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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## TRIALS RESUME AT THE BEVERLY HILLS COURTHOUSE

Effective February 3, two courtrooms now hear trials at the Beverly Hills Courthouse for the first time in seven years, Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile announced today.

As of January 2, Department 304 expanded its calendar to hear Traffic trials for citations written by the Beverly Hills Police Department and the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

On February 3, a Civil courtroom, hearing Limited and Unlimited Civil trials, reopened as well. An additional Civil courtroom is scheduled to open in the next few months.

"The Court is always looking for efficient ways to expand access to justice to our communities," Presiding Judge Brazile said.

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## **Trials Resume at the Beverly Hills Courthouse**

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"We are pleased to reopen courtrooms for trial at this location which benefits litigants, jurors, attorneys, witnesses, and local police agencies. These changes will help to save time, expense and the inconvenience of traveling to courthouses located farther away."

Prior to the cutbacks necessitated by the Great Recession in 2013, the Beverly Hills Courthouse heard Civil, Criminal, Small Claims and Traffic matters, in five courtrooms. Following the implementation of the Court's Consolidation Plan, which resulted in the closure of several courthouses and many courtrooms across the county, the Beverly Hills location remained open to process arraignments on Traffic citations only. All other case types and trials were transferred to the Airport and Santa Monica courthouses, also part of the West District.

"Reopening courtrooms here and in other courthouses is a reflection of how far we have come since the Recession, establishing a stable budget, saving money through internal efficiencies and reinvesting those resources into maximizing the services we provide to the public," Judge Brazile said.

The Superior Court of Los Angeles County has 550 judicial officers and more than 4,600 permanent employees serving a diverse population of more than 10 million people. The largest trial court in the nation, the Court has 38 courthouses in 12 judicial districts located throughout the county's 4,752 square miles.