

**FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION THAT AN ITEM MAY BE SUBSEQUENTLY
ADDED TO THE AGENDA OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



DATE: March 1, 2016

The BOARD OF SUPERVISORS of Riverside County hereby finds:

- That there is a need to place an item on the agenda for action by the Board of Supervisors.
- An emergency situation exists as defined in Government Code Section 54956.5 in that:
 - (a) Work stoppage or other activity which severely impairs public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.
 - (b) Crippling disaster which severely impairs public health, safety or both as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.
- The item on which the action is to be taken came to the attention of the County subsequent to the agenda being posted and there is need to take immediate action on the item.
- The item was continued for no more than five calendar days from a prior meeting for which the item was posted.


JUSTIFICATION:

The item came to the attention of the County subsequent to the agenda being posted and requires Board action by March 1, 2016, and the Board does not reconvene until March 8, 2016. The item is brought by Supervisor Benoit for the Board of Supervisors urging the Governor, Legislature and Judicial Council to work together to reallocate Judicial Resources to ensure equal access to justice for all Californians.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Ashley, seconded by Supervisor Benoit and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington, Benoit and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: March 1, 2016
xc: Supvr. Benoit, E.O.

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By 
Deputy

3-47a

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



3-47b

On motion of Supervisor Benoit, seconded by Supervisor Washington and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the recommendation from Supervisor Benoit regarding the recommendation to adopt resolution 2016-082, urging the Governor, Legislature and Judicial Council to work together to reallocate Judicial Resources to ensure equal access to justice for all Californians is approved as recommended.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full true, and correct copy of an order made and entered on March 1, 2016 of Supervisors Minutes.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors
Dated: March 1, 2016
Kecia Harper-Ihem, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in
and for the County of Riverside, State of California.

(seal)

By:  Deputy

AGENDA NO.

3-47b

xc: Supvr. Benoit, E.O.

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-082

RESOLUTION OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY URGING THE GOVERNOR,
LEGISLATURE AND JUDICIAL COUNCIL
TO WORK TOGETHER TO REALLOCATE JUDICIAL RESOURCES
TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE
FOR ALL CALIFORNIANS

Whereas the population of Riverside County and San Bernardino Counties has grown 37 percent over the last 15 years, but funded judicial positions have not increased sufficiently to meet the increased need, resulting in lengthy delays for the residents of these counties in accessing justice through their courts; and

Whereas, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties have two of the highest caseload ratios per judge in the State; and

Whereas the Chief Justice and Judicial Council, through modification of the Workload Allocation Funding Model, have taken significant initial steps to promote equal access to justice by creating a model to allocate funding more equitably to the trial courts; and

Whereas according to the 2014 Judicial Needs Assessment, San Bernardino County has a need for 57 additional judges, and Riverside County a need for 51 additional judges, more than any other counties in the State and ranked first and second, respectively, in terms of need; and

1 **Whereas in 2015, SB 229, which would have funded 12 additional judgeships in California,**
2 **including 4 in San Bernardino and 3 in Riverside County, was passed by the legislature**
3 **unanimously but vetoed by the Governor; and**

4
5 **Whereas in his veto message, the Governor stated: "I am aware the need for judges in many**
6 **courts is acute- Riverside and San Bernardino are two clear examples. However, before**
7 **funding new positions, I intend to work with the Judicial Council to develop a more system**
8 **wide approach to balance the workload and the distribution of judgeships around the state";**
9 **and**

10
11 **Whereas, the Governor's 2016-17 budget proposes to reallocate up to 5 vacant judgeships and**
12 **the needed staffing and security compliments needed to support them to areas where**
13 **workloads are highest.**

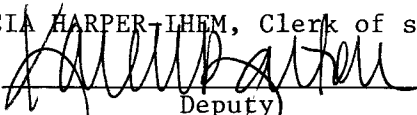
14
15 **NOW THEREFORE THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE HEREBY RESOLVES:**

16
17 **That the Governor, Legislature, and Judicial Council are hereby urgently requested to work**
18 **together to create and implement an acceptable methodology which allocates funded judicial**
19 **positions, with funding for support staff and court security, where they are needed most- most**
20 **urgently in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties- so that all California residents can enjoy**
21 **equal access to justice.**

22 ROLL CALL:

23 Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington, Benoit and Ashley
24 Nays: None
25 Absent: None

26 The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly
27 adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

By  Deputy
KECIA HARPER LHEM, Clerk of said Board