



County Administration South
601 N. Ross Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701 | (714) 834-2500

WELCOME

Newsletter - February 2023

Thank you for your interest in the Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department's newsletter. We will be bringing you periodic updates on the latest news, information and events affecting 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 OCRecorder.com for more information about the department and the services provided to the public.

Sincerely,

*Hugh Nguyen
County Clerk-Recorder*

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Visit us at OCREORDER.COM



ORANGE COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

CALL CENTER

**WE ARE HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS
MONDAY TO FRIDAY: 8 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.**

(714) 834 - 2500



Clerk-Recorder Department to Host Passport Day to Help Families Beat the Summer Rush!

The passport rush for summertime travel has begun! Beat the rush and take advantage of Orange County Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen's Passport Day on Saturday, March 25, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Old Orange County Courthouse located at 211 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Room 201, in Santa Ana. This day is geared towards individuals and families who can't make it to our offices during normal operating hours due to work, school, or other time constraints. With summer travel plans on people's minds, now is the time to apply for your passports! Only new passport applications will be accepted. Renewal applications will not be accepted. Due to demand, appointments are highly recommended; however, walk-ins are welcomed. To take advantage of this wonderful opportunity, all applicants must bring a completed and unsigned passport application prior to visiting the office. To complete an online application and/or to make an appointment, please visit us at [OCRecorder.com](https://www.ocrecorder.com).

"If you have plans to travel this summer, this is a tremendous opportunity to get the process started and get your passport in time," said Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen. "Passport Day is the perfect occasion for busy individuals and families to obtain these vital services without having to miss school or work and to avoid travel delays," he added.

Passport Day makes the process easier for parents, as both parents must be present to obtain passports for children younger than 16 years of age. Currently, processing service times at the federal level can take up to 11 weeks total from the day an application is submitted at our offices so please plan according to your travel needs.

U.S. Department of State fees need to be paid with a check or money order only and a separate processing fee of \$35 paid to the Clerk-Recorder Department using a separate form of payment. As an added convenience, passport photos are available on the spot for the low cost of \$7.

For more information about Passport Day or to learn more about the services available to the public at the Clerk-Recorder Department, please visit [OCRecorder.com](https://www.ocrecorder.com). Our information line, (714) 834-2500, is also available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except holidays.

NEWS

On Valentine's day, we offered extended hours to help couples who wished to get married on the most romantic day of the year.

Congratulations to the 153 couples who got married along with the additional 188 couples who obtained marriage licenses at our Clerk-Recorder offices. We were honored to be part of your special day and wish you the best on this new chapter.

Thank you to my hard working and dedicated staff for working after hours, and for making this special event possible.



NEWS

Thank you to Chairman Don Wagner, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Supervisor Doug Chaffee, and Supervisor Katrina Foley for officiating marriage ceremonies on Valentine's Day. Chairman Wagner and Supervisor Sarmiento helped perform ceremonies at the Old Orange County Courthouse, and Supervisor Chaffee performed marriage ceremonies at the North County branch office. Supervisor Foley officiated marriage ceremonies at the South County branch office.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the month of February:



On February 4, my staff attended the grand opening of the 42nd 7 Leaves Cafe location which includes a drive thru at the city of Fountain Valley.

We wish them continuous growth and success as they continue their mission to enrich the community by serving the very best coffee, tea, and goodness in every cup throughout Southern California and the residents throughout the County of Orange, California.



On February 7, my team attended the Quick Quack Car Wash grand opening and ribbon cutting event in the city of Santa Ana.

We wish them great success as they continue their mission to "change lives for the better" while being one of the largest car wash businesses in the nation since 2004.

It was our pleasure to celebrate with you on this day.



On February 8, my staff joined the community in congratulating Crumbl Cookies at the grand opening event in the city of Dana Point.

We wish them many years of success as they follow their mission of bringing families and friends together over quality cookies.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the month of February:



On February 10, my team attended the Casa Ramos Cocina Mexicana ribbon cutting event in Santa Ana.

We wish them great success as they serve authentic Mexican food with fresh and locally sourced ingredients to the Orange County community.



On February 13, my staff attended the Norooz Clinic Foundation ribbon cutting at the city of Santa Ana.

We wish them success in their mission to provide direct mental health services while utilizing the latest technology and organizing creative community outreach.

It was a pleasure for my staff to join Norooz Clinic Foundation on their special occasion.



On February 24, my team congratulated graduates of the 2023 SBDC Eats hybrid program which aims to guide them through the necessary steps of planning, building, and launching their food businesses.

We wish these business owners many successes in their endeavors in the Orange County business community.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



Orange County Clerk-Recorder *Employee of the Month*



Congratulations!
Sarah

Dedicated to Providing Excellent Customer Service

Each month we recognize an employee who goes above and beyond their normal duties and offers excellent service to our customers. The Employee of the Month receives a certificate of recognition, has their name placed on a recognition plaque, and may dress casual during their month of recognition.

It gives me great pleasure to announce Sarah Duffy as Employee of the Month for February.

Sarah has proven to be a great asset to our department through her clear understanding of our policies and procedures, excellent work ethic, and reliability. Sarah's customer service skills and dedication to providing our services are exemplary. We have received many compliments from the public praising Sarah for her professional, kind, and attentive manner of work. We are happy to hear how Sarah made a positive impact on those who visit our department, and we are proud to know Sarah represents the excellent quality of customer service that our department aims to maintain.

