## Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 8, 2009

## Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara Honors Jurors During Juror Appreciation Week

San Jose, CA—The Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara will celebrate Juror Appreciation Week, May 11-15, to acknowledge the service and participation of local citizens as jurors. The second week in May was established by a special resolution passed by the California Legislature in 1998 to recognize the important contributions of citizens in devoting their time and effort in "making the cherished right of trial by jury a reality." Juror Appreciation Week is now an annual event.

"We look forward to recognizing the service of our fellow citizens and welcome the community to visit the Court this week," said Presiding Judge Jamie Jacobs-May. "We in the Court want each and every juror, and future jurors, to know how much your participation and contribution to our American system of justice is appreciated. Trial by jury is a cherished constitutional right and jury service is an obligation of citizenship. Thank you for spending your valuable time in the courthouse."

In 2007 statewide, millions of Californians participated in jury service:

- Approximately 10 million people were summoned to jury service;
- 3,111,843 prospective jurors were eligible and available to serve;
- 2,417,679 completed service in one day; and
- 178, 566 jurors were sworn;

This year the Santa Clara County Superior Court will provide special recognition for the members of the public who appear for jury service as follows:

1. Provide coffee, tea, and pastries in the Jury Assembly Rooms.

- 2. Distribute certificates of appreciation signed by Presiding Judge Jamie Jacobs-May and Chief Justice Ronald George.
- 3. Distribute Juror Appreciation Week Pencils.
- 4. Distribute Jury Word Puzzles (a fun, jury–related word game that prospective jurors can complete while waiting.)
- 5. Distribute Juror stickers that say "I Served"
- 6. Display banners at all courthouses that read: "Jurors: Serving Justice, Serving the Community"

For further information, contact Jury Commissioner Lupe Castaneda at 408-882-2500.

For information about California jury service, go to: <a href="http://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/jury/default.htm">http://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/jury/default.htm</a> and also visit <a href="http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jury">http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jury</a>.