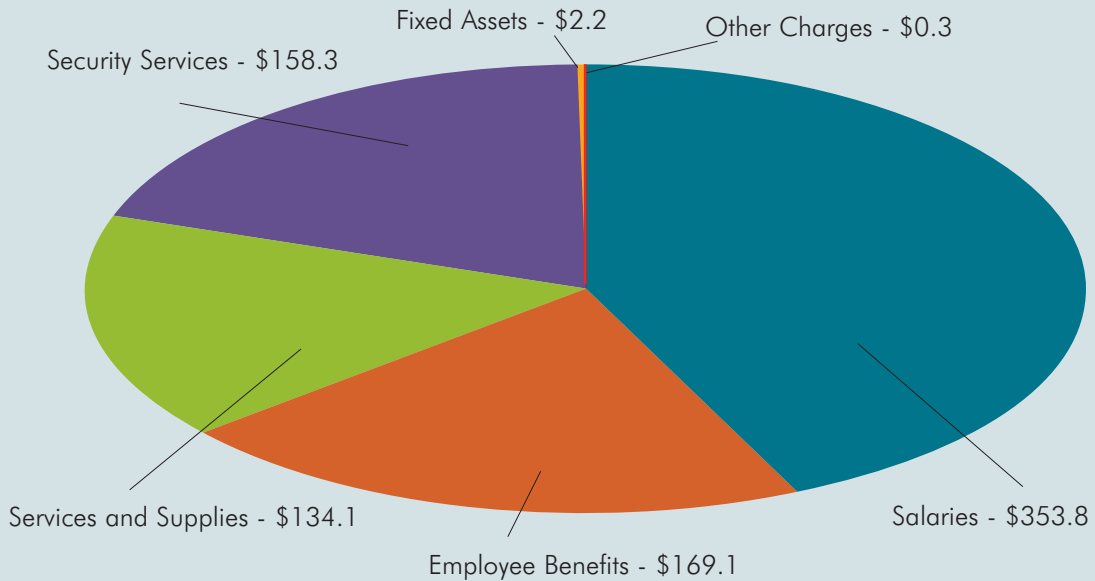
Revenues

(All figures are in millions of dollars)



2007-08 Expenditures (Allocated)

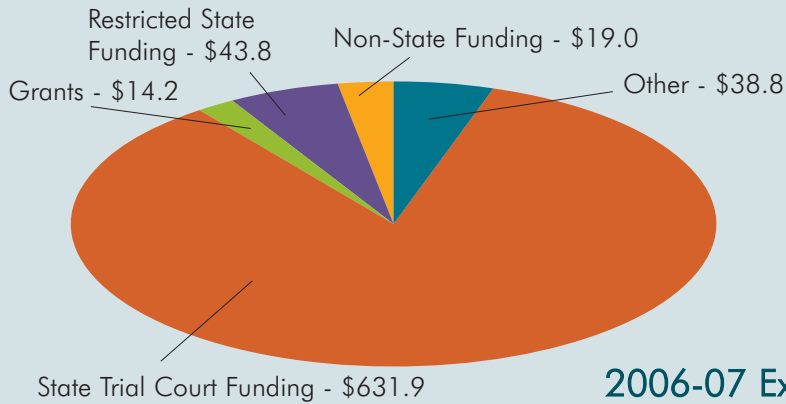
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Fiscal Year 2006-07 Total Budget \$747.7 Million

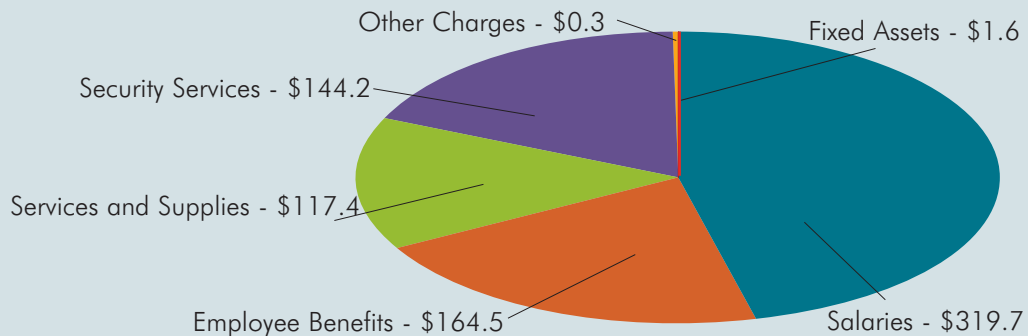
Revenues

(All figures are in millions of dollars)



