



Superior Court of California
County of Orange

Media Advisory

CONTACT: Media and Community Relations Office
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**Event: Cypriot Judges & Noted Fullbright Senior Scholar Visit
Orange County Superior Court**

Six Cypriot judges, guests of the U.S. State Department, will visit the Orange County Superior Court Lamoreaux Justice Center where Juvenile, Family Law, Probate and Mental Health matters are resolved. The visiting judges will observe various aspects of how the court system works and how the court uses mediation and dispute resolution programs. The visit was arranged by Marco Turk, a Fullbright Senior Scholar and head of the Conflict Resolution Program at Cal State Dominguez Hills, and by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Institute for Conflict Management. Professor Turk spent two years on Cyprus to train the island's Greek and Turkish Cypriot divided population in methods to resolve their historical conflicts.

Program: The program will include a 1½ tour, followed by a discussion on innovative court programs. Tour highlights include:

The Office of the Family Law Facilitator - The office assists people representing themselves in Family Law Matters. Individuals are shown how to navigate through the court process and are equipped with the tools necessary to prepare family law paperwork.

Interactive Community Assistance Network (I-CAN!) - The program, which can be accessed by using a touch screen kiosk or through a Web interface, helps self-represented litigants gain access to the courts and provides step by step instructions to properly complete legal forms.

Children's Chambers - The facility provides a safe supervised environment for children 2 ½ to 17 years old while their parents are at court hearings. The service saves those who use the courts the cost of child care while at court proceedings.

Date: Wednesday, August 4, 2004, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Location: Lamoreaux Justice Center
341 The City Drive, Orange, California**

Contact: Reporters interested in attending the court tour and discussion need to contact Yvonne Vessell at (714) 935-7968

Participants: Hon. Robert B. Hutson, Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Panel
Hon. Jamoa Moberly, Judge of the Superior Court
Hon. David McEachen, Judge of the Superior Court
Hon. Linda Miller, Judge of the Superior Court

Guests:

Greek Cypriots

Savvas Karatsis

Special projects: The right of children to be heard in the judicial system; Sentencing and treatment of young adult offenders; The European Convention and the exercise of the rights of children.

Interested in comparing the family law in USA with the legal system of Cyprus. Would like to exchange knowledge and experience with US scholars and judges about child rearing methods followed in USA and Cyprus.

Giannakis Antoniadis

Interested in learning about family law in USA.

Sotirios Liasidis

Resides in Nicosia, Cyprus (last divided capital in the world).

Interested in California family law and how judges and lawyers approach family matters in California.

Looking forward to participating with Turkish Cypriot judges in this program, and to have the opportunity to strengthen inter-communal links and exchange views with Turkish Cypriot colleagues relating to family law matters.

Turkish Cypriots

Mehmet Turker

Interested in observing how the family law functions in a federal system.

Ilker Sertbay

Interested in improving his services as a senior family court judge.

Omer Guran

Wants to improve his services in family law matters

U.S. Program Hosts

A. Marco Turk, J.D., Professor and Director, Negotiation and Conflict Resolution Graduate Program, Cal. State University - Dominguez Hills

Scott Mather, Director, St. Vincent's Center

Norm Knispel, Senior Mediator, Family Mediation Department, St. Vincent's

Carol McLaughlin, Training and Volunteer Coordinator, Institute of Conflict Resolution, St. Vincent de Paul