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## **Sacramento Superior Court Judges Preside Over DUI Court Cases at Local High Schools**

Sacramento, CA – More than 6,500 area students have observed a real DUI Court proceeding this school year thanks to an ongoing collaboration between Sacramento Superior Court, its justice partners and nonprofit Arrive Alive California Inc.

“Programs like DUI Court help educate young drivers about the risks of driving while impaired and the real consequences if they are caught,” said Presiding Judge Michael G. Bowman. “Our hope is to save lives.”

The “Real DUI Court in Schools” program, coordinated by Arrive Alive California Inc., transfers a first-time DUI offender case from the county courthouse to a local high school. Students observe the defendant’s sentencing, including jail time, probation, fines and fees.

The program is meant to teach teens about the consequences of driving impaired as well as the role of the judicial branch in prosecuting DUI crimes. Following the sentencing, the presiding judge co-facilitates an interactive session between themselves, the students, attorneys and law enforcement.

Arrive Alive California Inc. is a nonprofit organization committed to bringing young people the message of DUI prevention through reality-based education year-round. Other program partners include: the California Highway Patrol, Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office and National Guard Counter Drug Task Force.

Justice Laurie M. Earl partnered with Arrive Alive California Inc. on behalf of Sacramento Superior Court and coordinated the bench’s participation prior to being elevated to the Third District Court of Appeal. Judge Curtis Fiorini now coordinates

participation from the bench and over the past five years, he along with Judge Bowman, Judge Larry Brown, Judge Benjamin Galloway and Judge Deborah Lobre have all presided over DUI Court cases at Sacramento County schools.

During the 2022-23 school year, 12 high schools and 6,546 students participated in the program.

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**2022-23 Participating Schools included:**

- Kinney High School
- Creative Connections High School
- St. Francis High School
- Pleasant Grove High School
- Laguna Creek High School
- Mesa Verde High School
- Kit Carson International Academy
- Galt High School
- Vista Del Lago High School
- George Washington Carver School of Arts & Science
- Natomas Pacific Pathways Prep High School
- Rio Americano High School



An all-school assembly at St. Francis Catholic High School in October 2022 for students to observe "DUI Court."



Sacramento Superior Court Presiding Judge Michael G. Bowman listens as Sacramento County Deputy District Attorney Gregory Hayes presents the case of a real, first-time DUI offender.





St. Francis students ask questions during an interactive session with Judge Michael G. Bowman, Deputy District Attorney Gregory Hayes and law enforcement.



Sacramento Superior Court Judge Benjamin D. Galloway presided over "DUI Court" in March 2023 at George Washington Carver School of Arts and Science.



Sacramento Superior Court Judge Deborah D. Lobre presided over “DUI Court” in April 2023 at Natomas Pacific Pathways Preparatory.