

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF MARIN**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(February 20, 2015)

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**COURT RESTORES PUBLIC BUSINESS HOURS**

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Beginning March 1, 2015, the Marin County Superior Court will restore public business hours in the Clerk's Offices and will make office hours uniform in all public lobbies. Both Clerk's Offices (in Room C-10 and Room 113), Legal Self Help Services in Room C-27, Jury Services in Room 244 and Court Administration in Room 116 will be open to the public from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM daily. Public telephones will also be answered from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Although severe budget reductions continue to adversely impact the Court and have resulted in significantly decreased staffing levels, the public frustration and confusion caused by inconsistent and reduced public hours has outweighed the benefits of early closures of court offices, which has provided staff with 'down time' to process cases in compliance with legal requirements. In the past five years, the Court has made numerous improvements to the way it interacts with the public, has increased web and phone services, and has re-engineered how workload is processed to streamline it and make it possible to efficiently process cases, even with greatly reduced staffing numbers.

Court Executive Officer Kim Turner said, "Restoration of our office hours has long been a goal of the Court to fulfill its duty to serve the Marin community. An open and accessible courthouse is absolutely essential to ensure fair and equal access to justice. Although the Court's funding continues to decline, judges and staff are committed to keeping the courthouse doors open to the public every day."

Presiding Judge Faye D'Opal reinforced this message by stating, "Judges, as elected officials, must be responsive to the needs of their constituents and community. The Bench is squarely behind this initiative to increase access to the courthouse and critical justice services provided by our Court."

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For additional information regarding this press release,  
contact Kim Turner, Court Executive Officer at (415) 444-7020.