

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara



2018-2019
Annual Report



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Welcome from the Presiding Judge and Chief Executive Officer

We are pleased to present the 2018 – 2019 Annual Report on behalf of the Judges, Commissioners, and staff of the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara. This report is an acknowledgement of the work and achievements of everyone who supports the administration of justice within Santa Clara County.

The Santa Clara County Superior Court takes great pride in its location at the heart of Silicon Valley and strives to reflect the beliefs and values of its unique and diverse constituency. In a county nationally known for innovation, the Superior Court places great emphasis on how we effectively and efficiently serve our community as we improve court programs and operations to ensure equal access to justice for all.

As the sixth largest trial court in the state, the Superior Court's mission is to serve the public by providing equal justice for all in a fair, accessible, effective, efficient, and courteous manner: resolving disputes under the law; applying the law consistently, impartially, and independently; and instilling public trust and confidence in the Court.

- The demographics of Santa Clara County are as widely diverse as any county in the state, and the range and complexity of matters before the Court are as varied as the population that it serves. Our Court provides the highest quality of justice and supports our community with strong investment in our Self-Help Center, the state's only dedicated Restraining Order Help Center, and a wide range of collaborative courts and special programs intended to meet the needs of our community.
- The demands on Santa Clara County's trial court today have never been more pronounced. Our growing population, with more sophisticated and complex social and legal needs, has necessitated innovation and reinvention within the court system. To meet these needs the Court has introduced and fully implemented the Odyssey case management system which is a powerful tool that allows our Court to realize greater efficiencies across all levels of court operations.
- In 2015, the Superior Court realized its goal of consolidating our Family Court operations in one centrally located building, all while pushing valuable services out to underserved communities in the north and south. Technological advancements, such as Guide and File services, have also made it easier for the Court to reach people where they live and work.
- Judicial independence is the cornerstone of democracy. Our Community Outreach Committee continually develops new programs intended to better educate and inform on the work of the judiciary while maintaining its status as an independent, separate, and coequal branch of government.

This report highlights our duty to the people and the communities of Santa Clara County and our commitment to achieving excellence in providing equal justice for all.



Presiding Judge,
Deborah A. Ryan
&
Chief Executive Officer,
Rebecca Fleming



By the Numbers: Judicial Officers and Court Staff

The Santa Clara County Superior Court fulfills its mission to serve the public by providing equal justice for all in a fair, accessible, efficient, and courteous manner. The Court resolves thousands of disputes every year through the hard work and dedication of its judicial officers and Court staff. It also recognizes the valuable contributions of individuals, organizations, and county partners that enable the Court to provide quality service to the people of Santa Clara County.

Judicial Officers

74	Judges *
5	Comissioners *
79	<i>Total Judicial Officers</i>

Court Staff

2	Executive Management
7	Executives
6	Administration (Grand Jury/ Public Affairs Liaison / Support)
34	Legal Services and Planning Bureau
9	Human Resources Division
29	Information Services Bureau
21	Facilities
27	Finance
142	Family Resources and Civil Operations
131.8	Criminal / Traffic Divisions and Grants
195.8	Court Services Division
604.6	<i>Total Full Time Equivalent Staff</i>

* 77 Judges and 5 Commissioners allocated to Santa Clara County Superior Court. Currently, 3 vacant Judgeships.

Santa Clara County Superior Court Bench

The judicial officers of the Santa Clara County Superior Court are a diverse group of jurists who are dedicated to serving the Santa Clara County community and to administering justice in a fair, courteous, accessible, efficient and effective manner.



Family Division

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Family Division Facts

Locations:
Family
Justice
Center
Courthouse

FY 2018-19
Filings:

Family Law
10,693

Located in the new Family Justice Center Courthouse, Family Court provides litigants with a forum to address divorce, legal separation, nullity, parental establishment, restraining orders/domestic violence, child/spousal/family support, child custody, visitation, mediation, and arbitration. All family law matters are heard at the Family Justice Center Courthouse.

Family Court Services

Family Court Services (FCS) delivers a range of programs that empower parents to resolve their disputes and offers alternatives to adversarial litigation in the court system. These services provide education, assistance, and alternative dispute interventions specifically tailored to individual family situations. Services include child custody mediation, emergency screening, and evaluation services upon court referral. Family Court Services is located on the fifth floor of the Family Justice Center Courthouse.

FCS Parent Orientation and Mediation

Parents who cannot agree on custody and visitation orders must go to mediation. In Santa Clara County, parents begin with an online Family Court Orientation Class to learn more about the process of mediation. In this class, they receive information and help to create a parenting plan that works best for their family. Classes are offered in English and Spanish at no cost. Orientation and mediation may be scheduled by calling (408) 534-5760.

Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Services

Funded by a grant from the Office on Violence Against Women grant and FIRST 5, on-sight visitation services at no cost. Located at the Family Justice Center Courthouse, the court administers supervised visitation and supervised exchanges for families with existing Family Law cases. Hours of operation: Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Family Alternative Dispute Resolution

Family law issues including child custody, visitation, support, and property division can be resolved by agreement instead of at a court hearing. Santa Clara County Superior Court offers free custody/visitation mediation with a settlement officer to help families. Volunteer attorneys also provide personal property arbitration and early neutral evaluation at no cost.

