



**Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
René C. Davidson Courthouse
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612**

July 19, 2007

For Immediate Release

Court Cases Continue to be Processed Despite Flood Closure of the Allen E. Broussard Justice Center

OAKLAND - The Allen E. Broussard Justice Center, 600 Washington St., Oakland, is closed to the public until further notice due to a severe water pipe leak as of Monday, July 16, 2007.

For the time being, cases pending in the Allen E. Broussard Justice Center are being heard in other court facilities throughout the city and county. Juvenile dependency matters have been transferred to the Probation Center at 400 Broadway in Oakland; small claims and traffic hearings are being held at the Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse adjacent to the Allen E. Broussard Justice Center, and other civil cases are being heard at other locations throughout the county as courtrooms become available.

Additional details about the relocation of impacted courtrooms, pre-trial and drug court services will be provided as they become available on the court's web site. Court staff are contacting attorneys and litigants by phone and email regarding the new hearing sites. A hotline has been established to respond to questions about the current location of affected cases and courtrooms. Attorneys and litigants may call the hotline at (510) 268-7606 for up-to-date information.

Court staff confirmed that all case files located at the Allen E. Broussard Justice Center are secure. The files are being relocated for safekeeping during the clean-up and repair process.

DOMAIN, the Court's non-criminal case management system, contains scanned images of all documents filed in all cases. This allows judges and staff to continue conducting Court business without the physical case files located in the Allen E. Broussard Justice Center. Disruption to attorneys, litigants and the public has been kept to a minimum through the use of this technology.

Clean up efforts began on Monday, July 16 and will continue until completed. Court officials are working with building experts to meet immediate operation needs. The leak apparently occurred early Saturday morning when a water pipe on the sixth floor burst.

Media may contact Jim Brighton, (510) 272-5093 for further information.