



CITY OF COMPTON

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PRESS RELEASE

Compton City Council Passes Resolution Supporting New Problem-Solving Courts

*Compton is first city in L.A. County to pass resolution supporting innovative new courts
designed to address needs of at-risk and vulnerable populations*

COMPTON, CA – On Tuesday the Compton City Council unanimously voted to support a new problem-solving approach to the criminal justice system called the **Community Collaborative Courts (CCC)**. In partnership with other justice agencies, the **Los Angeles Superior Courts** designed CCC to provide courts that can better address the needs of several at-risk and vulnerable populations. The non-adversarial court is designed to identify the best treatment for individuals and will address cases with issues including: veterans' issues, mental illness, homelessness, substance abuse and transition-aged at-risk youth (TAY). The individuals in these populations who enter the criminal justice system are often met with and present complex issues that require collaborative solutions to promote public safety in both the near and long term. Tuesday's vote made Compton the first city in Los Angeles County to pass a resolution in support of the innovative new court.

"The Community Collaborative Courts offers a much needed alternative to the traditional criminal justice system," said **Mayor Aja Brown**. "It's going to take an integrated approach to address the root causes of crime and reduce recidivism in our communities and the CCC is a step forward in the right direction. My colleagues on the City Council and I are proud to support this creative initiative."

The CCC will be located in the Compton Courthouse on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Compton native **Judge Karen Ackerson Gauff** will be the presiding

judge.

In addition to Compton, the CCC will be located in the Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse in Long Beach, presided over by Judge Marcelita V. Haynes; the Van Nuys West Courthouse, presided over by Judge Gregory A. Dohi; and the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center (CJC), presided over by Judge Michael A. Tynan. The CCC model will not be limited to these four districts. The project is designed to provide intra-district service. If a qualifying case is identified in a district that does not have CCC, the case can be transferred to one of the CCC locations according to a predetermined matrix.

The CCC will concentrate resources on case management, appropriate disposition, and post-conviction monitoring. The CCC model will permit the judicial officers to tailor their individual calendars to the needs of their respective districts and communities. The goal is to create a structure that is flexible and responsive to better meet the needs of the litigants and better ensure public safety.

For more information on the CCC, please visit <http://www.lacourt.org/>.

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