2006-07 Expenditures

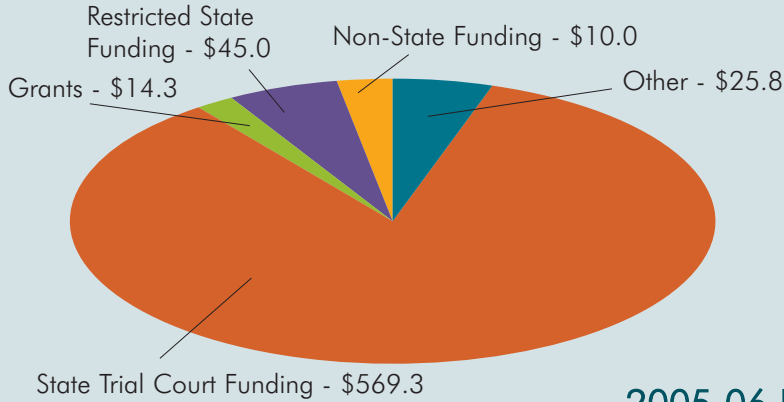
(All figures are in millions of dollars)



Fiscal Year 2005-06 Total Budget \$665.1 Million

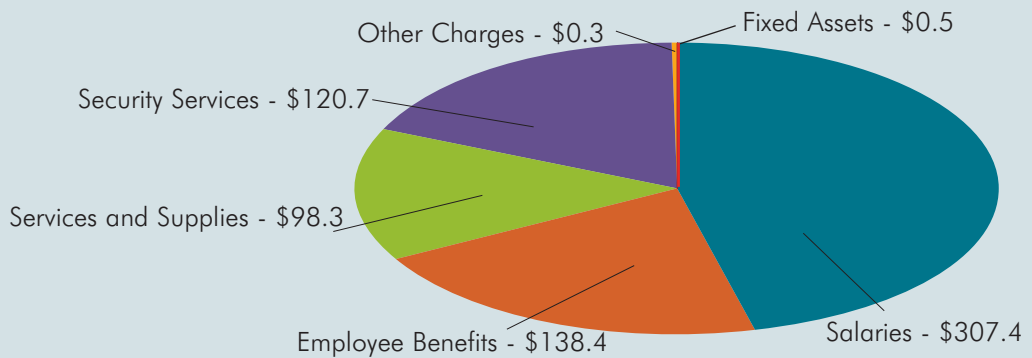
Revenues

(All figures are in millions of dollars)



2005-06 Expenditures

(All figures are in millions of dollars)



Revenue Definitions

- **State Trial Court Funding** — State funding provided through the Administrative Office of the Courts
- **Restricted State Funding** — Funding designated for specific programs such as interpreters and jury fees
- **Grants** — Revenue received from grant sources such as Child Support Commissioner Program, Family Law Facilitator and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- **Other** — Miscellaneous fee revenue and reserves
- **Non-State Funding** — City-County-provided funding for court reporters and local revenue

Expenditure Definitions

- **Salaries** — Salaries of non-judicial court staff
- **Benefits** — Benefits of non-judicial court staff such as health, dental, life insurance and retirement
- **Services and Supplies** — Costs of office supply items, telecommunications and contractual services, such as custodial, case management and information technology services
- **Security** — Weapons screening and bailiff security services provided by the Sheriff's Department
- **Other Charges** — Lease/purchase costs of equipment and equipment insurance
- **Fixed Assets** — Purchase of equipment costing more than \$5,000

Court Statistics

In Depth

Authorized Judicial Positions

Judges	431
Commissioners	135
Referees	29
Total Courtrooms Operated	591
Employees	5,723

