



**HUGH NGUYEN**  
ORANGE COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER  
12 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, ROOM 101, SANTA ANA, CA 92701 (714) 834-2500

# WELCOME

Newsletter - November 2017

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](http://ocrecorder.com) for more information about the department or the services provided to the public.

Sincerely,  
Hugh Nguyen  
County Clerk-Recorder

## In This Issue:

[News and Updates](#)

[Community Outreach](#)

[A Message From Clerk-Recorder  
Hugh Nguyen](#)

[Awards and Recognitions](#)

[Customers Are Saying ...](#)

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

[Out and About](#)

## Mark Your Calendars:

- December 16, 2017 - Special Saturday Opening
- December 25, 2017 - Christmas Holiday (Office Closed)
- January 1, 2018 - New Year's Day (Office Closed)

## [SPECIAL NOTICES/ALERTS](#)

The elevator located in the Old County Courthouse is undergoing maintenance and will not be operable starting October 30, 2017 to December 14, 2017. Therefore, access to Marriage and Passport Services on the 2nd floor of the Old County Courthouse during this time period will be limited. For more information, please visit us at:

## [COMING SOON!!](#)

Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen will soon be releasing the new OC Weddings mobile app. The app will allow customers to apply for their marriage license and make an appointment for their marriage ceremony from a variety of mobile devices.  
More information to come!!

**[OCRecorder.com](http://OCRecorder.com)**

# NEWS



**HUGH NGUYEN**  
CLERK-RECORDER

PROPERTY RECORDS  
BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS  
MARRIAGE LICENSES/RECORDS  
PASSPORTS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES  
NOTARY REGISTRATION  
ORANGE COUNTY ARCHIVES

## \*\*\*Public Notice\*\*\*

### **\$75 RECORDING FEE TO GO INTO EFFECT JANUARY 1, 2018**

Pursuant to SB2 – The Affordable Housing and Jobs Act, the Orange County Clerk-Recorder is required to charge an additional \$75 per Title (up to a maximum of \$225) on certain real estate transactions effective January 1, 2018.

*Per Government Code 27388.1 (a)(1) "A fee of \$75 dollars shall be paid at the time of recording of every real estate instrument, paper, or notice required or permitted by law to be recorded, except those expressly exempted from payment of recording fees, per each single transaction per parcel or real property. The fee shall not exceed two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$225)"*

- **This new fee will be imposed on every qualifying transaction/document up to a maximum of \$225 not including recording fees.**

*Per Government Code 27388.1 (a)(2) "The fee shall not be imposed on any real estate instrument, paper or notice recorded in connection with a transfer subject to the imposition of a documentary transfer tax as defined by Section 11911 of the Revenue and Taxation Code or on any instrument, paper, or notice recorded in connection with the transfer of a real property that is a residential dwelling to an owner-occupier."*

- **To be exempt from this fee, a declaration of a valid exemption must be placed on the face of the document, or on a cover page, which will become part of the document prior to submission for recording. If no valid exemption is declared, the fee will be imposed.**

This fee is being charged in accordance with legislative amendment to Government Code 27388.1.

NORTH COUNTY BRANCH OFFICE  
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN FULLERTON  
201 N. HARBOR BOULEVARD  
FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA 92832

ORANGE COUNTY  
HALL OF RECORDS  
12 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, ROOM 101  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92701

SOUTH COUNTY BRANCH OFFICE  
LAGUNA HILLS CIVIC CENTER  
24031 EL TORO ROAD  
LAGUNA HILLS, CALIFORNIA 92653

(714) 834-2500 • FAX (714) 834-2675 • WWW.OCRECORDER.COM • WWW.OCARCHIVES.COM

# NEWS



Isabel helps a bride with her marriage license during one of our Saturday openings.

## **SATURDAY HOURS PLANNED FOR DECEMBER 16**

The Clerk-Recorder Department will once again open its doors to the public on December 16, 2017 for its once-a-month Saturday hours. The department's branch offices in Fullerton and Laguna Hills as well as the Old County Courthouse in Santa Ana, will be open from 10 am to 3 pm. Customers will be able to obtain marriage licenses, have marriage ceremonies performed, submit passport applications, purchase passport photos and obtain vital and official records.

The Orange County Archives will also be open from 10 am to 3 pm. The Archives are located in the basement of the Old County Courthouse in Santa Ana. For more information, please visit us at:

**[OCRecorder.com](http://OCRecorder.com)**

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## During the month of November:



My office congratulated UPS Store# 6849 in Huntington Beach during their ribbon cutting ceremony in Huntington Beach.



My office attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Celebration Education in the City of Santa Ana. I had staff present them with a certificate of recognition to mark the event and to congratulate them for bringing rich learning opportunities to students in Orange County.



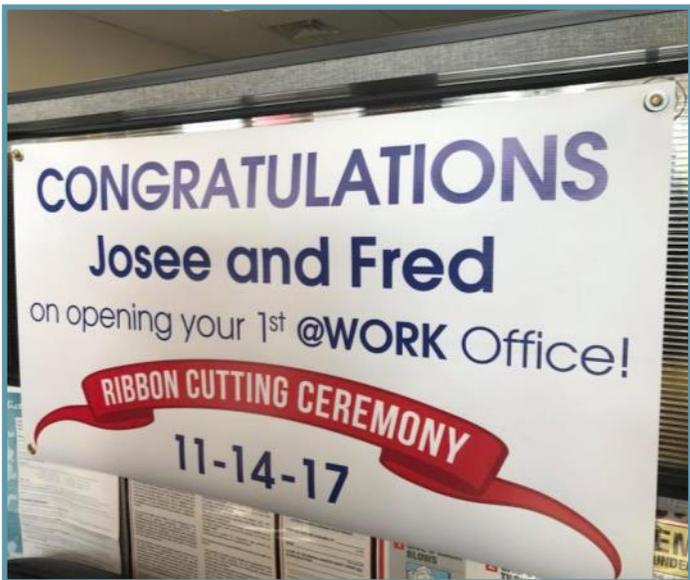
My office congratulated Y Tea Café on their grand opening in the City of Garden Grove. I had staff attend the ribbon cutting ceremony to welcome them to the Orange County business community.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## During the month of November:



On Veterans Day, I joined various community groups and attended several events to honor the sacrifices many veterans have made protecting freedom and democracy.



