

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO Post Office Box 120128 •San Diego, CA 92112-0128

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North County Traffic Court Announces Service Changes

Effective Monday, September 3, 2012, the North County Division of the San Diego Superior Court will make two changes in its operations.

First, counter services will not be available at the Traffic Court business office until 8:30 a.m., one hour later than the current time. Between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, customers will continue be able to make payments at the payment booth outside the exit doors of the Traffic Court business office; check-in for court sessions at the information booth in the building; and use the kiosks in the lobby to view red light violation video, make a payment, pay a ticket, get a continuance, and request traffic School or a traffic school extension. The Express Drop Box located at the front of Traffic Court is also still available 24 hours a day for payments, proof of insurance and other acceptable materials.

Second, in addition, as with all other San Diego Superior Court business offices, and as previously announced through Public Notice, all business offices in the North County Division will close every Friday at noon beginning September 3, 2012.

These changes are the result of unprecedented and ongoing state budget cuts. The San

Diego Superior Court has estimated that it faces as much as a \$14 million cut in funding for FY 2012-2013, and predicts the total cuts for fiscal year 2013-2014 could rise to \$40 million or more. 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.

Traffic Court touches more North County residents than any other section of the court. Last fiscal year, North County Traffic Court handled more than 118,000 traffic infractions and non-traffic infractions (e.g., jaywalking, fishing without a license, etc.).

The North County Traffic Court is located at 325 South Melrose Drive in Vista and many services are available on line at <u>www.sdcourt.ca.gov/traffic</u>.

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