50 Courthouses and Other Facilities

Annual Case Filings Summary • Fiscal Year 2006-07

Civil General	62,660
Civil Limited (excluding Small Claims)	103,680
Unlawful Detainers	52,834
Small Claims	76,908
Felony	69,071
Misdemeanor	526,893
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity and Legal Separation)	108,554
Juvenile Dependency	20,107
Juvenile Delinquency	28,592
Mental Health	2,597
Probate	11,098
Traffic Infractions	1,746,862
Non-Traffic Infractions	76,999
Appellate	1,268
Habeas Corpus	2,576

Jury Trials • Fiscal Year 2006-07	4,302
Juror Summons Mailed	3,120,005
Jurors Qualified	1,055,995
Average Days Served	1.25

Alternative Dispute Resolution • Fiscal Year 2006-07

Arbitration	809
Mediation	17,385
Family Law (non-custody)	635
Probate	155
Retired Judges, as assigned	70
Civil Harassment Mediation	137
Arbitration Resolution Rate61%
Mediation Resolution Rate68%
Family Law (non custody) Resolution Rate74%
Total ADR Volunteer Hours (Retired Judges, Attorneys, Others)	23,290

District Summaries

Presiding Judge: J. Stephen Czuleger, Assistant Presiding Judge: Charles W. McCoy

Central District

Stanley Mosk Courthouse
Central Civil West Courthouse
Central Arraignment Courts
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
Metropolitan Courthouse
Hollywood Courthouse
East Los Angeles Courthouse
Mental Health Courthouse

Supervising Judges

Family Law: Marjorie S. Steinberg, Probate: Aviva K. Bobb, Civil: Lee S. Edmon
Appellate: Patti Jo McKay, Criminal: Steven R. Van Sicklen, Juvenile: Michael Nash

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	25,166
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	21,934
Family Law: Child Support Services Department	47,153
Civil Harassments	2,456
Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation	17,437
Domestic Violence Restraining Orders	3,365
Felonies	24,513
Misdemeanors.....	125,099
Non-Traffic Infractions	14,386
Probate.....	6,321
Small Claims.....	18,528
Traffic Infractions	384,358
Unlawful Detainers	14,873
Mental Health	2,597

Central District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Homeless Court
Children's Waiting Room	Mock Trial Program
Small Claims Night Court	New Attorney Walk-Thru Program
Clerk's Speakers Bureau	Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Courthouse Tours	Proposition 36 Courts
Document Imaging for Civil Unlimited Cases	Teen Court
Drug Court	Resource Center for
Early Disposition Court	Self-Represented Litigants
Sexually Violent Predator Hearings	JusticeCorps
Family Law Court Outreach and <i>Pro Per</i> Day	

East District

Pomona Courthouse South
Pomona Courthouse North
West Covina Courthouse
El Monte Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Thomas C. Falls

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	3,368
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	10,985
Small Claims	6,908
Unlawful Detainers	3,781
Felonies	4,807
Misdemeanors	53,574
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	4,590
Juvenile Delinquency	2,497
Probate	640
Traffic Infractions	178,801
Non-Traffic Infractions	3,645

East District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Self-Help Legal Access Center
Inter-agency Brown Bag Lunch	JusticeCorps
FLAP Program	Free Divorce Workshops
Domestic Violence Clinics	Drug Courts
Children's Waiting Room	Cal Poly Pomona Internship Program
Guardianship Clinic	

North District

Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Thomas R. White

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	1,370
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	4,024
Small Claims.....	2,183
Unlawful Detainers	2,543
Felonies	4,033
Misdemeanors.....	17,913
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	2,514
Juvenile Delinquency	1,699
Probate.....	345
Traffic Infractions	50,411
Non-Traffic Infractions	1,492

North District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Children's Waiting Room
Self-Help Legal Access Center	Teen Court
JusticeCorps	Drug Court
Family Law Court Outreach and <i>Pro Per</i> Day	Courthouse Tours
Highland High School Way and	Domestic Violence Clinic
Government Academy	

North Central District

Burbank Courthouse
Glendale Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Coleman A. Swart

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	2,943
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	4,070
Small Claims.....	2,504
Unlawful Detainers	1,128
Felonies	1,549
Misdemeanors.....	13,334
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	2,405
Traffic Infractions	47,690
Non-Traffic Infractions	337

