

# Superior Court of California County of Orange



## ***News Release***

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### **North Justice Center closes due to air-quality concerns**

Santa Ana, CA – The Orange County Superior Court’s North Justice Center will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019, due to air quality concerns and all scheduled cases will be heard at the Central Justice Center, in Santa Ana.

The safety of the public, our judicial officers, staff, and justice partners is our paramount concern.

The closure began on Friday, immediately after potential asbestos material was discovered during routine maintenance of an air handler. In an abundance of caution, additional air quality tests were taken last week. Those test results revealed that of the 17 areas in which samples were taken, one judicial chamber contained asbestos fibers above CalOSHA permissible exposure by 0.00775%. All other areas were fine. Due to on-going construction on the fourth floor at NJC, the Judicial Council has been monitoring the air quality of of the building for the past nine months.

As a result, NJC remains closed for additional testing and any necessary remedial measures. Although we have not yet determined the cause of the disruption that resulted in a reduction in air quality, we are optimistic that the Court will be able to reopen this facility in the very near future.

Members of the Court’s team have been working around the clock to ensure that all appropriate corrective measures are taken to ensure the safety of everyone entering NJC.

Updates will be provided as more information or changes are reported. The public may check case status online at [www.occourts.org](http://www.occourts.org), our [Facebook page](#) or our [Twitter Account](#). The Court apologizes for any inconvenience caused by this unanticipated event.

For more information on air-quality issues by the California Department of Public Health click [here](#).