

REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

Hon. George A. Miram
Presiding Judge

Hon Robert D Foiles
Assistant Presiding
Judge

Hon. Mark R. Forcum
Judge, Chair,
Community Outreach
Committee

John C. Fitton
Court Executive Officer
Jury Commissioner

The San Mateo County Superior Court is always seeking to provide the best possible level of service to you. So that we may continue to improve our services, we are inviting the citizens of San Mateo County to give us their opinions and constructive suggestions. The information we obtain will help the Court update its 1999 Strategic Plan. The adoption of the Strategic Plan led to the development of a number of Court services, including improved services for jurors, online self-help center, EZLegalFile, Community Law Night Court in the Schools Day, and the new Youth Services Center.

Presiding Judge George A. Miram recently explained in a December 3, 2006 interview by the San Mateo County Times that, "as time passes and people's interests change, there is a need to revise the Strategic Plan so that it reflects the current needs of county residents."

The Court, under the direction of Presiding Judge George A. Miram, Assistant Presiding Judge Robert D Foiles, Strategic Planning Committee Chair Judge Mark R. Forcum, Strategic Planning committee members Judge Jack Grandsaert, Judge Elizabeth K. Lee, and Court Executive Officer John C. Fitton have developed three ways for county residents to give input to the Court:

Online website survey To provide input via this user-friendly website, go to the far left of our website and click on the "Reaching out to the Community" link or go directly to www.sanmateocourt.org/survey. Once there, you will see an easy-to-use survey where you can click on one of four topic areas: jury service, traffic court, court services, or other areas for comment.

Phone If you prefer to make any comments or suggestions over the phone, please feel free to call our phone system at 650-363-4884 and leave us your thoughts.

Public Forums If you prefer to meet with us in person, the Court has set-up four public forums located throughout San Mateo County, which are scheduled in the evenings to be more convenient for the public. The forums will be held during the following times and at the following locations:

January 22 – 7:00 pm -	Municipal Services Building, Community Room, 33 Arroyo Dr., SSF
January 23 – 7:00 pm -	Adcock Senior Center, Grand Oak Room, 535 Kelly Ave., Half Moon Bay
January 24 – 7:00 pm -	Hall of Justice, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 400 County Center, RWC
January 25 – 7:00 pm -	Jewish Community Center, 800 Foster City Boulevard, Foster City

If you have any questions about these forums feel free to call us at 650-363-4884.

We look forward to hearing from you!



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Programs Initiated by Presiding Judge George A. Miram

Judge Miram's two-year term as Presiding Judge for 2005-2006 has seen the development of a number of innovative programs to help the citizens of San Mateo County. Under Judge Miram's watch, the Court has expanded its community outreach efforts, continued to improve services to jurors, expanded community law night to the northern part of San Mateo County, created and implemented a new mental health court (Pathways), and began the first of its kind high tech complex civil litigation court in our San Mateo branch court.

The judiciary and court staff alike have appreciated Judge Miram's leadership, dedication and commitment to bringing these positive changes to our Court and community.



In 2005-2006, almost 600 people received help during the Court and Bar sponsored Community Law Nights

Election of New Presiding Judge and Assistant Presiding Judge

Recently, the judges elected Assistant Presiding Judge Robert D Foiles to be the next Presiding Judge for the 2007-2008 term. At that same meeting, the judges elected Judge Stephen M. Hall to be the Assistant Presiding Judge for the next two years.

The Presiding Judge acts as the Court's chief administrative judge and determines judicial assignments, manages the court calendar, assigns out cases, manages the budget, and oversees the Court's community outreach efforts.

Both Judge Foiles and Judge Hall bring a wealth of administrative experience to these positions. Judge Foiles has served as Assistant Presiding Judge for 2005-2006, Supervising Civil Judge in 2004-2006, Supervising Criminal Judge in 2003, Criminal Presiding Judge in 2000, and Family Law Judge 1998-1999.

Judge Hall has served as Supervising Judge of Commissioners and Pro-tems in 2004, Supervising Judge of Criminal in 2003, Supervising Judge of Family Law for 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2002, and Criminal Presiding Judge in 2001 and for the first six months of 2005.

Other Judicial Updates

The Court is pleased to announce with the early appointment of Judge Susan Irene Etezadi in the fall, that for the first time in many years, the Court's bench is fully staffed. Prior to being elected into her position in June, Judge Etezadi worked in the District Attorney's Office for over twenty years where she prosecuted a wide variety of cases ranging from homicides to insurance fraud. We welcome Judge Etezadi and look forward to her many years of service to the Court.



The Court is also very appreciative to the State Administrative Office of the Courts for assigning retired Judges Quentin Kopp, John Schwartz, and Thomas McGinn Smith to our Court on a regular basis. The assignment of these judges back to our Court is a major factor in keeping our court calendar current. Additionally, retired Judge Paula Schlichter and Commissioner Joseph Gruber have provided assistance with court calendars this past year. We appreciate the significant contributions that each of these judicial officers makes handling a wide variety of different assignments



**GIVE US
YOUR
INPUT

LOG
ONTO
WWW.
SANMATEO
COURT.
ORG/
SURVEY

TELL US
WHAT
YOU
THINK!**





**YOU BE
THE
JUDGE!**

**CALL US
WITH YOUR
IDEAS**

650-363-4884



Court in the Schools Days are Back!

One of the programs our Court is most proud of is Court in the Schools Day, where our judges visit local high schools and teach about the criminal justice system. During November and December of 2006 and in January 2007, the Court will reach out to:

Sacred Heart Preparatory – Judge Robert D Foiles
Hillsdale – Judge Jack Grandsaert
Serra High School – Judge Robert D Foiles
San Mateo High School – Judge Steven L. Dylina
Capuchino High School – Judge Elizabeth K. Lee
Burlingame High School – Judge Mark R. Forcum



Judges, students and teachers enjoy discussing the court system using a real life case study!

Teachers are also encouraged to schedule a tour of the Court and an opportunity to meet with the judiciary to learn more about the Court system. To do so, simply send a request to the Court, at webmaster@sanmateocourt.org or contact Judge Mark R. Forcum directly at 650-363-7835.

Conclusion

Our Court will continue to be a leader in serving San Mateo County citizens by creating innovative programs at low cost. We are committed to providing you the best possible level of service and sincerely hope you will participate in our online survey to help us do the best possible job for you. We value your constructive suggestions and thoughts

As we approach the end of 2006, the judiciary and Court staff wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season,

Hon. George A. Miram
Presiding Judge

Hon. Robert D Foiles
Assistant Presiding Judge

Hon. Mark R. Forcum
Judge, Chair Community Outreach Committee

John C. Fitton
Court Executive Officer, Jury Commissioner

