Reaching Out to Our Community

A newly created outreach program has been developed to link the resources and services between the Court and Community Representatives in order to expand and enhance the access and understanding of the legal system to the many diverse populations of Santa Clara County. This Court Community Academy and Liaison Program offers extensive training to community-based volunteers in order to better serve persons in all of our communities who may need assistance in successfully navigating through the legal process.

The first session of the Academy will provide participants with a broad overview of the primary areas of the legal system encountered by the public, including Civil, Criminal, Family Law and Traffic. Information addressing the various procedures, requirements for filings, and resources available to the public will be addressed. Those trained will not only offer guidance and assistance for many in the community who may be experiencing a myriad of difficulties with their legal situation, but also serve as liaisons between the Court, and the public.

The second session provides participants with an in depth view of the many "specialty" areas of the Court and the variety of innovative programs that have been developed in Santa Clara County.

The goal of the program is to provide community leaders with the tools necessary to help their constituents fully utilize the services and programs offered by the Court. We hope that by opening our doors and sharing our programs we a demonstrating our commitment to provide equal justice to all in a fair, efficient, and accessible manner .

If you are interested in participating in the Court Community Leadership & Liaison Program please contact Estela at 408-882-2760 or Ivory 408-882-2756 or by email at esrodriguez@scscourt.org or irachal@scscourt.org. Applications are also available online @ http://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org and may be submitted by mail to: Superior Court of CA, Human Resources, 191 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95113 or by fax 408-882-2796.

THE COURTS AS THE THIRD BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

Coordinators:

Judge Philip Pennypacker
Comm. Constance E. Jimenez
Judge Franklin Bondonno

SANTA CLARA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

COURT-COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND LIAISON PROGRAM

Judge Richard Loftus, Jr., Presiding Judge
Judge Brian Walsh, Asst. Presiding Judge
David Yamasaki, Chief Executive Officer

February 2011

TOPICS

- **The Third Branch, Superior Court Overview, & Who Are You Going to Call?**
- **Criminal Law : Overview, Outreach Court, & Traffic and DMV Matters**
- **Family Court & Child Support**
- **Juvenile Delinquency & Juvenile Dependency**
- **Small Claims:Civil & Unlawful Detainer**
- **Drug Courts & Domestic Violence**
- **Interpreter and Immigration Issues**
- **Elder Abuse Issues & Probate Conservatorships**
- **Jury Issues, Probation, Parole, and Correction Department Functions, & District Attorney and Defense Services**
- **Consumer Protection**

QUOTES & COMMENTS FROM PAST GRADUATES

Class of 2004/05

I am very pleased to make a statement about the leadership program. I think that it was the most useful training I have received since I left college. I believe it is a real opportunity for community people to understand our court systems and to share that information with others. I feel that every one that is working with the community at large should take the training. I also believe that we should recruit from other members of the community that may not be working in the area of service but as leaders in the community. I am very thankful and always happy to give back in any way. ***Patricia Caradonna***

I would like to say that the Leadership Academy is a back stage pass to the ins and outs of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County. You get to meet and greet with all of the many different leaders in the Judicial system that we read about daily in the local news-paper. ***Jesse Castaneda***

The Leadership Academy in my opinion is an excellent outreach program of the Superior Court. It was truly a rewarding experience for me. The methodology of the class was outstanding. Having witnessed an actual court proceeding was invaluable. Thank you again for the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful program. ***Trinidad Aoalin***

I thought this course was so beautifully organized, comprehensive and valuable that I did not miss one session. The caliber of speakers/ presenters was awesome, the climate was very inclusive and the prepared materials were worthy of an advanced college course. I have since frequently cited a great deal of what I learned about the de-mystified, often mis-interpreted court system. Sincerely grateful for the privilege. ***Vilma Kennedy Pallette***

Class of 2005/06

The efforts of court to engage the community is admirable. This course gives a birds eye view of all of courts in the county. It is very interactive learning that helps to meet participants need. ***Nalini Shekar***

Class of 2007/08

It was wonderful to learn that Judges in Santa Clara County are not limited to their individual area of legal expertise. Through their presentations, it was evident to me that they also have an in-depth understanding of other issues affecting families in the court system such as substance abuse, domestic violence and mental illness. I was pleased to learn the Santa Clara County Superior Court has excellent leadership (Judge Pennypacker, Commissioner Jimenez and Kiri Torre) that is willing to work with other systems to improve services to our community. ***~Rosemary Baez***