Superior Court of California
County of Santa Clara

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

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Chambers of
HON. THOMAS P. HANSEN, Presiding Judge

Contact Person:
Jean Pennypacker
408.882.5738

For Immediate Release (6/11/04)
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT TO SUPPORT
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

SAN JOSE, CA.——Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, working in collaboration with the Counties of Santa Cruz and San Mateo, was awarded a $1.2 million federal grant from the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. The original three-year grant of $600,000 was extended to a four-year grant with an additional $600,000.

Domestic Violence is a major problem for victims and children in our community. A recent report from the California Administrative Office of the Courts released findings that show that in 76% of all Family Court cases surveyed; at least one parent reported violence in the relationship. In 41% of all cases, at least one parent reported that their child(ren) had witnessed violence between their parents.

Office on Violence Against Women is undergoing a four-year demonstration project to examine the most promising practices in maintaining victim/child safety. The national demonstration project seeks to determine and evaluate the most promising practices of supervised visitation centers to keep victims of domestic violence and their children safe from further abuse. The safety of family members is foremost in the minds of judges and professional staff who serve families. Supervised visitation services have been identified as a way to protect the victim and children in domestic violence cases. As a result, Family Court refers hundreds of families to supervised visitation programs annually.

The Bay Area region of California received the prestigious honor of becoming only one of four national demonstration sites funded. The other sites awarded this honor went to the City of Chicago, the State of Michigan, and the City of Kent, Washington.