

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara



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Judge Tondreau is the 2013 Wilmont Sweeney Juvenile Court Judge of the Year

SAN JOSE, Calif. December 5, 2013): Judge Patrick Tondreau is the Wilmont Sweeney Juvenile Court Judge of the Year for 2013. He was awarded the honor on December 2, 2013 by the Juvenile Court Judges of California, a section of the California Judges Association, during the Beyond the Bench program in Anaheim, California.

Judge Tondreau is the Presiding Judge of the Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Court. Under his leadership, the Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Court has been named a Model Juvenile Court by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Judge Tondreau is responsible for instituting a number of successful programs in Santa Clara to better serve the youth in his community. These innovative programs include:

- Court Appointed Friends and Advocates (CAFA): A mentor program where juvenile justice wards are mentored by trained volunteers. The program works with a local advocacy organization (FLY) and is already serving more than 40 youths;
- Competency Restoration Program: A collaboration between the Court, the Probation Department, County Mental Health, and the Virginia Restoration Program;
- Implementation of the Trauma-Informed Mental Health services grant, and taking those services system wide to youth in juvenile justice and dependency populations, championed by the Cross Agency Services Team (CAST);
- Working as one of two jurisdictions nationally on a grant from the National Juvenile Defender Center's Equity Project to implement best practices and guidelines for working with youth in the juvenile justice system who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning;
- Creating a Full Service Partnership dedicated to addressing commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) in Santa Clara County.

Judge Tondreau has been a leader in his local community, serving on more than 35 youth-oriented boards, committees, and task forces. He is currently the Chair of the Juvenile Court Judges of California; a post he has held for the past two years.

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