



October 13, 2006

**Redwood City, CA
For immediate Release**

**For More Information call:
Presiding Judge George A. Miram
650-363-4511**

**SAN MATEO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT ANNOUNCES
CREATION OF NEW MENTAL HEALTH COURT**

Presiding Judge George A. Miram announced today the creation of a new mental health court program "PATHWAYS". According to Judge Miram, PATHWAYS is designed to insure that the court helps to facilitate providing mental health services to appropriate offenders in the criminal justice system, without compromising public safety.

Presiding Judge Miram and Assistant Presiding Judge Robert D Foiles, who both played active roles in creating the program, credited the cooperation and input from county mental health, the private defender, sheriff's office and the probation department in developing a unique approach to reduce recidivism through appropriate mental health treatment.

Supervising Judge Mark R. Forcum will oversee the PATHWAYS program.

Judge Forcum was selected by Judge Miram to oversee PATHWAYS due to his innovative work in creating prior effective treatment programs including the courts highly successful BRIDGES drug and alcohol treatment program and the Domestic Violence Review Court.

The PATHWAYS program will begin Friday, October 13, 2006.

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