

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

191 North First Street
San José, California 95113
(408) 882-2700

Chambers of
HON. BETH MCGOWEN, Presiding Judge



TEMPORARY JUDGE PROGRAM

January 3, 2023

Letter of Invitation

Dear Members of the Legal Community,

Thanks to the generous efforts of qualified, experienced, and trained attorneys, the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara continues to maintain a Temporary Judge Program that is an integral part of some of the Court's busiest venues. Through this program, attorneys volunteer to preside over small claims and traffic hearings, facilitate the settlement of civil and family law disputes, and serve in other capacities at the discretion of the Presiding Judge. The contributions that temporary judges make to the people of Santa Clara County in general and to the Court in particular cannot be underestimated; without their help, our Court's ability to provide timely access to justice in furtherance of our commitment and duty to uphold constitutional, statutory, and legislative mandates would undoubtedly be delayed.


The Court invites additional interested attorneys who have been members of the California State Bar for at least ten years to submit an application and to participate in training programs in satisfaction of the requirements of the California Rules of Court. Training will be offered by the Court, locally, and by the Judicial Council of California, on a statewide basis. The requisite training qualifies for MCLE credit and is provided at no cost to attendees.

We have received exceptionally positive feedback about participation in the Temporary Judge Program. Temporary judges have expressed how their service has contributed to an appreciation of the role of judicial officers, a meaningful understanding of the court system, and greater empathy for the needs of the community they serve.

If you wish to be appointed as a temporary judge in Santa Clara County, please submit a Temporary Judge Application form and Placement Questionnaire as found on the Court website at www.scscourt.org/TJP. Only those qualified attorneys who submit an application and complete the necessary training will be considered for volunteer service as a temporary judge. Temporary judges serve at the discretion of the Presiding Judge and neither appointment nor service as a temporary judge creates an employment relationship with the Court. If you have any questions, please contact our TJP Administrator at tjp@scscourt.org or (408) 882-2721.

Thanks very much for your interest in this essential program.

With sincere regards,


Beth McGowen
Presiding Judge