



HUGH NGUYEN

Orange County Clerk-Recorder

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

WELCOME

Newsletter - April 2026

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*

In This Issue:

[News and Updates](#)

[Community Outreach](#)

[Awards and Recognitions](#)

[Customers are Saying...](#)

[April in O.C. History](#)

[Out and About](#)

Visit us at OCRECORDER.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

NEWS

Thank you to everyone who visited our Community Passport Event in Garden Grove on April 11! The event was a special partnership between Orange County Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen, Supervisor Janet Nguyen of District 1 and Mayor Stephanie Klopfenstein from the City of Garden Grove.

From assisting families with new U.S. passport applications to providing on-site photos, our goal was to make the process easy for families and first-time applicants. We were pleased to receive such a warm response from the community and fantastic turnout to the event.

Successful events like today highlight the importance of collaboration between government offices to put our communities first. We extend our gratitude to Supervisor Nguyen, Mayor Klopfenstein, and their teams for working with us!



NEWS

On April 13, I was proud to stand with Assemblyman Tri Ta, Ms. Sylvia Mendez, and community leaders in support of the effort to establish Sylvia Mendez Day in California.

The legacy of Mendez v. Westminster is not just part of California history. It is part of Orange County's story. It reminds us of the importance of fairness, opportunity, and the lasting impact of those who choose to stand up for what is right.

As Orange County Clerk-Recorder, I also have the honor of overseeing the Orange County Archives. That means helping preserve the stories that define our community so they are not forgotten. Sylvia Mendez's story is one of those stories, and it deserves to be archived, honored, and shared for generations to come.



NEWS

On April 14, Clerk-Recorder on Wheels had an incredible evening at the Garden Grove Unified School District's Summer Resources Fair for Families!

Our team loved connecting with parents, students, and community members while providing vital records issuance, fictitious business name filings, and official record copies right on-site.

Thank you to GGUSD for putting together such a fantastic event. The energy, the families, and the community spirit made it a night to remember.

To all the students gearing up for summer and the school year ahead, we're cheering you on and wishing you every success!



NEWS

Congratulations to the Orange County Employees Retirement System (OCERS) on the groundbreaking ceremony of their Replacement Headquarters in Santa Ana.

On April 15, I was thrilled to join the ceremony and look forward to OCERS's new and modern space to support County of Orange employees for decades to come. I wish OCERS great success as this exciting project moves forward and may they continuously serve County of Orange employees with excellence!



NEWS



OC CLERK-RECORDER HUGH NGUYEN
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

California Secretary of State

Apostille Pop-Up Shop



**ONE DAY
ONLY!**

MAY 6, 2026
WEDNESDAY: 8AM - 4PM

SERVICES
APOSTILLES
DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATIONS
NOTARY

LOCATION

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION SOUTH BUILDING
601 N. ROSS ST, SANTA ANA, CA 92701

SCAN TO
LEARN MORE



sos.ca.gov/notary/request-apostille

PARKING LOT P4

630 N BROADWAY ST
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

FREE FIRST 30 MINUTES



**APOSTILLE AND
DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP
REGISTRATION PAYMENT**

VISA, MASTERCARD,
CHECK OR
MONEY ORDER

NO CASH

**NOTARY PUBLIC SERVICES AVAILABLE ON SITE WITH PAYMENT ACCEPTED
IN CASH OR BY CHECK ONLY, MADE PAYABLE TO THE COUNTY OF ORANGE.**

OCRecorder.com

NEWS

Thank you to everyone who stopped by Clerk-Recorder on Wheels on April 23 in Huntington Beach. Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen had the pleasure of chatting with community members and connecting with residents while our team provided vital records services directly in the community.

We also want to thank our dedicated staff for their hard work and outstanding customer service. Their commitment helps make it easier for residents to access important services closer to home.

We are always grateful for the opportunity to serve the public, answer questions, and connect with the people of Orange County.



NEWS

Thank you to everyone who stopped by to visit Team Hugh Nguyen at the Children and Family Health Fair at Magnolia High School.

Our team was glad to be out in the community, helping residents access Clerk-Recorder services and answering questions about birth, marriage, and death certificates, Fictitious Business Name statements, official record copies and more.

A special thank you to Supervisor Doug Chaffee and everyone involved in organizing the event on April 25. We appreciate the opportunity to bring Clerk-Recorder on Wheels closer to home for Orange County residents.



OCRecorder.com

NEWS

Another unforgettable Special Saturday Opening in the books!

