

COVID and the Courts: Assessing the Impact on Access to Justice, Identifying Best Practices, and Plotting the Path Forward

A Joint Informational Hearing of the Assembly and Senate Committees on Judiciary

Assemblymember Stone and Senator Umberg, Chairs

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. State Capitol, Room 4202

AGENDA

I. Opening Statements

- Assemblymember Mark Stone, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Judiciary
- Senator Thomas Umberg, Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

II. Introductory Remarks

• Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of California

III. Panel 1: Overview – The Unprecedented Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Courts and Court Users

- Hon. Marla O. Anderson, Superior Court of Monterey County, Chair, Judicial Council Legislation Committee
- Robert Oyung, Chief Operating Officer, Judicial Council of California
- Debbie Chang, CAOC President

IV. Panel 2: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Court Users

- Genevieve Richardson, Executive Director, Bay Area Legal Aid
- Michele Brown, California Lawyers Association, Family Law Section
- Kathryn Stebner, Stebner and Associates, Elder Abuse Attorney

V. Panel 3: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Courts and Court Personnel

- Nancy CS Eberhardt, Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of San Bernardino County
- Hon. Thomas. A. Delaney, Superior Court of Orange County, Pres., California Judges Association
- Janet Hudec, California Federation of Interpreters (CFI) Local 3900
- Judy Louie, San Francisco ACCESS Center

VI. Panel 4: Innovative Programs and Best Practices - What More Can be Done to Improve Access to Justice During Ongoing Pandemic and Future Emergencies?

- Hon. Tara M. Desautels, Presiding Judge, Superior Court of Alameda County
- Adam Murray, Executive Director, Inner City Law Center
- Diego Cartagena, President & CEO, Bet Tzedek Legal Services
- David Daniels, President, California Defense Council
- Michelle Caldwell, Court Reporter, SEIU Local 521, Santa Clara County
- Hon. Mark Juhas, Los Angeles Superior Court, Chair, California Commission on Access to Justice

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Closing Statements

- Senator Thomas Umberg
- Assemblymember Mark Stone