North Central District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
Glendale Youth Alliance Work Experience Program
Criminal Justice Council Meetings
Family Law *Pro Per* Friday

North Valley District

Chatsworth Courthouse
Santa Clarita Courthouse
San Fernando Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Robert J. Schuit

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	3,044
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	7,910
Small Claims	5,385
Unlawful Detainers	3,295
Felonies	3,808
Misdemeanors	37,698
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	3,186
Traffic Infractions	179,513
Non-Traffic Infractions	1,774

North Valley District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
Tierra Del Sol Volunteers
Domestic Violence Clinic
Teen Court
Proposition 36 Court
A Day on the Bench
Family Law Mediator Luncheon
Judge's Night
Cal State Extern Program

Northeast District

Alhambra Courthouse
Pasadena Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Coleman A. Swart

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	2,796
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	5,864
Small Claims.....	3,365
Unlawful Detainers	1,780
Felonies	2,766
Misdemeanors.....	17,961
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	2,435
Juvenile Delinquency	1,911
Probate.....	811
Traffic Infractions	92,855
Non-Traffic Infractions	2,881

Northeast District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Community Justice Council Meetings
Volunteer Courthouse Docent Program	Jury Docent Program
Mock Trial Program	Teen Court
Teacher's Courthouse Seminar	Drug Court
Domestic Violence Clinics	

Northwest District

Van Nuys East Courthouse
Van Nuys West Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Patricia Schnegg

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	5,116
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	11,345
Small Claims	8,302
Unlawful Detainers	5,828
Felonies	3,984
Misdemeanors	25,009
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	4,082
Probate	891
Traffic Infractions	118,610
Non-Traffic Infractions	3,004

Northwest District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	JusticeCorps
Self-Help Legal Access Center	Van Nuys Administrative Center Agency Meetings
Community Court	Teen Court
Monroe High School Law Magnet Program	Senior Citizen Tours
Drug Court	Cal State Student Extern Program
Domestic Violence Clinic	

South Central District

Compton Courthouse

Supervising Judge

John J. Cheroske

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	2,134
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	3,962
Small Claims	2,842
Unlawful Detainers	1,740
Felonies	6,667
Misdemeanors	11,983
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	2,805
Juvenile Delinquency	1,240
Probate	195
Traffic Infractions	74,243
Non-Traffic Infractions	25,091

South Central District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Juror Appreciation Program
Self-Help Legal Access Center	Summer Youth Work Program
Court Greeters	Free Divorce Workshops
Operation Clean Sweep Program	Mentoring Program/Volunteer Program
Guardianship Clinic	JusticeCorps
Beautification of the Civic Center Program	Drug Court
Children's Waiting Room	Proposition 36 Court
Graffiti Abatement Program	Courthouse Tours
Domestic Violence Clinic	Law Day/Career Day
A Day of Remembrance Program 911	

South District

Long Beach Courthouse
San Pedro Courthouse
Catalina Courthouse
Beacon Street Annex (San Pedro)

Supervising Judge

Mark C. Kim

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	3,499
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	6,269
Small Claims	5,091
Unlawful Detainers	4,841
Felonies	4,629
Misdemeanors	39,932
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	3,770
Juvenile Delinquency	1,967
Probate	543
Traffic Infractions	96,098
Non-Traffic Infractions	8,958

South District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Free Divorce Workshops
Self-Help Legal Access Center	JusticeCorps
Guardianship Clinic	Drug Court
Children's Waiting Room	Proposition 36 Court
Domestic Violence Clinic	Courthouse Tours

Southeast District

Bellflower Courthouse
Downey Courthouse
Huntington Park Courthouse
Whittier Courthouse
Norwalk Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Brian F. Gasdia

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	3,740
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	10,263
Small Claims	7,645
Unlawful Detainers	3,976
Felonies	4,420
Misdemeanors	35,084
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	4,945
Probate	479
Traffic Infractions	162,726
Non-Traffic Infractions	2,705

Southeast District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
Resource Center for Self-Represented Litigants
Guardianship Clinic
Domestic Violence Clinic

Southwest District

Torrance Courthouse
Redondo Beach Courthouse
Inglewood Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Mark S. Arnold

