



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
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San Diego Superior Court Opens New Central Courthouse

Family, Probate and Jury Services Now Available

The San Diego Superior Court begins a new era as it opens the Central Courthouse located at 1100 Union Street.

The 704,000 square foot, 71 courtroom facility consolidates the overcrowded and inadequate facilities of the Family, Probate and the Criminal Courts. The new 22-story, full-service courthouse is designed to improve access, services and safety for San Diego residents.

More than 165 employees, 11 judicial officers from the Family and Probate Courts made the initial move into the courthouse. Over the past week, staff, judges and thousands of files and business materials moved six blocks from the old facilities located on 4th and 6th Avenues. Jury Services staff also made the move in the past week.

Beginning January 4, 2018 and proceeding through February 4, 2018, Seventy-one (71) departments and all court operations currently housed 220 West Broadway will move into the new building. This move will involve more than 700 staff, judicial officers and related services.

The new San Diego Central Court Building was designed for service efficiency and security. Highlights of the building include:

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- Sixteen (16) public elevators and six (6) escalators that move the public to upper floors. Additionally, escalators and elevators serve the first four floors, which contain high public use court services such as the Criminal Business Office, Family Business Office and the Family Law Facilitators Office.
- Electronic signage informs and directs people both at security screening and throughout the courthouse. The entire Central Courthouse's docket of cases is displayed on electronic displays immediately after security screening. Six building directories located near the escalators and elevators graphically show the locations of all court departments.
- The Central Courthouse has three separate circulation systems: public, court staff, and in-custody defendants. Members of the public move through high-speed elevators, escalators and east-facing courtroom floor corridors. Detention elevators, corridors, and holding areas are dedicated only to the secure movement of in-custody defendants throughout the building. Court staff and judges utilize elevators, corridors, stairs, and other spaces that are restricted. The courtroom is the only location where all three groups converge.
- The Jury Lounge has a capacity of 500 people with Jury Services office staff at the back of the room. Jurors and potential jurors have choices for seating: study carrels along the walls, a quiet room or casual seats with small tables. In addition, jurors can now enjoy the Central Courthouse Café and lobby coffee cart without leaving security.
- A striking building design feature is the cantilevered sun-shading canopy, designed with panels to reflect the light and clouds from above to give the building a unique look each time of day. The shading canopy is not only beautiful, but it enhances energy efficiency by reducing the courthouse's cooling needs.

Once the staggered move schedule for the remaining court employees and operations is completed, all Central Court services, except for Traffic and Juvenile, will be available at the new Central Courthouse on February 5, 2018.

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