

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Karen Korr
Director of Outreach
Strategy & CCO
619-321-4116
619-944-0560 (cell)
kkorr@sdcba.org

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION ISSUES 2016 UPDATE ON
STATE OF THE JUDICIARY**

Annual Update Discusses Effects of Significant Court Budget Cutbacks

SAN DIEGO (October 3, 2016) – The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) has released its 2016 Update report on the State of the Judiciary in San Diego County, providing an overview of the effects of significant budget cuts on the county’s state courts. The update is the third supplemental update to the Association’s first-ever report on the State of the Judiciary in San Diego County, published in 2013.

In 2016, San Diego is in the second year of the state’s two-year budget plan, which provides for reinvestment in state courts (\$90.6 million over two years), however, there is no certain analysis as to how that will affect operations or will be used to restore services previously reduced or eliminated due to budget cuts. With over \$1.2 million in cuts to California’s courts since 2007, the SDCBA’s report details current delays and eliminated services that have yet to be restored. In addition, the report provides an overview of the Workforce Allocation Funding Methodology (WAFM) to foster a better understanding of how the courts in the state are funded.

“While the long term effects of budget cuts are unknown, significant process delays caused by decreased funding can have a significant impact on businesses and families in our community,” said Heather Riley, SDCBA President. “As the voice of San Diego’s legal community, the SDCBA will continue to illustrate the impacts of an underfunded court system on the greater San Diego community, and support full restoration of court services eliminated or reduced by drastic budget cuts over the past several years.”

The SDCBA’s 2016 update on the State of the Judiciary in San Diego County can be found at www.sdcba.org/courtreport16. To fully understand how court funding affects our community, please visit www.sdcba.org/courtfunding for further information and to review previous versions of this report. San Diego citizens are encouraged to share stories of how they have been impacted by reduced court services as a result of budget cuts at www.sdcba.org/courtfundingimpacts.

The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) is the region’s largest law related organization and the hub of the city’s legal community, headquartered in downtown San Diego. As the representative of the legal profession, the SDCBA aims to serve the county’s lawyers and legal professionals, and the greater San Diego community. For more information, please visit www.sdcba.org.

###