



# Superior Court of California

## County of Orange

### ***News Release***

June 12, 2019

#### **Orange County Superior Court launches ground-breaking elder care pilot program**

**Santa Ana, CA**—Orange County Superior Court became the first pilot site in California to implement a new approach to dealing with high-conflict families in conservatorship cases, called [The Eldercaring Coordination Program](#).

The initiative is devoted to providing best practices, training, and research to help courts and the community to reduce family conflict in the care and safety of their aging loved ones.

The program is a court-ordered process that helps resolve disputes regarding an aging persons' autonomy and safety. This program directly involves aging persons and their families, legally authorized decision-makers, and others who are court-ordered or invited participants.

This program also aims to reduce the time commitment and minimize the cost involved with frequent litigation often associated with high-conflict cases. The program allows the court to determine how the Eldercaring Coordinator's fees are split among the family members and participants.

This ground-breaking effort was brought to Orange County Superior Court by Judge Kim Hubbard in an effort to improve the lives of aging persons and families involved in high-conflict litigation.

"Judge Hubbard and the outstanding team of professionals working with her to implement this project in Orange County recognized the value in the program in assisting some of our most vulnerable citizens," said Gerald Johnston, Supervising Judge of the Probate and Mental Health division.

The concept was created by the Association for Conflict Resolution Task Force, composed of twenty US/Canadian organizations, collaborating with the twenty statewide organizations in the Florida Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Task Force to develop Eldercaring Coordination.

For additional information please visit:

<https://www.eldercaringcoordinationfl.org/>

[https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law\\_aging/publications/bifocal/vol-40/issue-2-november-december-2018/eldercaring-coordination/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_aging/publications/bifocal/vol-40/issue-2-november-december-2018/eldercaring-coordination/)