



Superior Court of California

County of Alameda

Courthouse
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, California 94612

PRESS RELEASE

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda Employee Layoffs Monday, June 1st, 2009

OAKLAND, California – The Superior Court of California, County of Alameda confirmed today plans to layoff 73 Court Employees as a result of the State's budget reductions. The final day of employment for these individuals will be Friday, June 26th, 2009. The statewide Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) was notified in early spring of this year of the worsening budget situation and the possibility of layoffs at the Court if the budget situation did not improve.

Pat Sweeten, Court Executive Officer, cited the "continued economic downturn affecting California as a whole, and the decrease in state funding of the Superior Courts" as the reason for the layoffs. "This decision was one of the most difficult I've ever had to make. These individuals have been dedicated public servants – in some cases for many years. Unfortunately, these staffing reductions are necessary. We have a responsibility to the public to manage within our means."

Sweeten indicated the Court has pursued a number of alternatives to layoffs, including a hiring freeze and court-wide voluntary and mandatory furloughs, in the current fiscal year. Unfortunately, these measures were not sufficient to keep the Court's budget in balance.

"These are dedicated and talented professionals who have provided tremendous value to our organization. Personally and professionally, they will be sorely missed," said Adrienne Forshay, Assistant Executive Officer.

The Superior Court in Alameda County will continue to employ approximately 750 employees at court locations throughout the county including Berkeley, Alameda, Oakland, San Leandro, Hayward, Fremont, and Pleasanton.

Sweeten wanted to assure the public that the Court is determined to maintain access to justice for citizens of Alameda County, notwithstanding the pending staffing reduction.

***For more information, please contact Jim Brighton, Bureau Chief, Planning and Research,
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