It was a busy and meaningful day on Saturday, April 25, serving our community across Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Laguna Hills. Our team proudly issued 213 marriage licenses and assisted 148 marriage ceremonies, helping so many couples take that next step together.

From heartfelt “I do’s” to families preparing for upcoming travels, it was truly a privilege to be part of these important moments.

Thank you to our dedicated staff whose professionalism, teamwork, and care made this Special Saturday special. Your commitment continues to ensure every guest feels welcomed and supported.

Congratulations to all the couples who celebrated their love with us! Wishing you a lifetime of happiness and cherished memories!

Special Saturday Openings remain an important way for us to provide convenient, accessible services for residents who cannot visit during the week. We’re grateful for every opportunity to serve our community when it matters most.



NEWS

Clerk-Recorder on Wheels was in Santa Ana on April 29!

We were proud to be at the Choose Wellness Resource Fair at Fitz Language Intermediate School, bringing our services directly into the community.

Our goal is to make access easier for families. Instead of having to take time off work or use their lunch break to visit our offices, residents can stop by here after work and get the help they need in a more convenient setting.

Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen and our team had a great time connecting with community members, answering questions, and providing services right where people are.

Thank you to everyone who came by and spent time with us on April 29.



NEWS

On April 30, I joined the community at Sid Goldstein Freedom Park in Westminster to honor Black April and commemorate the 51st anniversary of the Fall of Saigon. This solemn day carries deep meaning for many, including myself.

In 1975, I was among those rescued by the USS Midway. The bravery and compassion shown by our service men and women during that rescue changed the course of my life.

Standing alongside veterans, families, and community leaders today, I am reminded of the immense sacrifices made during the Vietnam War and the resilience of those who sought safety and hope in the aftermath. I am deeply grateful to the veterans whose service and courage made freedom possible for so many, including my own family.

I am grateful to be with the community as we come together to reflect, remember, and pay tribute. Black April is a time to honor both the pain of the past and the enduring spirit that continues to guide the Vietnamese American community forward.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the month of April:



Happy Khmer New Year! On April 14, our Team Hugh Nguyen welcomed the Khmer new year with the community at a celebration hosted by the Cambodian Family Community Center in Santa Ana.

We spoke with community members about our variety of services including U.S. passports, vital records, fictitious business name filings, and more. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to chat with our team and ask questions. It was our pleasure to inform you about the many ways OC Clerk-Recorder can assist you and your loved ones!

Wishing everyone a new year filled with happiness, good health, and good fortune.



Team Hugh Nguyen was at the SoCal Procurement Alliance 5th Annual Supplier Outreach in Anaheim on April 15!

We provided information on our many services including Fictitious Business Names, new U.S. passports, vital records and more! it was a pleasure to connect with other agencies, businesses, and attendees.

This was such a fantastic event to strengthen business engagement and advance entrepreneurial initiatives in Orange County.

Thank you to everyone who visited our table!



On April 21, Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen and our team were honored to attend the ribbon cutting celebration for TacoNazo in Santa Ana.

Congratulations to TacoNazo on this exciting milestone. It was a pleasure to join in recognizing a business that is already known for its delicious Ensenada-style fish tacos, exceptional customer service, and the positive energy it brings to the community.

Local businesses like TacoNazo help strengthen our neighborhoods, support the local economy, and create spaces where families and friends can come together. We are proud to celebrate this special occasion and wish TacoNazo continued success for many years to come.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the month of April:



On April 29, my staff had an incredible time at Santa Ana College School of Continuing Education! We loved the chance to connect with the community, share valuable information, and answer questions one-on-one. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to learn about our new U.S. passport services, vital records, fictitious business names, and more!



I had the pleasure of visiting Garden Grove High School on April 29, where I met with Mr. Robert Nguyen and his Vietnamese language class. During the visit, I shared my personal journey to America and encouraged students to work hard and stay focused on achieving their goals. I also spoke about the importance of learning another language, reminding students that being bilingual or multilingual allows them to better serve and connect with others in their communities, especially those facing language barriers. Students learned more about the work of the Clerk-Recorder Department and how public service can make a meaningful impact in people's lives every day. Thank you to Mr. Nguyen and the students for the warm welcome and thoughtful discussion. Inspiring the next generation to lead with purpose and compassion is always time well spent.

OCRecorder.com

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



Orange County Clerk-Recorder *Employee of the Month*

Congratulations!

Leon

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 and has their name placed on a recognition plaque.

I am pleased to announce Leon Xu as Employee of the Month for April.

