

Superior Court of California County of Orange

## News Release

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## NEW SELF-HELP LEGAL INFORMATION CENTER OPENS AT THE HARBOR JUSTICE CENTER IN LAGUNA HILLS, CA

**Laguna Hills, CA** – The Superior Court of Orange County announces the opening of its fourth Self Help Center to provide better access to justice for self represented litigants, particularly in south Orange County. The new center is located on the second floor of the Harbor Justice Center, Laguna Hills facility, 23141 Moulton Parkway. It is staffed by a self-help attorney, and court personnel are available to assist customers from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Following today's opening ceremony at 11:00 .a.m., self represented litigants will be able to receive procedural assistance and obtain form packets with instructions, use public computers with form completion software, obtain document review (prior to filing), and receive referrals for low cost legal services.

"Since the Court opened its first self-help center in 2007, there has been a steady increase in the number of self-represented litigants with a subsequent need for procedural assistance to navigate the court system," said Hon. Robert C. Gannon Jr., Supervising Judge of the Harbor Justice Center. He added, Today, more than 300 people use the Court's self-help services daily either by walk-in services at a Self-Help Center or online at the Courts Self-Help website: www.occourts.org/self-help."

Other in-house Self-Help Centers are located at the West Justice Center in Westminster, Lamoreaux Justice Center in Orange and the Central Justice in Santa Ana.

Funding for the self-help centers is provided through a grant from the state specifically to expand the availability of self-help services.