

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

*SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO*

**REGARDING:**

RFI 21-01 ALTERNATIVE JURY LOCATIONS

**RESPONSES DUE:**

FRIDAY, July 31, 2020

1. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino (“Court”) is seeking information for alternative jury locations pursuant to the following: public health agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the California Department of Public Health, and the local county health department have recommended stringent health and safety measures targeted at reducing the spread of COVID-19. The California Department of Public Health (Department) issued guidance mandating that, subject to certain exemptions, all people in California must wear face coverings in any indoor public space, when engaged in work, and while outdoors in public spaces. The Department also requires persons to maintain social distancing of at least six feet between people, when feasible.

The combined impact of these circumstances as well as the ongoing and rapidly escalating guidelines surrounding prevention of the spread of COVID-19 continues to impact the Court’s ability to provide adequate access to Court services and proceedings without substantially compromising the health and safety of judicial officers, Court staff, litigants, and members of the public. The Court’s ongoing efforts to maintain social distancing during trials and trial-related proceedings and activities have caused substantial practical challenges associated with scheduling and managing jury trials and other jury trial-related proceedings.

1. **STATEMENT OF NEED**

On March 17, 2020, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye issued a statewide order encouraging and permitting courts to make changes in court operations during this pandemic to protect the health and safety of the public, court personal, and criminal defendants brought before each court. The Court’s ongoing efforts to maintain social distancing during jury trials and jury trial-related proceedings and activities have resulted in fewer available courtrooms and facilities to conduct jury trials and jury trial-related activities and proceedings. Therefore, the Court is exploring alternative facilities located within the County of San Bernardino to conduct jury trials and jury trial-related activities and proceedings. Due to recent substantial cuts to the California trial courts’ budgets, the Court is seeking alternative facilities that are available at no cost or at very low cost to the Court in order to continue to provide essential services as constitutionally mandated

1. **INFORMATION REQUESTED**

The Court has created a survey to gather the information needed to evaluate potential alternative locations within the County of San Bernardino where jury trials and jury trial-related proceedings and activities may be held. Please click [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JQpUJuLOOk-kNpNq2rXQkISCs8PN2EdNm_PVw6KhOERUNDJNNzRQUE5UOU1HNTVLWUg1QlRJUzBOMy4u) to complete the survey. *If you have more than one facility, please submit a survey for each facility.*

1. **TIMELINE TO RESPOND**

All responses must be received by July 31, 2020.

1. **INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

Following review of the submitted responses, your organization may be contacted and asked to participate in an information exchange with the Court. The objective will be to gain further understanding of your organization’s facilities and ability to meet the Court’s needs. The Court may require clarification or accept or request new or additional information from any or all interested parties without offering other interested parties the same opportunity, and to interview any or all interested parties

1. **QUESTIONS**

Questions must be submitted in writing to [Purchasing@sb-court.org](mailto:Purchasing@sb-court.org). Interested parties must not contact any other Court judicial officer or staff regarding this RFI except as provided above.

1. **CHANGES**

The Court reserves the right to amend or modify one or more provisions of this RFI prior to the closing day by posting written notice online at: [*http://www.sb-court.org/GeneralInfo/RequestforProposal.aspx*](http://www.sb-court.org/GeneralInfo/RequestforProposal.aspx).

1. **DISCLAIMER – NO SOLICITATION**

This is a request for information only and is not a commitment or solicitation to purchase goods or contract for services. This request for information shall not be construed as a request or authorization to perform work at the Court’s expense, nor to serve as the basis for any claim whatsoever for reimbursement for any costs for efforts associated with the preparation of responses submitted to this RFI. Submission of a response constitutes acknowledgement that the respondent has read and agrees to be bound by such terms.

1. **CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

Responses are subject to disclosure pursuant to applicable provisions of the California Public Contract Code and Rule 10.500 of the California Rules of Court. All information in responses may be disclosed in response to applicable public records requests. Such disclosure will be made regardless of whether the response (or portions thereof) is marked “confidential,” “proprietary,” or otherwise, and regardless of any statement in the response (a) purporting to limit the Court’s right to disclose information in the response, or (b) requiring the Court to inform or obtain the consent of the respondent prior to the disclosure of the response (or portions thereof). Respondents are accordingly cautioned not to include confidential, proprietary, or privileged information in its response(s).