Through her bright and outgoing demeanor, Sarah always helps boost the team morale at the office and is a pleasure to work with. She does not hesitate to take initiative when it comes to assisting her colleagues and supervisors with tasks that benefit the whole team such as the maintenance of necessary departmental documents.

Sarah's positive contributions to our department are appreciated by all. We are thankful to have her on our team.

Please join me in congratulating Sarah on this achievement!

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

We received the following reviews for staff at the County Service Center in Santa Ana. Thank you for always going above and beyond and exceeding customers expectations. Keep up the great work!

Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department

601 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, CA 92701

★★★★★ 3 days ago

What a gorgeous government building. Light and airy spaces helped lessen the stress of coming to a government office. Not stuffy or intimidating like the old office. Loved the high ceiling. Workers seem to be happy and cheery. Service was faster than fast. Crazy fast, actually. Need better signage though. I never did find the parking garage. The entrance to the building was not obvious so more direct signage would be helpful but they would probably take away from the aesthetics of the complex. I'm going to come back on a weekend in the spring with a picnic basket and soak in the architecture.

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Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department

601 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, CA 92701

★★★★★ 4 days ago

I am not one to write reviews, but I have to say the staff was very helpful. Although, I did not get my problem resolved, I was given other options. Nice place and staff.

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★★★★★ 2/5/23

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This government office is very efficient! I went to this location to get copies of my birth certificate and complete my passport paperwork. Upon entering, I was warmly greeted by a young lady who direct me to the waiting area.

The process took less than 15 minutes! One caveat is that you'll need to pay for parking, otherwise, there are free public parking spaces a few blocks away.

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

Document Examiner Joseph at our South County branch office in Laguna Hills received the following comment from a customer he assisted. Thank you Joseph for your exemplary service! Keep up the great work!

Date/Time Created: 02/24/2023 17:44

Custom Fields

* internal custom field

Original Request

I am writing to whom it may concern to recognize and applaud an employee by the name of, Joseph Zamora. Joseph assisted me at the Laguna Hills Orange County Clerk Recoring office this past week. Not only was Joseph extremely professional and knowledgeable but he really went above and beyond for a matter I was having. I was extremely pleased with the outcome and wanted to thank you for having such outstanding employees such as Joseph at your establishment. Joseph Z definitely has a very bright future.

Our South County branch office in Laguna Hills received the following review. Thank you to my staff for providing memorable and impressive customer service.

★★★★☆ 2/21/23

...

I pulled a JLo and Ben Affleck and we wedded on Valentine's Day after being engaged for 10 years . We purchased a pod and took our own pictures and video, it was romantic just us . Celebration to follow.

My only reservation was you could hear staff members and other couples talking while our ceremony took place (our video picked it up) next door. Other than that it was more than we expected.

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

Our Marriages unit at the Old County Courthouse received the following review. Thank you for your commitment to excellent public service!



2/24/23

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My fiancé and I made an appointment to come here for our marriage license and it couldn't have gone smoother! Everything was absolutely wonderful from start to finish. The entire staff at the clerk-recorder's office was very helpful and amazing!

We filled out the marriage application online prior to our appointment so it helped make things super easy. Our appointment time was 8:40am, we arrived at 8:30 and checked-in on their self-service computer. We were called in after just a few short minutes later. The person helping us was very nice, informative, and efficient. We had no issues whatsoever and were outta there by 8:50. Highly recommend this location!

DON'T FORGET!

**ORANGE COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER**



PASSPORT DAY

Saturday, March 25, 2023
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

 PASSPORT BOOKS/CARDS
 PASSPORT PHOTOS AT \$7
 WALK-INS ARE WELCOME

ONLY NEW PASSPORT APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT AT
OCRECORDER.COM



**OLD ORANGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE**
211 W. SANTA ANA BLVD
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

CONTACT US AT
714-834-2500

OCRecorder.com

FEBRUARY IN O.C. HISTORY



The American Trader oil spill triggering a massive cleanup effort. Still, about 3,400 seabirds died.

Feb. 2, 1848

The Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was signed, in which Mexico ceded much of the Southwest (including California) to the United States.

Feb. 4, 1974

Patty Hearst was kidnapped. Eventually, she'd end up hiding out with members of the Simbionese Liberation Army in a motel across from Disneyland.

Feb. 5, 1937

At the direction of the state Attorney General, Orange County Sheriff Logan Jackson tells local police chiefs that all punch boards (a form of gambling) must be eliminated from Orange County. A roundup ensues.

Feb. 9, 1937

Orange County Boy Scouts executive Harrison C. White saw an airplane – engulfed in flame – crash into the sea about ten miles off Newport Beach.

Feb. 9, 1990

The tanker American Trader ran over its own anchor and punctured its hull, spilling 416,598 gallons of crude oil off the coast of Huntington Beach.

Historical facts provided by Assistant Archivist Chris Jepsen.

Photo: Courtesy of the Orange County Archives.

Courtesy of the Orange County Archives, a function under the Office of Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen.

OUT AND ABOUT



One of my staff captured the sun setting in Chapala Lake (Mexico's largest lake) in the town of Ajijic in the state of Jalisco.

Visit our webpage at: OCRecorder.com

For more information about
the Orange County Archives visit:
OCArchives.com

Follow us on social media
[@ocreorder](https://twitter.com/ocreorder)

