

Superior Court of California County of Orange

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: NOVEMBER 15, 2016

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN TRAFFIC CALENDAR SCHEDULING

In 2014, the Superior Court of California, County of Orange, faced significant financial constraints imposed by the California state fiscal crisis as well as the repeated decreases in state court funding. In response, the Court reduced services to the public in various areas including the elimination of a Call Center and changes to the pattern for scheduling appearances and court trials in traffic infraction cases. The changes also reduced available days at all Justice Centers for defendants to appear for traffic arraignments.

The Court is gradually restoring services by reinstating a Call Center in the near future and re-establishing the prior traffic calendar model. As a result, the Court will implement changes to the pattern for scheduling appearances and court trials in traffic infraction cases. <u>These changes will affect when officers have to appear as witnesses and notices to those cited about when they can appear in court</u>.

Effective January 3, 2017, the following change to traffic calendar scheduling will be implemented:

Traffic Court Trials will be heard daily at 1:30 p.m. *Unless otherwise specified below*, only the time of the hearing is changing; the existing court trial setting guidelines designating law enforcement agencies for specific days of the week will remain. Please note that court trials that have already been set for 8:30 a.m. will remain as set.

Traffic Arraignments and Hearings will be heard at 8:30 a.m, Monday through Thursday, every week of the month.

There will be no changes made to the current Night Court or Collections Court Calendar Model.

As part of this new traffic calendar model, the following agencies calendar schedule is modified as follows:

- Garden Grove Police Department
 - Photo Enforcement Court Trials will remain on <u>Tuesdays</u>, but will expand to each week of <u>the month</u>. All other Court Trials will also be heard on Tuesdays.
- Los Alamitos Police Department
 - Photo Enforcement Court Trials will be changed to <u>Thursdays, each week of the month.</u> All other Court Trials for will continue to be heard on Fridays.

Please contact Albert De La Isla (<u>adelaisla@occourts.org</u>) or Mary Garcia-Whalen (<u>mgarciawhalen@occourts.org</u>) should you have any questions or request additional information.