



Superior Court of California County of Orange **News Release**

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Orange County Superior Court Celebrates 30th Year of Collaborative Courts' Successes

Santa Ana, CA – The Orange County Superior Court is celebrating **30 years of Orange County Collaborative Courts**. [Click here to watch a related video](#).



“We honor three decades of progress, partnership, and impact in our community,” said Presiding Judge Maria Hernandez. “We are celebrating the many individuals — past and present — who have contributed to the success of our programs.”

Scott Cooper, Supervising Judge of the Orange County Superior Court’s Collaborative Courts, noted that the Collaborative Courts bring together the county’s District Attorney’s Office, Public Defender’s Office, Health Care Agency, Probation Department and other stakeholders to support the rebuilding of peoples’ lives in our community, creating a shared sense of purpose in making the programs the best they can be.

“What’s great about working in these courts is the level of positive impact that you can see and the level of positive change for people truly making a difference and changing their lives for the better,” Judge Cooper said.

A past graduate of a Collaborative Courts program, now working for the Health Care Agency and helping others find their way, Don Keith, said, “they gave me a brand-new life.” Another program graduate added, “life was characterized by a lot of chaos. I went in the program and there was immediate stability ... It was what I needed at the time.”

The Court commemorated the noteworthy occasion with a special event in October to recognize Orange County’s Collaborative Courts’ 30th year. The event, hosted at the Sheriff’s Training Academy in Tustin, welcomed past and present justice partners, judicial officers, court staff, several program graduates, and local leaders to gather and celebrate the achievements of the past three decades while reinforcing the commitment to innovation and continued services.

For more information on our Collaborative Courts’ programs visit www.occourts.org/divisions/collaborative-courts

Visit Our Web Site: www.occourts.org

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Media outlets, please call PIO Kostas Kalaitzidis to access more photographs and information about the program.

(Photo caption: from left to right: Judge Maria D. Hernandez, Orange County Board of Supervisors Vice Chair Katrina Foley, Felony Panel Collaborative Courts, Supervising Judge Scott B. Cooper)

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