Children’s Waiting Room

The Santa Clara County Superior Court provides a safe place and dedicated care providers for children ages two to twelve at the Family Justice Center Courthouse children’s waiting room while parents conduct court business. Children are offered activities, toys, books, and a healthy snack while in the waiting room.

Hours of operation: Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Teen Orientation

Teen orientation is a program designed by the Santa Clara County Superior Court to provide support and guidance for youth involved in family court proceedings. The goal behind teen orientation is to give the teens an overview of the court process, an understanding of their rights and role in their parents’ case, connections to resources, and guidance for communicating with the Court. The program is taught by community volunteers, including an attorney with experience representing children and a mental health professional. Small group sessions take place on Friday afternoons and average five to ten teens per session. Teens generally range in age from 14 to 17 years old, though the Court has referred children younger than 14 when it is deemed appropriate.



Monitors at the Family Justice Center Courthouse



“I speak” Name Plates

To improve access to justice for all, the court identifies qualified staff who speak multiple languages with “I Speak” name plates displayed in public service windows. The plates help individuals waiting in line to feel less anxious knowing that they will be able to communicate with a clerk who speaks their language. Court staff have “I Speak” name plates and provide services in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Tagalog.

Young Children’s Settlement Team

The Young Children’s Settlement Team connects volunteer clinicians and neutral attorneys with litigants to settle family custody and visitation cases. This added layer of clinical guidance allows the Court to focus on the best needs of the whole family.

Starting Point Mediation

Starting Point Mediation is a confidential process in which an experienced neutral mediator provides meet and confer services to self represented parents. This service allows parents to establish a custody and visitation arrangement together that is safe and in the best interests of the children. Safe Start mediations take place on the day of the Court hearing and allow parents to receive a filed copy of their mediated agreement on the same day.

Adoption Day

On Friday, November 16, 2018, Santa Clara County judges and staff, along with Santa Clara Department of Family and Children's Services, welcomed 32 adoptive families and 41 children to "Adoption Central." Every year on National Adoption Day, courts and communities in all 50 states collaborate to finalize thousands of adoptions of children and to honor adopting families. Locally, Adoption Day is an opportunity to increase public awareness of the need for adoptive parents, to educate would-be parents about the adoptive process, and to celebrate the local families who have opened their lives to children in need of permanent homes.



Criminal Division

The Criminal Division of the Court handles misdemeanor and felony violations occurring throughout the county and is the largest division of the Santa Clara County Superior Court. The division seeks to combine traditional courtrooms with innovative courts based on a more collaborative model. This combination best serves both defendants and the citizens of Santa Clara County.

Traffic Court

Traffic Court adjudicates violations of traffic laws and other minor offenses. Traffic Court violations are considered “infractions” and include offenses such as speeding, automobile equipment needing repair, and expired licenses. For the added convenience of Court users the Superior Court offers night court calendars on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Traffic Court is located at 1095 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, CA 95050

Pay Traffic tickets online: <https://portal.sccscourt.org/traffic>



Criminal Division Facts

Locations:

Hall of
Justice,
San Jose

Palo Alto

Morgan Hill

FY 2018-19

Filings:

Misd & Infr

164,478

Felony

7,113

Final Phase: Odyssey in Criminal Division

The Santa Clara County Superior Court first went live with its Odyssey Case Management System (CMS) in December 2015 in its Family Law, Juvenile Justice, Probate, and Civil divisions. The implementation of the Odyssey CMS for the Traffic Division followed in June 2018. Implementation was completed with Criminal Division in November 2018.

At its core, Odyssey CMS manages all aspects of court administration; provides case information; attaches multiple file types; creates and displays dockets in various ways; generates forms, letters, and a variety of reports with advanced tools; calculates fines and fees; distributes payments automatically; and searches data using multiple criteria. Additionally, Odyssey CMS lays the groundwork for building and purchasing custom and enhanced solutions for both mobile and website applications.

The use of this new technological tool allows for greater efficiencies at all levels of Court operations both internally and externally. We are experiencing an increase in workflow at the operations level through enhanced accessibility to documents from the clerk's office to courtroom. Odyssey CMS provides greater order and consistency to calendaring functions which are viewable for both court staff and the public. Utilizing this modern technology platform, employees in operations can focus on work that is challenging while providing them with skills that are relevant in today's market. Customers are also experiencing ease of use while doing business with the Court as the use of electronic documents allows the opportunity to initiate and resolve disputes remotely in certain case types.



At the administrative levels, Odyssey CMS provides the opportunity to make data driven decisions and the flexibility to utilize and divert resources as necessary. Therefore, Court administration and judicial officers are better able to adjust to legislative changes as they happen.

