



# NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
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## San Diego Court-Clergy Conference Promotes Building Community Through Justice

San Diego Superior Court judges and religious leaders will meet to have a day-long dialogue about the judicial system. The goal of the program is to provide local clergy with a better understanding of the court system, court services and to enhance their ability to provide counseling to their congregations.

“Religious leaders greatly benefit from a better understanding of the family, criminal, juvenile and civil courts so that when one of their congregants is confronted with a legal issue, such as divorce, drug abuse or immigration concerns, they can provide informed advice. The knowledge gained from this conference will provide clergy with confidence when assisting parishioners who are dealing with the courts,” says Superior Court Judge Laura Halgren, an organizer of the event.

The event will promote access to justice for San Diegans via avenues such as self-help programs, court website access and use of interpreters. Topics such as Family Court overview, protective orders, domestic violence, guardianships, and mandatory reporting requirements will also be discussed. The Court will provide panel discussions, informational hand-outs and Q&A

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sessions. Two of the most popular sessions deal with Immigration/Human Trafficking and Families in Crisis, which includes information on domestic violence and divorce.

The program runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and involves leaders of all faiths.

**Thursday, April 27, 2017**  
**First United Methodist Church**  
**2111 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108**

130 religious leaders are expected to attend the program.

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