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	3,690
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	7,329
Small Claims	5,840
Unlawful Detainers	4,001
Felonies	3,616
Misdemeanors	23,525
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	3,655
Probate	538
Traffic Infractions	125,161
Non-Traffic Infractions	2,232

Southwest District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	Drug Court
Self-Help Legal Access Center	Proposition 36 Court
Domestic Violence Center	Court Docent Program
Free Divorce Workshops	Courthouse Orientation Videos
JusticeCorps	

West District

Airport Courthouse
 Beverly Hills Courthouse
 Malibu Courthouse
 Santa Monica Courthouse
 West Los Angeles Courthouse

Supervising Judge

Gerald Rosenberg

2006-07 Annual Case Filings Summary

Civil - General	5,794
Civil - Limited (excluding Small Claims)	9,725
Small Claims	8,315
Unlawful Detainers	5,048
Felonies	4,279
Misdemeanors	34,712
Family Law (includes Dissolution, Nullity, and Legal Separation)	1,687
Probate	335
Traffic Infractions	236,396
Non-Traffic Infractions	10,494

West District Court Programs

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
Self-Help Legal Access Center
Homeless Court
Drug Court
Proposition 36 Court
Children’s Waiting Room

Domestic Violence Clinic
Courthouse Tours
Jury Room Business Center
Juror Docent Program
Small Claims Mediation Program

Juvenile Court

Alfred J. McCourtney Juvenile Justice Center
David V. Kenyon Juvenile Justice Center
Eastlake Juvenile Court
Edmund D. Edelman Children’s Court
Inglewood Juvenile Court
Los Padrinos Juvenile Court
San Fernando Valley Juvenile Court

Authorized Judicial Positions

Judges.....	20
Commissioners.....	15
Assigned Referees	
Juvenile.....	14
Informal Juvenile.....	14

2006-07 Dependency Annual Case Filings Summary

Total Dependency	20,107
New, Reactivated Petitions	10,924
Subsequent Petitions	3,245
Supplemental Petitions	5,938

2006-07 Delinquency Annual Case Filings Summary

Total Delinquency	28,592
New, Reactivated Petitions	19,997
Subsequent Petitions	8,435
Supplemental Petitions	160

2006-07 Informal Juvenile

Filings.....	128,789
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Los Angeles County is the most populous county in the nation, and we realize it is useful for our constituents to have detailed court information not only for our system as a whole but also for their specific communities. These resources are intended to meet that need.



Locations And Court Services

Central District:

**Stanley Mosk Courthouse, 111 N. Hill St.,
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

- limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, appellate division

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/unlawful detainers:(213) 974-5181
- small claims:(213) 974-6135
- family law:(213) 893-0590 or (213) 974-5568
- probate:(213) 974-5505 or (213) 974-5471
- domestic violence TROs:(213) 974-5587 or (213) 974-5588
- appeals:(213) 974-5237
- juror services:(213) 974-5800



Central Civil West, 600 S. Commonwealth Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90005

- complex civil litigation, child support cases

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- family law facilitator:(213) 637-8470
- information lines: ..(213) 351-8738, (213) 351-8739, (213) 351-8755



**Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center, 210 W. Temple St.,
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

- felonies, misdemeanors

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- felonies/misdemeanors:(213) 974-6141 or (213) 974-6142
- bail/bond status information:(213) 974-5266
- juror services – fifth floor:(213) 974-6196
- juror services – 11th floor:(213) 974-5816

Metropolitan Courthouse, 1945 S. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90007

- felonies, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- felonies/misdemeanors:(213) 744-4022
- traffic:(213) 742-1884
- informal juvenile traffic:(213) 744-4153





Central Arraignment Courts, 429 Bauchet St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

- misdemeanors, non-traffic infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- information line:(213) 974-6068

Mental Health Court, 1150 N. San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, CA 90065

- mental competency, conservatorships, facility-based certification review, medication capacity hearings

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- information line:(323) 226-2908

Hollywood Courthouse, 5925 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

- misdemeanors

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- information line:(323) 856-5747

East Los Angeles Courthouse, 4848 E. Civic Center Way, East Los Angeles, CA 90022

- unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- unlawful detainers/small claims:(323) 780-2017
- felonies/misdemeanors:(323) 780-2025
- traffic:(213) 742-6648
- juror services:(323) 780-2029

Juvenile:

Alfred J. McCourtney Juvenile Justice Center, 1040 W. Avenue J, Lancaster, CA 93534

- juvenile dependency, juvenile delinquency, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- juvenile dependency:(661) 945-6447
- juvenile delinquency:(661) 949-6501
- informal juvenile traffic:(661) 945-6354

David V. Kenyon Juvenile Justice Center, 7625 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90001

- juvenile delinquency

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- juvenile delinquency:(323) 586-6098

Eastlake Juvenile Court, 1601 Eastlake Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90033

- juvenile delinquency

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- juvenile delinquency:(323) 226-8914



Edmund D. Edelman Children’s Court, 201 Centre Plaza Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91754

■ juvenile dependency, juvenile delinquency administration, adoptions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- juvenile dependency:(323) 526-6646
- juvenile delinquency:(323) 526-6670
- delinquency appeals:(323) 526-6668

Inglewood Juvenile Court, 110 Regent St., Inglewood, CA 90301

■ juvenile delinquency

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- juvenile delinquency:(310) 419-5268

Los Padrinos Juvenile Court, 7281 East Quill Drive, Downey, CA 90242

■ juvenile delinquency

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- juvenile delinquency:(562) 940-8824

Sylmar Juvenile Court, 16350 Filbert St., Sylmar, CA 91342

■ juvenile delinquency, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- juvenile delinquency:(818) 364-2108
- informal juvenile traffic:(213) 744-4155

East District:

El Monte Courthouse, 11234 E. Valley Blvd., El Monte, CA 91731

■ limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, domestic violence temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/small claims:(626) 575-4268
- felonies/misdemeanors:(626) 459-8844
- traffic:(213) 742-1928
- juror services:(626) 575-4297
- information line:(626) 575-4104

Pomona Courthouse North, 350 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona, CA 91766

■ limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- limited civil/small claims/misdemeanors:(909) 802-9944
- traffic:(213) 742-1928

Pomona Courthouse South, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766

■ unlimited civil, felonies, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, juvenile delinquency, informal juvenile traffic court



CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/family law/probate:(909) 620-3107
- felonies:(909) 620-3041
- juvenile delinquency:(909) 620-3037
- juvenile traffic:(909) 620-3116
- juror services:(909) 620-3045

West Covina Courthouse, 1427 West Covina Parkway, West Covina, CA 91790

- limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, domestic violence temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- limited civil/unlawful detainers:(626) 813-3236
- small claims:(626) 813-3226
- felonies/misdemeanors:(626) 813-3239
- traffic:(213) 742-1928
- juror services:(626) 813-3450



North District:

Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse, 42011 4th St. W. Lancaster, CA 93534

- limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- traffic:(213) 742-8860
- juror services:(661) 974-7392
- information line:(661) 974-7200

North Central District:

Burbank Courthouse, 300 E. Olive, Burbank, CA 91502

- unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, adoptions, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/family law:(818) 557-3482
- small claims:(818) 557-3461
- felonies/misdemeanors:(818) 557-3466
- traffic:(213) 742-1928
- juror services:(818) 557-3471



Glendale Courthouse, 600 E. Broadway, Glendale, CA 91206

- limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, misdemeanors, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/unlawful detainers/small claims/probate:(818) 500-3551
- felonies/misdemeanors:(818) 500-3541
- traffic:(213) 742-1928
- juror services:(818) 557-3474

North Valley District:

Chatsworth Courthouse, 9425 Penfield Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311

- limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, domestic violence temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- administration:(818) 576-8506
- limited civil:(818) 576-8575
- unlimited civil:(818) 576-8595
- small claims:(818) 576-8586
- traffic:(213) 742-1884



San Fernando Courthouse, 900 Third St., San Fernando, CA 91340

- small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- small claims:(818) 898-2425
- felonies/misdemeanors:(818) 898-2407
- family law/civil harassment TROs:(818) 898-2664
- traffic:(213) 742-1884
- juror services:(818) 898-2527



Santa Clarita Courthouse, 23747 W. Valencia Blvd., Santa Clarita, CA 91355

- limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, domestic violence temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- administration:(661) 253-7301
- limited civil/domestic violence TROs:(661) 253-7313
- small claims:(661) 253-7311
- felonies/misdemeanors(661) 253-7384
- traffic:(213) 742-6648

Northeast District:

Alhambra Courthouse, 150 W. Commonwealth Ave.,

Alhambra, CA 91801

- limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, domestic violence temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions





CAN WE HELP YOU?

