



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

# Resolution

— RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS —

## Campaign for Justice Month

**Whereas** more than 6 million Californians live below 125 percent of the federal poverty level, and there are fewer than 800 legal aid attorneys to serve them;

**Whereas** funds for legal services in California have decreased significantly over the last three years, resulting in unavoidable cuts for legal services for Californians in need;

**Whereas** California attorneys donate thousands of hours of pro bono legal services and make annual financial contributions to the Justice Gap Fund and to legal services organizations to help address the huge unmet need for legal assistance for California's poor;

**Whereas** the judicial branch's operational plan calls for the expansion of the availability of legal assistance, advice, and representation for litigants with limited financial resources;

**Whereas** the State Bar of California has designated October 2011 as Campaign for Justice Month to coordinate efforts to encourage funding for legal services and increased pro bono services; and

**Whereas** the American Bar Association and the State Bar of California have designated the last week in October as National Pro Bono Week to recognize the valuable pro bono contributions made by lawyers throughout the year and to increase pro bono participation across the country to narrow the justice gap;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the Judicial Council of California recognizes the month of October as Campaign for Justice Month and the last week in October as National Pro Bono Week. It further commends California attorneys for their ongoing pro bono contributions and encourages judges to use the Pro Bono Toolkit to inspire attorneys to engage in pro bono work in order to make a significant difference in the lives of Californians who would not otherwise have access to the legal system.

*In witness whereof*

*I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, 2011*

Attest:

TANI CANTIL-SAKAUYE  
Chief Justice of California and  
Chair of the Judicial Council of California

RONALD G. OVERHOLT  
Interim Administrative Director of the Courts and  
Secretary to the Judicial Council of California