

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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COURT SEEKS VOLUNTEER ATTORNEYS FOR ADR PROGRAM

For a number of years, the Judicial Arbitration program of the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara has relied heavily on judicial arbitrators to keep the system running smoothly. Numerous members of the local legal community have generously given of their time and talent to assist the court in resolving cases before trial. The court is deeply indebted to those who have contributed to the success of this program, and we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to those who have continued to take part in serving the public in this fashion. We hope that more members of the Bar will consider becoming involved in the Judicial Arbitration program.

The need for new arbitrators is ongoing. Each week we send new cases to judicial arbitration for assignment. Although we have many members on our arbitration list, some of the arbitrators can take only a limited number of cases per quarter or per year.

The court has taken a number of steps to reduce the arbitration caseload, including developing other settlement programs that have been made available to litigants. But that does not solve the entire problem. We are asking our current arbitrators to speak to associates and friends, and help us solicit additional panel members. If you do not currently take judicial arbitrations, we ask you to consider doing so. With the help of the legal community of Santa Clara County, the court can keep the program running smoothly and efficiently. Having a first-rate program benefits all members of the Bar; not only will you be helping other counsel resolve their cases, your cases will be processed more quickly as well.

If you would like to apply for the Judicial Arbitration panel and have at least five years of practice experience, you may contact Elizabeth Strickland, ADR Administrator, at 408-882-2530. She will send you an application. Or if you like, you may download the *Application for Judicial Arbitrators* (CV-5007) form from the court website at www.sccsuperiorcourt.org. Look under Civil, Judicial Arbitrators or on the forms page.