



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
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San Diego Superior Court to Close Civil Courtrooms and Business Offices in East and South County *Closures Set To Begin November 19, 2012*

In an effort to meet a \$33 million budget reduction this fiscal year, the San Diego Superior Court has announced the upcoming closure of two Civil Business Offices at its East and South County Divisions and the consolidation of services in the Central Division.

The Court has released a notice of the decision to close one independent calendar civil courtroom in its South County Division and one independent civil calendar courtroom in its East County Division, and to consolidate civil business office operations of its South and East County Divisions with those in its Central (Downtown) Division.

Effective November 19, 2012, the one independent calendar civil courtroom located at the South County Division, 500 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, will be closed; one of the independent calendar civil courtrooms located in the East County Division, 250 East Main Street, El Cajon, will be closed; and the civil business offices in the East and South County Divisions will no longer accept any civil filings (including small claims), except those in Civil Harassment/Elder Abuse cases.

To prepare for these changes, as of November 5, 2012, the East and South County Division civil business offices will not accept filings in new civil cases and petitions (including

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small claims), with the exception of Civil Harassment/Elder Abuse cases. Small claims cases will not be heard in the East and South County Divisions after December 13, 2012. The civil business offices of the East and South County Divisions will close to the public at the end of business on December 28, 2012.

These actions are a continuation of operational reductions the San Diego Superior Court has taken to meet the unprecedented and ongoing state budget cuts enacted in fiscal years 2012/13. These cuts are in addition to reductions incurred during the preceding four fiscal years. As a result, the court is facing the most significant reduction of services in its history.

Pursuant to Government Code section §68511.7, the court is inviting public comment on this change prior to implementation. To ensure prompt review and consideration, comments should be submitted electronically through the court's website at <http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov> (click on "Invitation to Comment").

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