Family Court Domestic Violence Calendar

The Superior Court's Family Domestic Violence Calendar helps our self-represented litigants, both plaintiffs and defendants, navigate the court system to obtain restraining orders. Numerous day-of-court resources are available to the public including post-hearing intake, assistance to victims and their children, advocates from local domestic violence agencies, Court

staff to prepare orders after hearing, and Court mediators to help the parties reach an agreement on a temporary parenting plan. By providing in-court day of hearing resources, staff work more efficiently with all parties to ensure they understand the orders and the resources available to them after their hearing.



Justice Corps Fellow helping a self-represented litigant fill out paperwork at the Self-Help Center

Domestic Violence Services

Criminal Family Violence Docket

A wide array of supportive services are offered to individuals involved in the criminal court family violence docket, including legal assistance and access to community victim services agencies. This streamlined and consolidated calendar efficiently address the needs of both victim and defendant within the same forum.

Need help filing a Domestic Violence Restraining Order? Please visit our Restraining Order Help Center located at the Family Justice Center Courthouse.

FY 2018-19

Filings:

Juvenile
Dependency
637

Juvenile Dependency

The Juvenile Dependency Court hears cases involving children who have been abused or neglected by their parents or guardians. The goal of Santa Clara County's Dependency Court is to protect and provide stability to minors, keep families together, treat all with dignity, respect diversity, and value every child. The Court makes every effort to keep children with parents and families but may remove the child from parental custody if necessary for the child's well-being and safety. When

a child must be removed from the home, the Court works extensively with both the family and the child to improve the conditions at home so that families can be reunified. For families involved in Juvenile Dependency, the Court provides unique and special services such as Dependency Wellness Court.

Location: Family Justice Center Courthouse



Juvenile Division

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The Juvenile Courts handle cases involving children under 18 years of age who violate any law or who are abused or neglected.

Juvenile Justice

The mission of the Juvenile Justice Court is to protect and rehabilitate, build strong and healthy families, support victims, and enhance the safety of our community. Specialized court calendars including the Court for Individualized Treatment of Adolescents, Opportunity Court, and the domestic violence concentrated docket providing individualized treatment and support services for our county's youth

Location: Juvenile Justice Courthouse

FY 2018-19

Filings:

Juvenile Justice
1,394

Civil Division Facts

Locations:

DTS and
Old
Courthouse

FY 2018-19 Filings:

Civil
Limited
13,289

Civil
Unlimited
7,113

Probate
2,372

Small
Claims
4,847

Civil Division

The Civil Division handles litigation between individuals and/or businesses. Civil litigation allows parties to recover money or property, enforce a contract or an obligation, collect damages for injury, or to protect civil rights. All civil matters are heard at either the Downtown Superior Court or the Old Courthouse.

Small Claims

Small Claims Court allows people to resolve disputes quickly and inexpensively. For individuals, the Court hears disputes regarding claims valued at \$10,000 or less. The maximum claim for corporations, partnerships, or any other type of entity other than a sole proprietorship is \$5,000. Attorneys may not represent clients in a small claims action except on appeal.

Complex Civil Litigation

Santa Clara County Superior Court's complex civil litigation program manages complex cases more efficiently and effectively. Complex cases benefit from specialized and long-term case management techniques, including identification of discrete issues for discovery. The Court uses issue-related and phased discovery, identification of discrete issues for resolution through dispositive motions or bifurcated trials, and settlement techniques.

Civil Grand Jury

The Civil Grand Jury serves as the County's civil watchdog agency and may examine all aspects of county and city government, special districts, and school districts. It is authorized to inspect and audit books, records, and financial expenditures to ensure accountability of public funds.

Over the course of their term, fiscal year 2018/19, the Civil Grand Jury considered 28 complaints resulting in seven reports. During investigations into these complaints, the Grand Jury conducted over 100 investigations of government officials and employees.

Probate

Located at the Downtown Superior Court, the Probate Division handles a wide range of issues involving adults and children. Matters heard in the probate area include name changes, adoptions, conservatorship, guardianship, and disputes about trusts.