Leon is a valued member of our Information Systems unit. Through everything he does, Leon brings dedication, a strong work ethic, and a genuine commitment to supporting our team and improving the way we serve the public. With a deep understanding of our department's needs, Leon applies his expertise to enhance our systems in meaningful and lasting ways.

Most recently, Leon successfully completed an upgrade of our series of Maps applications. His efforts have enabled the Recorder Operations staff to locate map records more efficiently. Leon also played a key role in helping our department comply with new state requirements by scanning and reviewing millions of document images. He identified an effective method for rapidly flagging document images and developed customized reports that help staff to update those images smoothly and accurately.




Across all his projects, Leon combines strong problem-solving skills with excellent teamwork, helping his colleagues succeed. His contributions enhance our workflow and have a direct impact on our department's efficiency and quality of service.

We are grateful to have Leon on our team and appreciate his continued dedication.



Please join me in congratulating Leon on this well-deserved recognition!

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

We received the following customer comment cards for our North County Office in Anaheim. Thank you Emily C., Lyndsey, and Roberto for your attentive customer service and professionalism.

<p> OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY</p> <p>Your Name: <u>Emily C</u> Your Name: <u>Melody</u> Date: <u>4/7/2026</u> Phone: _____ What office location did you visit? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Anaheim <input type="radio"/> Santa Ana <input type="radio"/> Old Courthouse <input type="radio"/> Laguna Hills</p> <p>1. Reason for your visit <u>New Pass Port 1st Time</u></p> <p>2. How would you rate our overall service <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding <input type="radio"/> Average <input type="radio"/> Needs Improvement <u>Emily window Co was really great</u></p> <p>3. Do you have any additional suggestions? <u>Emily Helped, very Professional, Very Nice, Patient & kind</u></p> <p>Thank you for your feedback!</p>	<p> OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY</p> <p>Your Name: <u>Lyndsey</u> Your Name: <u>BUSHRA</u> Date: <u>4/7/2026</u> Phone: _____ What office location did you visit? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Anaheim <input type="radio"/> Santa Ana <input type="radio"/> Old Courthouse <input type="radio"/> Laguna Hills</p> <p>1. Reason for your visit <u>closing Business</u></p> <p>2. How would you rate our overall service <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding <input type="radio"/> Average <input type="radio"/> Needs Improvement</p> <p>3. Do you have any additional suggestions? <u>Great Customer Service</u></p> <p>Thank you for your feedback!</p>	<p> OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY</p> <p>Your Name: <u>Roberto V.</u> Your Name: <u>Mark</u> Date: <u>4/7/26</u> Phone: _____ What office location did you visit? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Anaheim <input type="radio"/> Santa Ana <input type="radio"/> Old Courthouse <input type="radio"/> Laguna Hills</p> <p>1. Reason for your visit <u>marriage license pkty</u></p> <p>2. How would you rate our overall service <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding <input type="radio"/> Average <input type="radio"/> Needs Improvement</p> <p>3. Do you have any additional suggestions? <u>Robert was so kind and helpful! what a smooth & pleasant experience</u></p> <p>Thank you for your feedback!</p>
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We received the following reviews for our County Administration South Office in Santa Ana. Thank you Toan and Trinity for your efficient customer service.

<p> OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY</p> <p>Your Name: <u>Leslie</u> Your Name: _____ Date: <u>4/15/26</u> Phone: _____ What office location did you visit? <input type="radio"/> Anaheim <input checked="" type="radio"/> Santa Ana <input type="radio"/> Old Courthouse <input type="radio"/> Laguna Hills</p> <p>1. Reason for your visit <u>Passport</u></p> <p>2. How would you rate our overall service <u>AT</u> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding <input type="radio"/> Average <input type="radio"/> Needs Improvement <u>Toan was so professional & fast.</u></p> <p>3. Do you have any additional suggestions? <u>Thank you!</u></p> <p>Thank you for your feedback!</p>	<p> OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY</p> <p>Your Name: <u>Kevin</u> Your Name: _____ Date: <u>2026422</u> Phone: _____ What office location did you visit? <input type="radio"/> Anaheim <input checked="" type="radio"/> Santa Ana <input type="radio"/> Old Courthouse <input type="radio"/> Laguna Hills</p> <p>1. Reason for your visit <u>BIRTH CERT.</u></p> <p>2. How would you rate our overall service <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding <input type="radio"/> Average <input type="radio"/> Needs Improvement <u>THE PROCESS WAS EASY AND FAST, CUSTOMER SERVICE WAS AN OUTSTANDING.</u></p> <p>3. Do you have any additional suggestions? <u>Thank you EVERYONE AT THE CLERK CENTER!</u></p> <p>Thank you for your feedback!</p>
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CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

We received the following customer comment cards for our Document Examining team for our County Administration South Office in Santa Ana. Thank you Jo-Ann, Rosa, and Leticia for going above and beyond to help our customers.

