

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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October 10, 2006

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – OCTOBER 10, 2006

COURT ANNOUNCES VIETNAMESE-LANGUAGE SELF-SERVICE WEBSITE – www.scsel service.org/viet

Since its inception in 2001 the Santa Clara Superior Court’s award-winning website has been at the forefront of Court web technology. The website was designed to increase the public’s access to justice by providing easy-to-use and relevant legal information in an accessible, effective, and efficient manner according to the Court’s mission statement. In addition to self-help information about Court procedures and the law, on-line court case information, and the ability to ask, and receive answers to, legal questions over the internet, the Court’s website of over 250 pages has now been translated into the Vietnamese language. The Spanish-language version of the website was introduced in April, 2005.

According to the latest United States Census, of the more than 100,000 Vietnamese people in Santa Clara County, 8 out of 10 speak Vietnamese at home. With the ready availability of internet access in homes and public places such as libraries, the Court anticipates the Vietnamese-language website will be well-accessed by people who prefer to read Vietnamese. The current English-language self-service website is accessed by over 50,000 people per month.

The Court also offers Vietnamese interpreters free in court for litigants who have domestic violence, child custody, visitation and child support hearings. Its Self-Service Center is staffed with a Vietnamese-fluent attorney and it also participates in Vietnamese community activities and partners with local agencies that assist Vietnamese-speaking clients.

To access the Vietnamese website, go to www.scsel service.org/viet. The English version is found at www.scsel service.org, and there the user can click on the link on the left toolbar under “Autoservicio (Español).”

If you would like more information about the Vietnamese version of www.scsel service.org, you may contact Carl Schulhof, Public Information Officer at 408-882-2856. Or if you like, you may contact him at cschulhof@scscourt.org.