Santa Clara County Courthouses



Palo Alto Courthouse
270 Grant Ave Palo Alto, CA 94306



Santa Clara/Traffic
1095 Homestead Road Santa Clara, CA 95050



Hall Of Justice
190-200 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110



Juvenile Justice
840 Guadalupe Parkway San Jose, CA 95110



Family Justice Center Courthouse
201 N First Street San Jose, CA 95113



Old Courthouse
161 North First Street San Jose, CA 95113



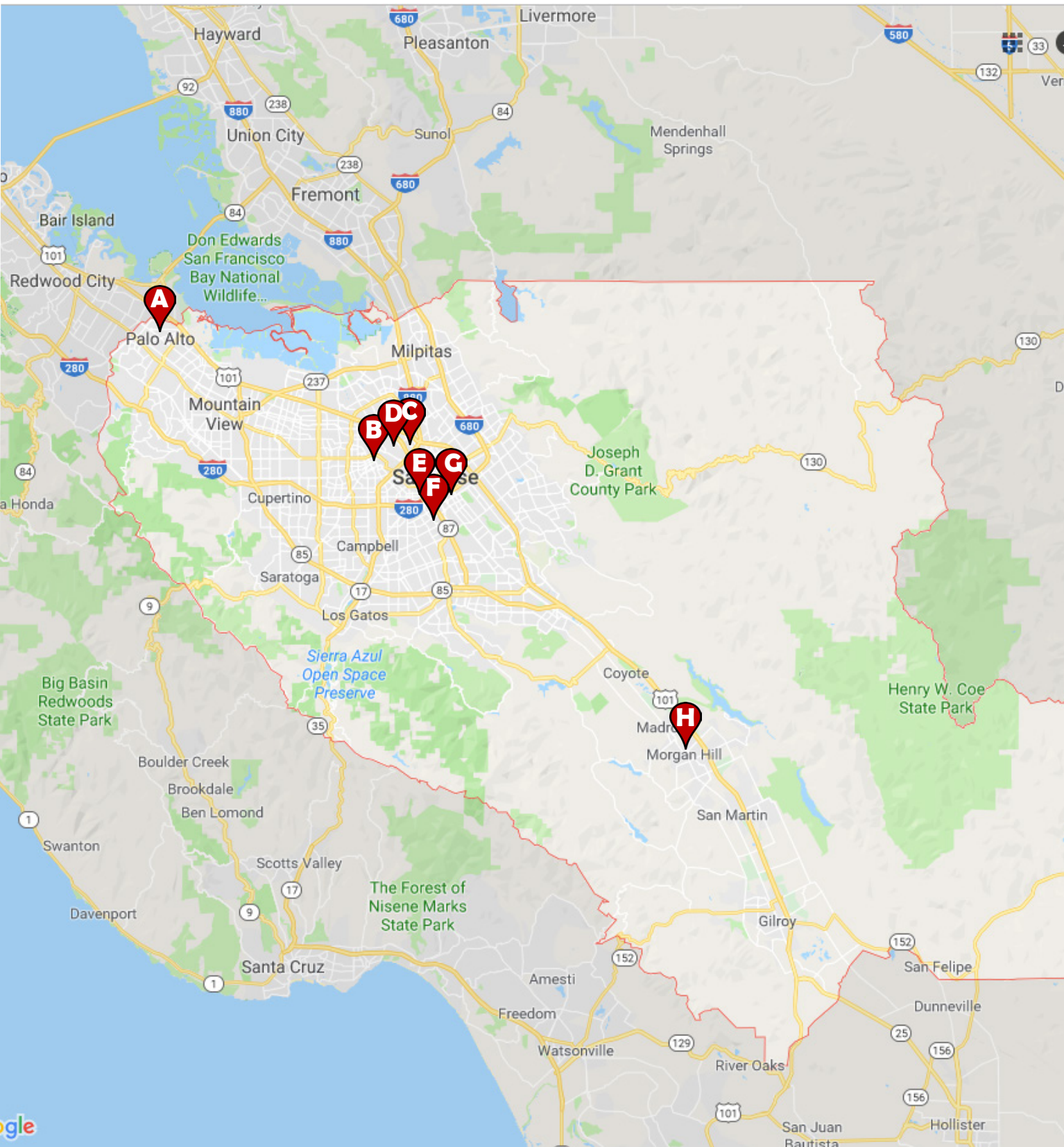
Downtown Superior Court
191 North First Street San Jose, CA 95113



South County
301 Diana Avenue Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Mailing address for all facilities:
191 North First Street San Jose, CA 95113





Self-Help Center & Family Law Facilitator's Office

Located at the Family Justice Center Courthouse, the Self-Help Center and Family Law Facilitator's Office (SHC/FLFO) is open Monday to Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The SHC/FLFO is a resource and referral center for Self-Represented Litigants in Santa Clara County.

Staff at the SHC/ FLFO help with the following types of cases through in-person meetings, workshops, email, and phone:

Family Court

- Start/respond to dissolution, legal separation, or nullity
- Start/respond to petitions to establish parentage
- Defaults
- Judgements
- Custody and visitation
- Child support
- Spousal support
- Domestic violence restraining orders

Landlord/Tenant

- Eviction notices
- Residential eviction cases (start / respond to stays of eviction)

Civil Lawsuits (\$25,000 or less)

- Start/respond to breach of contract cases
- Start/respond to basic auto accident cases

Probate Cases

- Guardianship
- General conservatorship of the person only
- Limited conservatorship
- Name and/or gender changes
- Establish facts of birth, death, or marriage

Small Claims Advisor

Assistance is provided by email and telephone.

The advisor can help with the following:

- Proper Court location to file documents
- Forms to use in the Court and hearing process
- Service of filed documents
- Collecting judgments

Small Claims help is not available in person at the SHC/FLFO.