Jo Ann, Rosa, Leticia



OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY

Your Name: Martin

Date: 4-6-26 Phone: _____

What office location did you visit?
 Anaheim Santa Ana Old Courthouse Laguna Hills


1. Reason for your visit
Recording
Windows #9, 10, 11

2. How would you rate our overall service
 Outstanding Average Needs Improvement

They were very helpful
A++

3. Do you have any additional suggestions?
NO

Thank you for your feedback!



OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY

Your Name: ELIZABETH

Date: 4/6/26 Phone: _____

What office location did you visit?
 Anaheim Santa Ana Old Courthouse Laguna Hills

1. Reason for your visit
RECORDING & GRANT DEEDS

2. How would you rate our overall service
 Outstanding Average Needs Improvement


3. Do you have any additional suggestions?
VERY ORGANIZED & EFFICIENT
KNOWS WHAT SHE'S DOING

Thank you for your feedback!

We received the following customer comment cards for the Old County Courthouse office. Thank you Kassidy, Amanda, and Emily J. for your outstanding team work and excellent customer service.

For Passport

- Kassidy & Emily J
 Excellent people
 Very polite and
 understanding the
 entire team was great



OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY

Your Name: Maria Norma

Date: 4-2-26 Phone: _____

What office location did you visit?
 Anaheim Santa Ana Old Courthouse Laguna Hills

1. Reason for your visit
for Pass Portes


2. How would you rate our overall service
 Outstanding Average Needs Improvement

Kassidy & Emily J
Exelente Personaj muy amable
y comprensiva. Encomiendo todo el equipo

3. Do you have any additional suggestions?

Thank you for your feedback!

Amanda



OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY

Your Name: Paul & Miami

Date: 04-03-26 Phone: _____

What office location did you visit?
 Anaheim Santa Ana Old Courthouse Laguna Hills

1. Reason for your visit
MARRIAGE

2. How would you rate our overall service
 Outstanding Average Needs Improvement


EFFICIENT AND WONDERFUL!
PROFESSIONAL, FRIENDLY AND
EFFICIENT. THANK-YOU!

3. Do you have any additional suggestions?
EVERYTHING FROM CHECK-IN
TO CEREMONY WENT SMOOTHLY!

Thank you for your feedback!

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

We received the following review and customer comment card for our South County Office in Laguna Hills. Thank you Andy for your efficient and quick service.

 **OC CLERK-RECORDER SURVEY**

Your Name: CHRIS H ANDY Z

Date: 4.17.2026 Phone: _____

What office location did you visit?
Anahelm Santa Ana Old Courthouse Laguna Hills

1. Reason for your visit
Birth Certificate

2. How would you rate our overall service
Outstanding Average Needs Improvement
ANDY Z was polite, fast, & professional

3. Do you have any additional suggestions?
Hire more people like ANDY Z! LOL
She's Great!

Thank you for your feedback!

★★★★★ 4 weeks ago

The most organized recorder office I have ever been to. Quick scan in and online applications at counter. No lines if you show up earlier in day.

APRIL IN O.C. HISTORY



Sheriff Lacy on horseback. (Photo courtesy O.C. Archives)

April 4, 1885

Orange's first newspaper, William E. Ward's *Orange Tribune*, began publication. Its last issue would be printed around the same time Orange County succeeded from Los Angeles, in early August 1889.

April 7, 1990

Aliso and Wood Canyons Regional Park opened in the San Joaquin Hills.

April 14, 1957

A bomb went off at D'Amico Coat Manufacturing Co., thundering through all of Fullerton. The factory owner blamed the union which had been trying to organize the employees.

April 15, 1983

Author, public speaker and Holocaust survivor Corrie ten Boom died in Placentia.

April 22, 1850

Orange County's second Sheriff, Theo "Budge" Lacy was born in Lacy Springs, Alabama.

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 our staff captured this beautiful photo of Atlanta Botanical Garden's "Lady of the Lake" during their recent travels to Atlanta, Georgia.

Visit our webpage at: [OCRecorder.com](https://www.ocrecorder.com)

For more information about
the Orange County Archives visit:
[OCArchives.com](https://www.ocarchives.com)

Follow us on social media
[@ocrecorder](https://www.instagram.com/ocrecorder)

