

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

191 North First Street
San Jose, California 95113
(408) 882-2700

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KIRI TORRE
Chief Executive Officer

BARBARA J. FOX
Assistant Executive Officer

ADMINISTRATION

Contact: Jean Pennypacker: 408-882-2718

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SUPERIOR COURT EXPANDS FAMILY LAW SERVICES TO SUNNYVALE COURTHOUSE

The Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara is pleased to announce that, effective January 14, 2008, it will open two additional Family Law departments in the Sunnyvale Courthouse located at 605 W. El Camino Real. This expansion of Family Law services will enable residents of Sunnyvale, Saratoga, Cupertino, Los Altos, Palo Alto, Alviso, Santa Clara and Mountain View to have their Family Law cases heard in Sunnyvale as opposed to the Family Courthouse located in downtown San Jose. Two Family Court judges will be assigned to hear cases, and a fully-staffed Clerk's Office will be open from 8:30 AM until 4:00 PM Monday through Friday to accept and process filings. In addition, self-help services will be available Monday through Thursday, and a Family Court Services unit will be established on-site to process emergency screenings, mediations and assessments.

Beginning on January 14, all new Family Law cases for the above listed cities will be heard in the Sunnyvale Courthouse (except for domestic violence and civil harassment matters which will continue to be heard in the downtown San Jose location). For convenience, petitions and all subsequent documents for Dissolution of Marriage, Legal Separation, Nullity of Marriage, Domestic Partnership and Confidential Paternity may be filed at the downtown Family Courthouse, the Notre Dame Courthouse or the Sunnyvale Courthouse, regardless of the location of the case. In addition, restraining order applications may be submitted and orders picked up at any of these three courthouses. However, any *ex parte* matters not involving restraining orders must be filed at the same courthouse in which the judge who is hearing the case is sitting.

This change is in accordance with the Court's ongoing effort to better serve the public in Santa Clara County by offering an expanded range of court services in the northern and southern regions of the County. The next planned step in this effort will be the opening of the new Morgan Hill Courthouse in 2008, which will provide enhanced services to the South County populace.

For more information on the Family Law expansion to Sunnyvale, please visit the Court's website to view an on-line notice at:

<http://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/files/SunnyvaleFamilyCourthouseNotice.pdf>