Restraining Order Help Center

The Restraining Order Help Center (ROHC) operated by SHC / FLFO staff provides California's only self-help center devoted solely to helping people deal with civil violence prevention court cases. ROHC staff provide information on how to apply for a restraining order and resources offered by the Court and community. As each person's case is unique, ROHC staff are trained to ask specific questions to identify the correct forms and procedures for each case type. Assistance is provided for various types of civil violence prevention orders such as domestic violence, civil harassment, elder abuse, juvenile dependency, gun violence, and workplace violence. All services are provided at no cost and there are no filing fees. Restraining order forms can also be completed online.

Hours of operation: Monday through Friday
from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
& 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Odyssey Guide and File

Odyssey Guide and File is an online program which helps self-represented litigants through the steps to generate and complete court forms. Guide and File electronically assists litigants to submit legal documents in various Family and Civil law cases with the help of a simple and intuitive “interview-like” process.

Guide and File is part of an ongoing effort to reach users to make navigating the Court system accessible and easy to understand. Not previously available to the public, Guide and File modernizes the Court and serves the people in Silicon Valley who rely upon information presented electronically.

For individuals who do not have access to a computer, the Court has installed computers in the Self Help Center for public use to access Guide and File. Once a litigant answers a series of easy-to-understand questions, the program completes the appropriate forms using the answers provided. These forms can either be E-filed (for Courts that have activated that feature) or printed and filed at the Clerk’s Office.

The Santa Clara County Superior Court is in the process of integrating Guide and File into the Court’s E-filing system. As a result, within the year, self-represented litigants in Santa Clara County will be able to file many of their Court forms without having to come to the courthouse. This program will significantly increase access to justice for the litigants who find it difficult or impossible to come to the courthouse in person.

Link to Guide and File Program:

http://www.sccscourt.org/self_help/complete_forms_at_home.shtml

Case Types Offered as of December 12, 2018:

Start a Divorce, Legal Separation, or Nullity	Respond to a Divorce, Legal Separation, or Nullity
Amend a Divorce, Legal Separation, or Nullity	Income and Expense Declaration
Start a Custody Case	Small Claims
Child Support (Must have an open case)	Child Custody and Visitation (Must have an open case)
Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Restraining Order Request	Domestic Violence Restraining Order Request
Request a Guardianship	Civil Harassment Restraining Order Request
Eviction/Unlawful Detainer Answer	Request a Limited Conservatorship



Community Outreach Events

Fred Korematsu Day

Every year, Santa Clara County Superior Court hosts a Fred T. Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution. It is typically held on January 30th, Mr. Korematsu's birthday. This year's speaker, Hon. Marilyn Hall Patel (ret.), presented an "Inside the Decision" perspective of her decision in *Korematsu v. United States* which overturned Mr. Korematsu's wartime conviction for violating the Japanese-American Internment and how it relates to current events in politics and the courts.

Clergy Day with the Bench

Hosted by Santa Clara County Superior Court and Correctional Institutions Chaplaincy (CIC) Ministries, Clergy Day is an interactive program designed to educate clergy, staff, and laypersons about California's Court system.

Dr. Seuss's Read Across America

Every March, Santa Clara County Judges volunteer during their lunch hour to celebrate National Read Across America at elementary schools in Santa Clara County. In 2018, twenty judges read to students at San Jose Unified School District's Anne Darling Elementary School. The stories were either written by Dr. Seuss, celebrate Black History Month, or give a child's perspective into the court system. The judges personally selected and purchased the books, which were then donated to the school.

Law Day

Planned by the Superior Court Community Outreach Committee, Law Day events included a written word/poetry competition for 8th-grade students on the topic of "What Does Free Speech Mean to You in the Age of the Internet?" and an art poster competition for young people at James Ranch. Law Day programs are designed to help people understand how the law keeps us free and how our legal system strives to achieve justice.

Constitution Day

In celebration of the 231st anniversary of the Constitution on September 17, 2018, 25 judges from the Santa Clara County Superior Court visited 28 schools, reaching more than 2,500 fifth grade students from across the county. Judges taught the students about the three co-equal branches of government, the importance of separation of powers, and how the Constitution and the Bill of Rights matter in the lives of students.

Educators' Day

Educators Day is an annual event hosted by the Superior Court which focuses on legal issues of joint concern to our courts and our schools. The program is a one-day event intended for high school and middle school administrators. Previous topics include gang-involved youth, chronic absenteeism, mandatory reporting, juvenile dependency, and juvenile justice involved youth.



Mock Trial

A “mock trial” is a simulation of a trial for students. Our program offers students the opportunity to participate in a rehearsed, interactive fictional trial so that they can learn firsthand the role of the judicial branch of government. Students play the roles of attorneys, witnesses, jurors, and judge.

Speakers Bureau

Santa Clara County judges represent the community and work hard to serve our residents. They welcome the opportunity to meet with organizations and discuss the role of the Court in our community. The Courts Speakers Bureau program coordinates judges and commissioners speaking at events, meetings or school functions. Judicial officers can provide insight into how civil and criminal cases proceed through the court system and how conflicts are resolved.

Court Visits

The Court welcomes community organizations and educational institutions to participate in organized visits. Court visits are tailored to the age, educational purpose, and requested visit durations of the individual organizations. Visits may include sitting in on criminal or civil proceedings.