- limited civil/unlawful detainers:(626) 308-5521
- felonies/misdemeanors:(626) 308-5525
- traffic:(213) 742-1928
- juror services:(626) 308-5180

Pasadena Courthouse, 300 E. Walnut Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101

■ limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions, juvenile delinquency, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- misdemeanors:(626) 356-5254 or (626) 356-5255
- traffic:(213) 742-1928
- juvenile delinquency:(626) 356-5757 or (626) 356-5255

Northwest District:

Van Nuys Courthouse East, 6230 Sylmar Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91401

■ limited and unlimited civil, small claims, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- limited civil:(818) 374-2904
- unlimited civil/family law/probate:(818) 374-2208
- unlawful detainers:(818) 374-3052
- small claims:(818) 374-2901
- informal juvenile and traffic court:(818) 374-2332
- juror services:(818) 374-2344

Van Nuys Courthouse West, 14400 Erwin Street Mall, Van Nuys, CA 91401

■ felonies, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- felonies/misdemeanors:(818) 374-2903
- traffic:(213) 742-1884

South District:

Catalina Courthouse, 215 Summer Ave., Avalon, CA 90704

■ limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, domestic violence temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- information line:(310) 510-0026

Long Beach Courthouse, 415 W. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802

■ limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions, juvenile delinquency, informal juvenile traffic court



CAN WE HELP YOU?

- administration:(562) 491-6202
- limited civil:(562) 491-6234
- unlimited civil/family law/probate:(562) 491-5925
- felonies/misdemeanors:(562) 491-6226 or (562) 491-5932
- traffic:(213) 742-8809
- juvenile delinquency:(562) 491-5922
- bail refunds:(562) 491-6205
- financial evaluators:(562) 491-6450
- juror services:(562) 491-6119



San Pedro Courthouse, 505 S. Centre St., San Pedro, CA 90731

- limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- unlimited civil:(310) 519-6018
- unlawful detainers:(310) 519-6015
- small claims:(310) 519-6014
- traffic:(213) 742-1884

San Pedro Courthouse Annex, 638 S. Beacon St., San Pedro, CA 90731

- unlimited civil

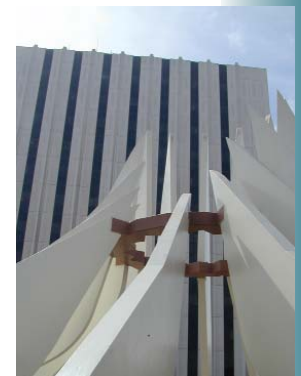
South Central District:

Compton Courthouse, 200 W. Compton Blvd., Compton, CA 90220

- limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions, juvenile delinquency, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/probate: (310) 603-7842
- felonies/misdemeanors: (310) 603-7112 or (310) 603-7115
- traffic: (213) 763-1644
- juvenile delinquency: (310) 603-7816
- informal juvenile and traffic court: (310) 603-7128
- arbitration: (310) 603-3072
- conciliation: (310) 603-7701
- filing and fees: (310) 603-7842



Southeast District:

Bellflower Courthouse, 10025 E. Flower St., Bellflower, CA 90706

- limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions



CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil:(562) 804-8009
- small claims:(562) 804-8011
- felonies/misdemeanors:(562) 804-8019
- traffic:(213) 763-1646
- juror services:(562) 804-8202

Downey Courthouse, 7500 E. Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242

■ limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, domestic violence temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- limited civil/unlawful detainers/small claims:(562) 803-7055
- felonies/misdemeanors:(562) 803-7051
- traffic:(213) 763-1645
- juror services:(562) 803-7039

