

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara



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International Dignitaries Tour Family Justice Center Courthouse

SAN JOSÉ, California (September 25, 2017): Santa Clara Superior Court hosted a group of international dignitaries, judges, lawyers, and architects at the Family Justice Center Courthouse. Sponsored by the Institut des Hautes Etudes sur la Justice (IHEJ), a diverse group hailing from twelve nations on four continents visited the newly constructed Family Justice Center and spent time observing Veterans Treatment Court with Judge Manley, Juvenile Dependency with Judge Schwarz, and Family Court with Judge Emede.

The IHEJ is an independent study and consulting organization. It proposes a multidisciplinary reflection on the evolution of law and justice today, in France and in the world.

This group has spent the week visiting sites all throughout California. Beginning at the historic US Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, the group then visited the campuses of Cisco and Facebook before touring the Superior Court Family Justice Center. From San Jose, the group will travel to Fresno, Los Angeles and San Diego, visiting federal and state courthouses.

The distinguished visitors were welcomed by Presiding Judge Patricia Lucas and Court Executive Officer Rebecca Fleming. Past Presiding Judge Brian Walsh explained the collaborative process among the court, the architects and the community, which generated the successful design of our new facility dedicated to serving families and the community. Then the group toured the courthouse, observed court proceedings, and met with judges to learn more about the proceedings they had observed.

“It was a great privilege for our court to participate in the visit from this distinguished international group, and to discuss worldwide trends in improving access to justice,” observed Presiding Judge Lucas.

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