Outreach Events are organized by the Court’s Community Outreach Committee. Led by Judge Julia Alloggimto, the committee includes members of various community organizations partnering with the Court such as the District Attorney’s Office, Public Defenders Office, Department of Probation, Santa Clara County Bar Association, Santa Clara County Office of Education, and more.

To schedule a Court visit or mock trial or request a judicial officer as a speaker, email visit@scscourt.org or phone 408-882-2709

Collaborative Courts and Special Programs

Santa Clara County Superior Court is proud to have established a number of specialized courts and calendars which utilize the principles of therapeutic and restorative justice to more effectively deal with the problems of certain target populations. These collaborative courts (also known as problem-solving courts) are characterized by a team approach which brings together resources from the Court, law and justice agencies, and community organizations. The goals are to seek alternatives to incarceration and to reduce recidivism within these target populations. Statewide studies have shown that collaborative courts have generated substantial savings within the justice system by increasing case processing efficiencies and reducing prison costs. Santa Clara County Superior Court is committed to continuing to develop and refine these programs as part of its overall strategy to increase access to justice.

The Santa Clara County Adult Treatment Court programs are specifically implemented to address the needs of individuals who have identified mental health symptoms and diagnoses, substance use disorders, or both. Since the establishment in 1995 of a Drug Treatment Court, the collaborative court model has expanded to a variety of specialty calendars, including a Veteran Treatment Court, Parole Reentry Court, Community Outreach Court, and an Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) Treatment Court, among others. These calendars ensure the unique treatment needs of each participant are addressed with the appropriate resources and level of care. Our court also operates various collaborative courts and special programs for youth facing similar issues such as substance abuse, mental health, domestic violence, and more.

Facts about Santa Clara County Superior Court's innovative efforts:

- Santa Clara County established the state's first mental health court and first dating violence court (Juvenile Domestic and Family Violence Court), as well as the first juvenile dependency family drug court.
- Implemented in 2001, Santa Clara's Juvenile Mental Health Court was the first coordinated program in the nation to address problems in the juvenile justice system with minors who were charged with crimes and suffered from mental health issues.



Adult Collaborative Courts

Drug Courts are specially designed court calendars that provide an alternative to traditional criminal justice prosecution for non-violent drug-related offenses. These Courts combine close judicial oversight and monitoring with probation supervision and substance abuse treatment services. There are two specialty courts, Family Law Treatment Court and Dependency Wellness Court, both heard in Department 66 in the Family Justice Center Courthouse.

Family Law Treatment Court

Family Law Treatment Court (FLTC) is a voluntary, Court-supervised collaborative court program for parents with children involved in custody hearings in Family Court. Parents are connected with a variety of services including recovery treatment programs and, if needed, mental health services. The goal of FLTC is to help parents become clean and sober so they can keep custody, obtain custody, or increase their parenting time. Recovery from addiction and becoming a sober parent requires developing self-sufficiency and accountability, which are measures of success in FLTC. One of the major benefits of FLTC is the opportunity for increased time with the participant's child(ren) as recovery progresses. It generally takes one year to complete the program.



A Sheriff's deputy writes participants' name on the "Star Board" when they have progressed to the next step of the program.

Dependency Wellness Court



Judge Cindy Hendrickson presiding over Dependency Wellness Court.

Dependency Wellness Court (DWC) helps parents with substance abuse and/or co-occurring mental health problems to become better parents and work at reunification with their children. The DWC is designed to support parents to get clean and sober by providing an array of support services aimed at addressing underlying issues that brought them to participate in DWC. In order to provide these services, the Court partners with various county agencies including the Behavioral Health Services Department, Department of Family and Children Services, Dependency Advocacy Center, and more.

Adult Treatment Court

Adult Treatment Court programs have been established to address the needs of individuals with qualifying criminal histories who have identified mental health diagnoses, substance use disorders, or both. Established in 1998, this collaborative court merged the previously stand-alone Drug Treatment and Mental Health Treatment Courts and has been expanded to serve clients with a wide array of needs. The mission of this court is to integrate substance abuse and mental health treatment with judicial supervision for the promotion of public safety, individual responsibility, and reduction of recidivism.

Parolee Reentry Court

In 2009, California initiated the Parolee Reentry Court Program in an effort to reduce recidivism, parole revocation, and reincarceration among parolees. Santa Clara County was awarded a Reentry Court Program Grant to implement its own Parolee Reentry Court. This specialty court is now a separate calendar and program operated in partnership with Parole Board and the Board of Parole Hearings. The Parolee Reentry Court is a part of our other adult drug courts and utilizes the key components of drug courts, mental health courts, and collaborative courts. The Parolee Reentry Court orders rehabilitation and treatment services; determines appropriate incentives; orders appropriate sanctions; lifts parole holds; and hears and determines appropriate responses to alleged violations.

Palo Alto Review

The Palo Alto Review is a specialty calendar designed to help clients who are homeless to find housing in Palo Alto. Monthly, the Court helps convene all of the requisite parties (District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, Law Enforcement Agencies and local homeless advocates) to come together to identify services and alternate approaches to resolving the issues and charges related to an individual's housing status.

