



NEWS RELEASE

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SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF NAPA
825 Brown Street
Napa, CA 94559
www.napa.courts.ca.gov

707-299-1100

Cynthia P. Smith
Presiding Judge

Robert E. Fleshman
Court Executive Officer

NAPA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT'S JUVENILE COURTHOUSE RE-OPENS

NAPA, CA – On April 18, 2022, the Napa County Superior Court's Juvenile Courthouse, a single courtroom facility attached to the county's juvenile hall, re-opened after a two-year pandemic closure.

Unlike the Historic Courthouse and the Criminal Courthouse which remained open during the more uncertain times of the pandemic, the Juvenile Hall Courthouse was closed in March 2020 and all juvenile appearances and proceedings were conducted remotely or held in-person at the downtown Napa courthouses.

The main purpose of the Juvenile Courthouse is to serve members of the Napa County youth community – specifically minors under the age of 18.

Amanda Gibbs, Chief Probation Officer for Napa County, noted the re-opening with the following statement: *"The Napa County Probation Department is proud to partner with the Napa County Superior Court in re-opening the Juvenile Courtroom for in-person hearings. The Court has again demonstrated its resolve to provide an effective juvenile justice system operated in an environment of credibility, dignity, fairness, safety, and respect for the youth and families of Napa County. The re-opening of the Juvenile Courthouse prioritizes the unique needs of youth allowing them to fully participate in the justice process with trusted adults present to support them through the process. We appreciate the Court's commitment to safety during the pandemic and its innovative use of technology to provide service and equitable justice to all during the most challenging of times."*

Further, Supervising Juvenile Judge Victoria Wood noted: *"It's extremely gratifying to be back for in-person hearings with our local youth facing delinquency proceedings. Being face-to-face with parents and kids makes all the difference for productive and positive outcomes for everyone involved."*

Cases being heard at the Juvenile Courthouse are currently limited to delinquency cases. Dependency and other family matters will continue to be heard in the downtown Napa courthouse locations.

If you have any questions, please contact the Court Executive Office at 707-299-1110 or at Court.Administration@napa.courts.ca.gov.