



Superior Court of California
County of Orange

NEWS RELEASE

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**COURT REDUCES HOURS AT PUBLIC SERVICE WINDOWS AS
AN ADDITIONAL COST CUTTING MEASURE**

Santa Ana - The Orange County Superior Court will reduce the Clerk's Office public service window schedule by one hour beginning on September 2, 2003. Public service windows and telephone lines will be open 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, including the noon hour. Courtrooms will remain in operation on their current schedules.

"The Court has done all that it can to avoid any reduction in service to the public despite the State's financial crisis and its impact on the court's budget. However, belt tightening measures already implemented this past year are beginning to take their toll," said Presiding Judge Frederick P. Horn. "The new service hours are needed to reduce the need for overtime and to free staff to work on case back logs and catch up with filing including judgments, complete correspondence and copy work requests," Horn added.

Previous cost saving measures implemented by the court during 2002-2003 include a hiring freeze in effect since July 2002; voluntary furloughs; eliminating use of temporary staff; overtime cuts; reducing "night court" to once a month; a 20% reduction in executive management; and suspension of equipment and furniture purchases.

Traffic clerk windows will continue to open at 7:30 a.m. for the public. The Traffic Divisions will remain open until 6:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month for Night Court.

More information regarding the court is available at the court's website: www.occourts.org.

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