Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

CONTACT BENJAMIN T. RADA

Public Affairs brada@scscourt.org (408) 882-2709 desk (408) 334-9236 cell



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Juror Appreciation Week in Santa Clara County Superior Court: May 11-15, 2020

Each year, the Judicial Council of California and the superior courts throughout the State of California join together to recognize Juror Appreciation Week. This year, the Santa Clara County Superior Court will celebrate Juror Appreciation Week from Monday, May 11 through Friday, May 15, in honor of the countless Santa Clara County residents who serve their communities through jury duty and put into practice the fundamental American ideal of justice by serving on a jury.

Amidst the statewide challenges presented by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the theme of Juror Appreciation Week this year is "Jury Service: Your Right, Our Duty." This theme captures the responsibility of the Court to ensure that the Court's response to the COVID-19 pandemic includes measures to guarantee meaningful access to justice while protecting the public, Court staff, judicial officers, and, of course, jurors, as important contributors to the justice system. It also highlights that our most treasured democratic ideals exist only as long as individual citizens are willing to uphold them.

"Jurors truly play an integral role in the pursuit of justice in Santa Clara County," said Presiding Judge Deborah A. Ryan. "We're familiar with the grumbles from neighbors and friends when a jury summons arrives, but as a judge, the complete transformation in attitudes when jurors are sworn in to fulfill their civic duty never ceases to amaze and inspire me. The attentiveness to the details of the case and the earnestness in their attempt to arrive at a just verdict is a testament to the values and character of the residents of this County."

"As the Court moves to resume jury trials in Santa Clara County, Juror Appreciation Week is an apt reminder of our responsibility to reopen our doors in the safest manner possible so that members of our community can resume their essential role within the justice system," continued Presiding Judge Ryan.

During this special Juror Appreciation Week, the Court will share juror-specific information that we hope will continue to inform our community on its public website and <u>Twitter account</u>. The Court extends its profound gratitude to the many sacrifices and contributions that Santa Clara County residents appearing as jurors make to our justice system, and will share details with the public on continuing jury trials in the near future.

For more information on jury service, visit <u>www.scscourt.org</u> and click on "Jury Service" or visit the <u>Jury Service section</u> of the Judicial Council of California website.

