



Office of the Court Executive
Superior Court of the State of California
County of Kings

TODD H. BARTON
Clerk of Court
and
Jury Commissioner

JEFF LEWIS
Chief Deputy Court
Executive Officer and
Assistant Jury Commissioner

**Superior Court Announces Complimentary
Wireless Internet Access for Court Visitors**

*Free Wi-Fi Access Provides Additional Services
For Jurors and Other Court Users*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2009

Todd H. Barton, Court Executive Officer is pleased to announce that effective July 1, 2009, the Information Technology Department of the Superior Court of California, County of Kings in collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Courts' Information Services Division will implement a **Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi)** network or "**Hot Spot**" for complimentary use by the Public.

The Administrative Office of the California Courts (AOC) collaborated with the Superior Court to sponsor and fund this project to enable the Court's vision of finding a way to increase Public Access to the Court. Courthouse visitors will be able to access the Internet with wireless enabled laptops or personal desktop assistants (PDA). The Court will provide wireless Internet access at the following Kings County Superior Court locations: Hanford, Avenal, Corcoran, and Lemoore.

The Public will be able to connect to wireless Internet in the lobbies of all Court buildings, including the counsel conference rooms, outside these buildings, the Jury Assembly Room located in the Hanford Court and will eventually include the County Law Library. The use of Laptops, smart cell phones or personal desktop assistants (PDA) will not be permitted inside the courtrooms and jury deliberation rooms, unless special permission is granted by a judge.

Judges Atkinson, Barnes, DeSantos, LaPorte and Orndoff met and approved Local Court Rule 117- [Computers and Electronic Equipment in Courtroom](#), which allows for Public Internet Access, but limits and excludes the usage of computers, smart phones and cell phones in courtrooms and jury deliberation rooms. The Judges hope that the public's visit to the court will be a positive experience. They believe that by offering Wi-Fi to Court visitors, it will reduce the feelings of anxiety and inconvenience, particularly when individuals are called for Jury Duty or are litigants in court cases.

George L. Orndoff, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court commented, "I believe that this technology is a great tool for the Public. This instrument can benefit individuals who are summoned to jury duty and, while waiting to be impaneled, they will have the

ability to connect to the Internet. Wi-Fi access will also provide benefits to attorneys and other visitors conducting court-related business.”

The Superior Court will not provide technical support to the public for this Wi-Fi system. Terms and Instructions for making use of the Court’s wireless network are posted on the Court’s website at www.kings.courts.ca.gov/wireless/default.asp.

If there are any changes to this policy, the public and Kings County Bar will be advised.

For further information, please contact Todd Barton, Court Executive Officer, or Jeff Lewis, Chief Deputy Court Executive Officer, at (559) 582-1010, ext 5002.