

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: April 14, 2023

COURT REPORTER RECRUITMENT & RETENTION INCENTIVES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 247 West Third Street, 11th Floor San Bernardino, Ca 92415-0302 www.sb-court.org

909-708-8747

R. Glenn Yabuno Presiding Judge

Anabel Z. Romero Court Executive Officer **SAN BERNARDINO, CA**—The court continues to prioritize its efforts to recruit and retain court reporters to serve the largest county in the lower 48 states. With state funding available pursuant to Senate Bill 170 and Senate Bill 154, San Bernardino Superior Court (SBSC) is happy to announce monetary retention and recruitment incentives for court reporters, following an agreement with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU).

"Court reporters are valued members of our court and provide the verbatim record, which is critical to the justice system," said Presiding Judge R. Glenn Yabuno and Court Executive Officer Anabel Z. Romero. "We thank our lawmakers for providing funding that has facilitated these incentives to attract and retain court reporters in San Bernardino for the benefit of the public and profession as a whole."

The agreement includes wage increases, hiring and retention incentives, professional stipend, and referral incentives. Agreement highlights include:

- A salary increase of 3%
- One-time hiring/retention incentives:
 - Less than two years employment will receive \$10,000*
 - More than two years employment, but less than 10 years will receive \$15,000*
 - More than 10 years employment, will receive \$20,000*
- \$2,500 professional stipend
- Referral incentives:
 - \$1,000 referral incentive after one year of employment if a reporter is hired from the private sector
 - \$500 referral incentive after one year of employment if a reporter is hired from another California Court

*Court reporters with two but less than 10 years of service must work a total of three additional years. Court reporters with ten years or more of service must work a total of two additional years of service.

As a result of a state-wide and national court reporter shortage, SBSC recently was required to shift court reporter coverage from civil and

probate calendars to criminal felony calendars in order to provide adequate coverage in statutorily mandated case types. It is our hope that these additional resources provided by Governor Newsom and the Legislature will enhance and accelerate recruiting and retention efforts.

We thank SEIU for its partnership and collective action in reaching this agreement.

For media-related questions, please contact Julie Van Hook, Communications and Public Affairs Officer via courts-pio@sb-court.org.