Community Outreach Court

Community Outreach Court is a specialty court designed to help clients who are homeless, mentally ill, and/or have co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders. It is held out in the community instead of at the courthouse and helps resolve outstanding fines and fees associated with infractions, traffic and/or light rail, low-level misdemeanor offenses, and warrants of homeless individuals.

Veterans Treatment Court

Veterans Treatment Court serves veterans with substance abuse and mental health issues that participate in Drug Court and Veterans Courts whose substance use has resulted in criminal charges. The Veterans Court is a project of the existing Drug Court and is a population-focused, problem-solving treatment courtroom within the Adult Drug Court.

Dual Diagnosis Treatment Court

Also known as CITA (Court for the Individualized Treatment of Adolescents), the Dual Diagnosis Treatment Court is meant to better serve minors who have substance use issues or co-occurring issues (mental health and substance abuse). The CITA team is composed of judges, probation officers, defense attorneys, district attorneys, behavioral health clinicians, legal aid, and Legal Advocates for Children and Youth (LACY).

The goals of the CITA are to empower youth and their families, promote individual wellness, and ensure community safety. These goals are achieved by helping youth identify their strengths and positive attributes, acknowledging the challenges that mental health diagnoses and/or substance use disorders bring, and providing appropriate developmental services that teach the youth skills necessary to succeed and manage mental health and/or substance use disorders. In 2017, the average length of time spent in the CITA was 6.2 months. Of the 31 active youth in 2017, 38 percent successfully graduated, 19 percent received a certificate of participation (demonstrated progress in the program but did not meet all criteria for graduation), and 28 percent were unsuccessfully terminated.



SPECIAL COURTS FOR MINORS

Opportunity Court

Operated out of ConXion to Community, this community based court site is available to Juvenile Justice families on the east side of San Jose. At this monthly court date, the opportunity court judge hears cases of the youth currently on probation. The Court also simultaneously runs a Youth Services Fair and holds Youth Workshops in partnership with ConXion to Community to improve youth self-sufficiency skills. Birthdays and graduations are celebrated and youth and their siblings also receive new shoes and a \$50 gift card for back to school shopping each fall. This court continues to thrive, adding partners and becoming a symbol of the Santa Clara County Superior Court going the extra mile to meet community needs.

Domestic Violence Calendar

Started in 1999, the Domestic Violence calendar focuses on changing the way an abusive minor acts and on supporting the victim. The Court works with probation officers, district attorneys, public defenders, and domestic violence support services. For individuals involved in a domestic or family violence case, Juvenile Probation has special programs to help and support victims, to investigate and supervise the minor offenders, to stop violence before it starts, and to teach juvenile offenders and batterers how to stop violence.

Young Adult Deferred Entry of Judgment Program

Santa Clara County's Young Adult Deferred Entry of Judgment Program (YADEJ) is one of five pilot programs throughout the state that targets young adults from 18 to 21 years who are charged with non-serious, non-violent felonies under California law. The YADEJ is based upon recent scientific evidence that the human brain is not fully developed until the mid-twenties and the last parts of the brain to develop are the parts which control impulses and decision-making. Young adults accepted into this innovative program serve time (up to 120 days) in Juvenile Hall's Young Adult Wing. Upon release, minors receive a Life 360 Evaluation which takes into account education status, vocational training aptitudes, substance use and counseling issues, and housing needs and sets individual progress goals in the same areas. This lifestyle triage is backed with access to services and opportunities. Each participant returns before a judge to assess their program progress and to keep the participant's ultimate goals in focus. To successfully complete the program, participants must refrain from using controlled substances and must participate in community service projects. When they graduate, the records of participants' convictions are cleared and sealed.

Dually Involved Youth

In partnership with Santa Clara County's Probation Department and Social Services Agency, the Dually Involved Youth court addresses minors who have active cases in Juvenile Dependency and Juvenile Justice. Such cases are heard by a designated judge. Together with the Department of Family and Children's Services, the Juvenile Probation Department makes recommendations to the Juvenile Court judge, suggesting which type of status would be best for the minor and for the protection of the community. After reviewing the recommendations, the judge determines which system can best serve the minor's needs. The Dually Involved Youth team consists of dedicated juvenile probation officers, Department of Family Court Services social workers, and a youth advocate, who provide appropriate services and intensive case management to the youth and his or her families.

