Superior Court of California
County of Santa Clara

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Superior Court Seeks Qualified Attorneys to serve as Temporary Judges

SAN JOSÉ, California (November 30, 2023): The Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara's Presiding Judge Beth McGowen is delighted to announce significant updates to the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara Temporary Judge Program. This program remains a crucial component of the Court's operations, with volunteer attorneys presiding over small claims and traffic hearings, aiding in the settlement of civil and family law disputes, and serving in various capacities at the discretion of the Presiding Judge. The invaluable contributions of temporary judges are indispensable to managing the Court's caseload efficiently and promptly.

To streamline the process, the Court has introduced a virtual Court form as a new method for submitting the Temporary Judge Checklist. The form is now accessible on the Court's official website: https://www.scscourt.org/general_info/temporary_judges/index.shtml.

Temporary Judges serve in various venues throughout the Court and are supervised by the Presiding Judge and the program is overseen by the Temporary Judge Committee. Aside from the complaint form, which is available on the public website, the Court also collects feedback from staff, judicial officers, attorneys, and parties via the Temporary Judge Checklist (TJP-F011). This form is now available online. Members of the public can be referred to the Temporary Judge Program website or sent the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TJPFeedback

The Court presently engages temporary judges in five divisions: Civil, Family, Probate, Small Claims, and Traffic. Assignments in Civil, Family, and Probate primarily involve settlement conferences and dispute resolutions. In Small Claims and Traffic, on-the-record hearings are conducted. Temporary judges in Civil, Family, and Probate are encouraged to align their assignments with their areas of expertise or preference. The contributions of temporary judges are highly valued, and certified temporary judges receive court-provided parking at each facility.

The Court invites interested attorneys to apply and participate in training programs, fulfilling the requirements of the California Rules of Court. Attorneys not currently active in the Temporary Judge Program are encouraged to complete the application process. The Court welcomes applications from attorneys of diverse backgrounds.

"The Temporary Judge Program plays a pivotal role in ensuring the efficient functioning of our Court," stated Presiding Judge McGowen. "We extend an invitation to qualified attorneys to join us in this vital effort, contributing to the timely resolution of cases and enhancing the overall judicial process."

For inquiries about the Temporary Judge Program and application details, please contact Britney Huelbig, Temporary Judge Administrator, at tjp@scscourt.org.

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