

December 15, 2006

For Immediate Release

For more information call: Judge George A. Miram 650-363-4511

Redwood City, CA

San Mateo County Court Employee Receives Service To Justice Award

Presiding Judge George A. Miram today announced that he has awarded the second annual perpetual recognition award called the Presiding Judge's Service to Justice Award.

The recipient of the award, Timothy Benton, the court's technology director, was recognized for his dedication and service to justice for seventeen years.

Benton is best known for his invention and development of EZLegalFile, an interactive program that helps people fill out papers and access justice on a variety of legal issues. Available at www.sanmateocourt.org, the program simplifies legal filings in family law, small claims, unlawful detainers, domestic violence and guardianships. It is designed specifically for the self-represented litigant. Presiding Judge George A. Miram said, "Tim Benton embodies the guiding principle of our court – service to people of our county and the state." Miram added "EZLegalFile has been adopted by forty counties in California and has served thousands. It helps bring justice into the homes of self-represented litigants through their home computer." Benton's accomplishment on behalf of the San Mateo Superior Court is expected to expand to neighboring states in the years to come. Benton was honored today at the court's annual holiday luncheon. Miram concluded at the presentation of the award by stating "Tim has received the highest honor that I can bestow."