

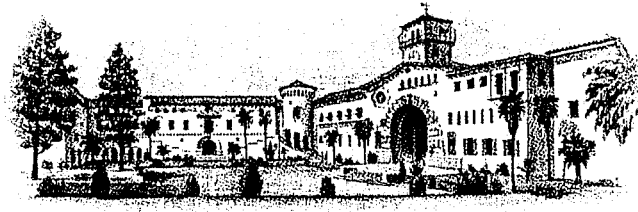
SALUD CARBAJAL
First District

JANET WOLF
Second District

DOREEN FARR
Third District, Chair

PETER ADAM
Fourth District

STEVE LAVAGNINO
Fifth District



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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

December 18, 2012

Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye
Members of the Judicial Council
Judicial Council of California
455 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688

Re: Support for New Santa Barbara Criminal Courts Building

Dear Chief Justice and Judicial Council Members,

I am writing to express the support of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors for the Court Facilities Working Group's unanimous recommendation to allow the Santa Barbara Superior Court's new criminal courts building project to move forward.

The new criminal court building is located within the downtown civic core of Santa Barbara. It will provide a much needed new criminal courthouse and will also enhance the economy of our County. The County of Santa Barbara is aware of tremendous support amongst our local business, political, and community leaders who recognize the significant need for more security in our courthouse.

The construction of a new criminal courts building will significantly improve security. This new building will remedy a dangerous and long-standing situation where inmates are escorted by deputies across our public streets every day in front of tourist buses. It will eliminate the need to escort prisoners through public corridors, stairwells, and elevators within the courthouse while providing long needed security for the public, the judges, court staff, and litigants. It will also replace an under-sized, sub-standard holding facility and control room. I realize there is strong competition for the limited SB 1407 money available for construction projects. However, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors urges you and the Judicial Council to adopt the unanimous recommendation of the Court Facilities Working Group to allow our Santa Barbara Superior Court's project to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Salud Carbajal
Chair, Board of Supervisors
Santa Barbara County