Huntington Park Courthouse, 6548 Miles Ave., Huntington Park, CA 90255

■ limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/small claims: (323) 586-6359 or (323) 586-6365
- traffic: (213) 763-1648
- information line: (323) 586-6362 or (323) 586-6363

Norwalk Courthouse, 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

■ limited and unlimited civil, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil:(562) 807-7290 or (562) 807-7262
- felonies/misdemeanors:(562) 807-7257
- family law:(562) 807-7342
- probate:(562) 807-7263
- juror services:(562) 807-7281
- information line:(562) 807-7341

Whittier Courthouse, 7339 S. Painter Ave., Whittier, CA 90602

■ limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- limited civil/small claims:(562) 907-3127
- felonies/misdemeanors:(562) 907-3113
- traffic:(213) 763-1649
- juror services:(562) 907-3139



Southwest District:

Inglewood Courthouse, One Regent St., Inglewood, CA 90301

- limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- small claims:(310) 419-5715
- felonies:(310) 419-5216
- traffic:(213) 742-8860
- juror services:(310) 419-5135 or (310) 419-5397
- information line:(310) 419-5132



Redondo Beach Courthouse, 117 W. Torrance Blvd., Redondo Beach, CA 90277

- unlimited civil

CAN WE HELP YOU?

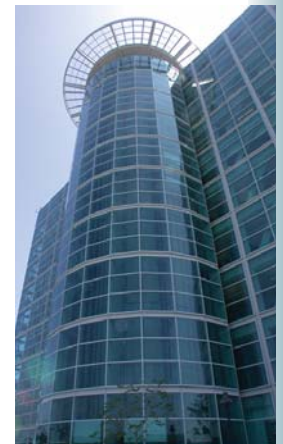
- unlimited civil:(310) 798-6875

Torrance Courthouse, 825 Maple Ave., Torrance, CA 90503

- limited and unlimited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions, juvenile vehicle code infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/unlawful detainers/probate: ..(310) 222-8801 or (310) 222-8802
- small claims:(310) 222-6400
- family law:(310) 222-8801, (310) 222-8802, (310) 222-8805
- traffic:(213) 742-8860



West District:

Airport Courthouse, 11701 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045

- felonies, misdemeanors

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- felonies:(310) 727-6100 or (310) 727-6101
- misdemeanors:(310) 727-6020
- bail bond clerk:(310) 727-6015
- juror services:(310) 727-6105

Beverly Hills Courthouse, 9355 Burton Way, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

- limited civil, unlawful detainers, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- administration:(310) 288-1360
- civil:(310) 288-1308
- small claims:(310) 288-1305
- felonies/misdemeanors:(310) 288-1309
- traffic:(213) 742-6648





Malibu Courthouse, 23525 Civic Center Way, Malibu, CA 90265

- limited civil, small claims, felonies, misdemeanors, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- civil/small claims:(310) 317-1331
- felonies/misdemeanors:(310) 317-1335
- traffic:(213) 742-6648

Santa Monica Courthouse, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

- limited and unlimited civil, small claims, family law, probate, domestic violence and civil harassment temporary restraining orders, traffic and other infractions, informal juvenile traffic court

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- limited civil:(310) 260-1886
- unlimited civil:(310) 260-1876
- small claims:(310) 260-1887
- traffic:(213) 742-6648

West Los Angeles Courthouse, 1633 Purdue Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025

- small claims, traffic and other infractions

CAN WE HELP YOU?

- administration:(310) 445-5082
- civil:(310) 312-6545
- small claims:(310) 312-6550
- traffic:(213) 742-1884





2008 Annual Report Production Team

Presiding Judge J. Stephen Czulager
Assistant Presiding Judge Charles W. McCoy

Judicial editor: **Judge Alice C. Hill**
Staff editor: **Allan Parachini**
Art direction: **Katherine Roberts**
Copy chief: **Meredith Pierce**

Contributing writers and researchers: **Patricia Kelly, Mary Hearn, Elizabeth Martinez,**
Arlene Vasquez, Sylvia White-Irby, Barry Goldstein



This Annual Report was produced by the Los Angeles Superior Court to increase public understanding of the justice system. For additional copies, please contact:

Los Angeles Superior Court
Public Information Office
111 N. Hill Street, Room 107
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-5227

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