

# SDLSA COMMUNITY NEWS

Submitted by Linda Moore, CCLS

## The State of the Judiciary in San Diego County By the San Diego County Bar Association

The San Diego County Bar Association has released a report on the State of the Judiciary in San Diego County. The report provides a snapshot of the current state of San Diego's courts and urges the legislature to reinvest in the judicial branch.

Over the last 5 years, California's Judicial Branch's budget has been cut by nearly \$1.2 billion, almost 30 percent of its former operating budget. This is considerably disproportionate to other entities funded through the state budget process, and the report explains why it is critical that funds are "reinvested." The budget cuts have led to court closures, staff layoffs and furloughs, and case backlogs adversely impacting the ability for individuals and businesses to resolve their legal disputes in a timely manner.

The State of the Judiciary in San Diego County report gives an overview of the operational effects of court funding cuts and also details the "real world impacts" of funding cuts, with real examples of how court budget cuts have had a direct effect on San Diego families and businesses. Thank you to all of the

members of the SDCBA who contributed their stories of how their clients have been affected.

This report will be used in the SDCBA Court Funding Action Committee's (CFAC) efforts to educate legislators on the importance of a fully funded court system and to call for reinvestment.

To review the full report, visit:  
[www.sdcba.org/2013judiciaryreport](http://www.sdcba.org/2013judiciaryreport)

A one page summary of the report can be found at  
[www.sdcba.org/ExecutiveSummary](http://www.sdcba.org/ExecutiveSummary).

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