Superior Court of California
County of Santa Clara

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Chambers of
HON. DEBORAH A. RYAN,  Presiding Judge

TEMPORARY JUDGE PROGRAM

January 3, 2019

Letter of Invitation

Dear Members of the Legal Community,

Thanks to the generous efforts of qualified, experienced and trained attorneys, the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara has established a Temporary Judge Program that continues to be an integral part of some of the court's busiest venues. Through this program, attorneys volunteer to preside over small claims and traffic hearings, facilitate the settlement of civil and family law disputes, and serve in other capacities at the discretion of the Presiding Judge. The contributions that temporary judges make to the people of Santa Clara County in general and the Santa Clara Superior Court in particular cannot be underestimated; without their help, we would be unable to handle our caseload in such a timely manner.

The Court invites additional interested attorneys who have been members of the California State Bar for at least ten years to submit an application and to participate in training programs in satisfaction of the requirements of the California Rules of Court. We are particularly eager to encourage the return of those who have previously served as temporary judges but have not yet qualified under these requirements. This training qualifies for MCLE credit and is provided at no cost to attendees.

We have received exceptionally positive feedback about participation in the Temporary Judge Program. Temporary judges have expressed how their service has contributed to an appreciation of the role of judicial officers, a meaningful understanding of the court system, and greater empathy for the needs of the community they serve.

If you wish to volunteer as a temporary judge, please submit a Temporary Judge Application form and Placement Questionnaire from our Court website at www.scscourt.org. Only those qualified attorneys who submit an application and complete the requisite training will be considered for volunteer service as a temporary judge. Temporary judges serve at the discretion of the Presiding Judge and neither appointment nor service as a temporary judge creates an employment relationship with the Court. If you have additional questions, please contact our TJP administrator, at tip@scscourt.org or (408) 882-2721.

Thank you very much for your interest in this program.

Very truly yours,

Deborah A. Ryan
Presiding Judge