Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the newsletter for the Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department. We'll be bringing you periodic updates on the latest news and information regarding the department. I am honored and privileged to serve as your County Clerk-Recorder.

Please contact my office at (714) 834-2500 or visit us at www.ocrecorder.com for more information.

Sincerely,
Hugh Nguyen
County Clerk-Recorder

May 2015

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Clerk-Recorder Hosts Second Annual Industry Forum

This past May 14, Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen hosted his Second Annual Industry Forum at the Orange County Hall of Administration. The department met with title, mortgage, realtor and banking executives and operational managers interested in providing input directly to department management regarding the operations of the County Clerk-Recorder’s Office.

Clerk-Recorder Nguyen provided attendees with an overview of departmental goals for 2015, as well as updates on new regulations, SECURE and other recording industry issues. Guest speakers included Board of Supervisors members Andrew Do, Michelle Steel and Shawn Nelson, County Assessor Claude Parrish and Jean Pasco from County Corporate Communications.

For more about the event, please visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ocrecorder
Clerk-Recorder Nguyen joins Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors Lisa A. Bartlett and other elected officials during the cake cutting.

Department Conducts Outreach at Soka University’s Annual International Festival

On May 2, Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen attended this year’s Annual International Festival hosted by Soka University at its campus.

Clerk-Recorder Nguyen was present as a special guest. He spoke to event goers about the services that his department offers highlighting the services available to south county residents at his department’s South County Branch Office at the Laguna Hills Civic Center.

The department also hosted a booth at the event. Staff were available to answer any questions about the department and the services offered at all of the department’s locations.

Clerk-Recorder Nguyen addresses the audience as special guest at Soka University's Annual International Festival.

Staffer Manny Gomez was on hand to answer any questions about the department.

Special Saturday Hours Planned for June 27

Plan now to take advantage the department’s special Saturday hours this upcoming Saturday, June 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Old County Courthouse in Santa Ana and the department’s branch offices in Fullerton and Laguna Hills. Appointments are filling fast.

This opening will be the first for the summer, so demand for services is expected to be high.

For more details click here or visit us at www.ocrecorder.com.
Demand for Passport Services on Saturday Openings Surges

This past Saturday, May 16, demand for passport services during Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen’s special Saturday hours saw a triple digit increase compared to last year’s May Saturday opening. The department saw a 320% increase in passport application acceptance compared to May’s 2014 Saturday hours.

During May’s Saturday opening the department accepted 42 passport applications. Last year during the department’s May Saturday hours, the department accepted 10 passport applications. These numbers show that demand for Saturday hours is still strong and more importantly continues to grow.

To read more click here.

New Security Initiative Making a Difference

After months of planning and collaboration with the County Assessor, Auditor-Controller, CEO’s Office and the Sherriff’s Department, May marked the second month in which a Sheriff’s Special Officer was permanently stationed inside the Clerk-Recorder Department’s room 101 at the Hall of Records, Building 12. The extra security presence has already made a difference for both customers and employees.

SSO Robert Stammerjohan, a 25-year veteran of the Sheriff’s Department was chosen based on his extensive experience, exemplary work record and exceptional interpersonal skills. Officer Stammerjohan will conduct regular patrols of the interior and exterior of the building, as well as responding for calls for service in the ‘Walk of Honor’ area outside the building. He will also provide escorts for employees as needed.

Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen commented that safety is his number one priority for staff and customers and is the reason why he initiated this increase in security.

We would like to welcome SSO Stammerjohan and let him know that he has already made a difference.
Clerk-Recorder Honors Our Fallen

This past Memorial Day, Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen attended the Memorial Day service held at Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country and of those who currently serve or have served our nation.

Department Welcomes New Staff

In May, the department welcomed new staff members Eve Lee and Isabel Dominguez. Eve will be working in operations at the department’s North County Branch Office in Fullerton. Isabel will be working at the department’s central office in Santa Ana. Both will be helping customers obtain birth, death and marriage certificates as well as issuing marriage licenses and performing civil marriage ceremonies and other services. The department is excited to have them.

We wish them much success!
April Employee of the Month

Clerk-Recorder Nguyen is pleased to announce Betty Ostrow as the Employee of the Month for the month of May.

Betty has attained great knowledge in her 30+ years with the county and continues to strive to provide excellent service to customers. She is a team player and is always ready to assist with additional assignments.

Betty's professionalism and courteousness is well recognized while assisting the public and her co-workers. Her hard work and dedication is appreciated by all.

Congratulations to Betty on her achievement!

Service Awards

Congratulations to Daniela Rivera, Laura Sipa and Eva Zarate on reaching service milestones in their careers.

This May, Laura and Eva reached their 20th year of service with the County of Orange. Daniela reached her 15th year of service.

The department would like to thank all of you for your service and dedication to the people and County of Orange!
Did you know that on.........

May 10, 1912, aviation pioneer Glenn L. Martin of Santa Ana made the first water-to-water airplane flight from Newport Beach to Avalon Bay (Catalina Island)

May 3, 1842: The Rancho Canada de los Alisos was granted to Jose Serrano by the Mexican governor of California. (California was part of Mexico from 1821 to 1846.) Serrano’s house is now part of the County's Heritage Hill Historical Park in Lake Forest.


May 11, 1920: The town of Harper officially changed its name to Costa Mesa. The name was selected in a newspaper contest. The winning name was submitted by local resident Alice Plummer, who won $25.

May 23, 1936: Newport Harbor was dedicated. President Franklin Roosevelt launched a celebratory yacht parade by sending a telegraph signal from the White House.

May 24, 1920: Oil was discovered in Huntington Beach, launching an economic boom. On the same day, the Orange County Historical Society held its first official meeting.

May 27, 1977: Disneyland’s Space Mountain held its grand opening. All six surviving Mercury astronauts attended.

Facts and photo courtesy of the Orange County Archives