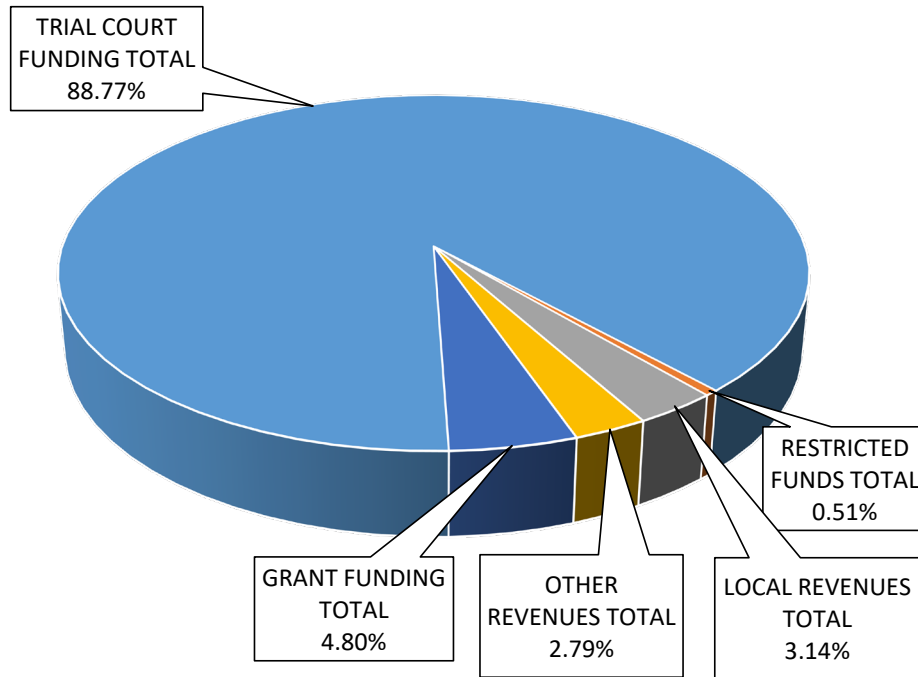
Court Appointed Friends and Advocates

The Court Appointed Friends and Advocates (CAFA) program is designed to provide minors with an advocate who is consistently in the youth's life and to support the youth while in the Juvenile Justice System. The CAFA also serves to encourage the minor to participate in activities such as sports or tutoring. The goal of CAFA is to offer the same resources to juveniles in Delinquency Court as they receive in Dependency Court.

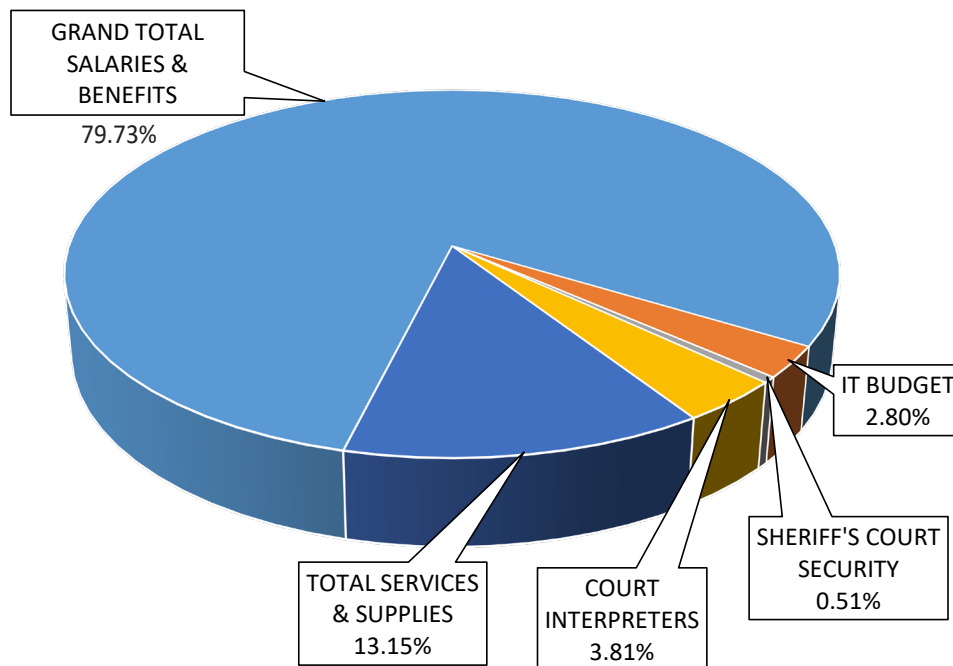
Budget

FY 2018-19

Revenues



Expenditures



Caseload Statistics

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Santa Clara County Superior Court Filings by Case Type for Fiscal Year 2017-18 and 2018-19

Filings	FY 17/18	FY 18/19	TOTAL
Appellate	151	187	338
Civil - Limited	11,794	13,289	25,083
Civil - Unlimited	7,261	7,113	14,374
Family Law	9,735	10,693	20,428
Felonies	6,792	7,661	14,453
Juvenile Dependency	674	637	1,311
Juvenile Justice	1,518	1,394	2,912
Mental Health	819	649	1,468
Misdemeanors and Infractions	166,436	164,478	330,914
Probate	2,345	2,372	4,717
Small Claims	4,496	4,847	9,343
TOTAL	212,021	213,320	425,341





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The Superior Court Of California, County of Santa Clara would like to acknowledge the efforts of our Judges, Chief Executive Officer and staff in the creation of this annual report. A very special thank you to Rose Dozier for all of her hard work and dedication to our Court.

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