

For immediate release

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San Mateo Superior Court Restores Clerk's Office Hours

Beginning Nov. 5, 2018, the San Mateo County Superior Court will restore formerly shortened counter and phone hours in the court clerk's offices, jury office and records division.

The restoration of public service hours is attributed to the addition of significant funding in the budget for the state's trial courts to restore and enhance court services.

Presiding Judge Susan Irene Etezadi said the Court was fortunate to receive enough funding in the FY18-19 state budget to be able to restore its public hours back to normal, and expand access to the public.

"The expanded Clerk's Office hours means that the residents of San Mateo County and our public safety partners can receive help from our Superior Court staff, file necessary paperwork and conduct their business between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., every day of the week," Etezadi said. "Although cutting back hours was a financial necessity nearly six years ago, with the new funding, we are truly pleased to be able to expand our access to the public we serve."

Etezadi also stated that plans are already in place to restore more court hearings and clerk's office, self-help, and family court services up at the Court's South San Francisco Branch beginning in January, 2019.

Court Executive Officer Neal Taniguchi credited the positive direction to the Court's effort to be responsive to its objective of restoring the services that were reluctantly cut during the severe budget deficits of seven years ago. "Despite the ongoing challenges for California trial courts, we are proud of our collaborative accomplishments here in San Mateo County that allow us to restore these court services. Our restorations are due to the exceptional efforts and initiatives achieved by our court workforce and judiciary. "

Taniguchi further noted that even with these significant funding and service restorations, San Mateo Superior Court is still only funded at 82 percent of the amount justified by the Court's actual workload. "If we receive adequate state trial court funding in future years, we will be able to restore the remaining court services," Taniguchi said.

Beginning Monday, Nov.5, 2018, the court clerk's office public service counter and telephone hours and the Records Division counter hours will be open between 8:30 a.m. and 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Criminal and Traffic Clerk's Offices will be open between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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