



## MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

# NEWS RELEASE

**CONTACT: Tom Mitchell at 707/463-4441**

---

TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA  
FR: MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Ukiah, California... *February 11, 2009*

### BUDGET SHORTFALL FORCES COUNTY OFFICE CLOSURES

Facing a projected shortfall of over \$4,000,000 for this fiscal year, Mendocino County Officials have announced office closures beginning Friday, February 20, 2009.

With limited exceptions, all County offices will be closed on the following Fridays:

- February 20, 2009
- March 6, 2009
- March 20, 2009

The following departments will remain open on these Fridays, but some services may be curtailed:

- Sheriff's Office and the Mendocino County Jail
- Probation Department and Juvenile Hall
- District Attorney's Office
- Public Defender and Alternate Defender
- Air Quality Management District
- Child Support Services

The County's Health and Human Services Agency and all Mendocino County Library Branches will be closed every Friday from February 20, 2009 through March 27, 2009.

The public is urged to call a department's office number in advance to determine the availability of services.

The County is currently engaged in discussions with its employees at all levels to address the shortfall. In addition to the office closures, employees may be slated for mandatory unpaid time off and other measures to achieve the necessary savings. The County is making every effort to maintain essential services during this time of fiscal crisis. The public will be apprised of changes as they occur.

Mendocino County Board Chair John Pinches indicated that the County had no other choice – "These are hard times. We have to cut back. We know it's only going to get worse next year."

Released by:   
Tom Mitchell  
Chief Executive Officer