My office was invited to the ribbon cutting ceremony for @Work Personnel Services. I had staff congratulate them and also presented them with a certificate of recognition to mark the occasion.



My office congratulated The Art Institute of California on their ribbon cutting ceremony for Exhibit Restaurant. We wish them great success with offering unique real-world experiences and instructional content to the residents of our County.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## During the month of November:



I had the opportunity to be a guest speaker at a motivational seminar where I shared my experience of coming to America and my journey towards becoming this County's Clerk-Recorder. I also spoke about SB2 and how it will affect the taxpayers of our County.



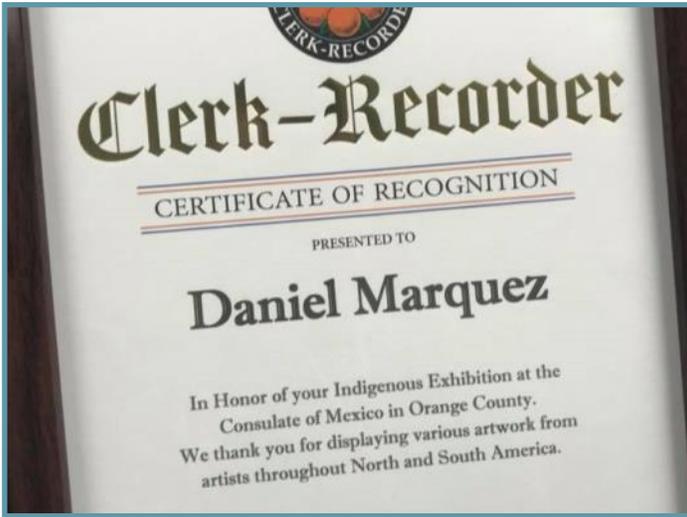
I had staff attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for SpringHill Suites by Marriot in the City of Huntington Beach to congratulate them on their new facility. We wish them great success with their new refreshed offerings to the Orange County tourist industry.



My office congratulated Jays Catering Company on reaching their 50th year anniversary in business.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## During the month of November:



My team attended the Indigenous Exhibition led by Mr. Daniel Marquez at the Mexican Consulate's Office in Santa Ana. We presented the organizers of the event with a certificate of recognition to mark the special event and also thanked Mr. Marquez for bringing the artwork of various artists from North and South America.



I attended the Asian Real Estate Association of America - Orange County Chapter's installation ceremony. I congratulated the outgoing 2017 Board and also congratulated the incoming 2018 Board. Congratulations to all!!



I had staff congratulate Cambalache Grill Argentine & Italian Cuisine in the City of Fountain Valley on their ribbon cutting ceremony. Staff presented them with a certificate of recognition to mark the event and wished them great success while serving Argentine and Italian cuisine to the resident of Orange County.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## During the month of November:



I had the pleasure of attending the grand opening of Mariscos El Capitan in the City of Santa Ana. I congratulated them on their accomplishment and presented them with a certificate of recognition to mark the event.



My office joined various community leaders and parents at this year's Văn Lang Multi-Level Scouting Unit's (LDHĐ Văn Lang) Gold Award Ceremony & Eagle Scout Rank Court-of-Honor ceremony. I had staff present certificates of recognition to members of the Eagle Scout and to Gold Award recipients to honor their service to their communities.



I had the opportunity to be a guest speaker at the Realty Investment Association of California's (RIAOC) meeting in the City of Anaheim and spoke to its members about the services my department offers at our North County Branch Office in the City of Fullerton.

# A MESSAGE FROM CLERK-RECORDER HUGH NGUYEN

Hello, my name is Hugh Nguyen. I am honored to serve as your County Clerk-Recorder. As you may know, we offer many services that benefit Orange County residents and families at all four of our convenient locations, including: issuing birth, death and marriage certificates, passport services, registering notaries public and real property recordings.

We were the first county in the nation to record 8 million real property records electronically. We have been offering special Saturday hours for the almost four years, for which we received a 2014 Merit Award from the California Association of Counties as well as a 2015 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties.

I attribute this success to my hard-working staff and volunteers. I am proud to have the best county employees and volunteers. I enjoy watching them provide great customer service. Every month I will be introducing some of these superstars here and on our Facebook page. We are all here to serve you and we are proud to serve our County.



## MEET OUR VOLUNTEER JOYCE ENDO

**How did you hear about this opportunity to volunteer?** *Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen mentioned this opportunity during one of the meetings he guest spoke at.*

**Why do you like to volunteer at our marriage services unit during our Special Saturday openings?** *It is an honor for me to serve our County in one small way. It fascinates me to meet our residents and to help them at such a happy occasion.*

**How long have you volunteered for?** *I have volunteered to perform marriage ceremonies since January 2016 for almost every special Saturday opening.*

**What have you learned from this experience?** *It is rewarding to meet a diversity of people. I am learning about different cultures and their traditions. At the conclusion of every ceremony, I enjoy the couples' joy, it is so heartwarming.*

**Anything else you would like to share with us?** *It is very uplifting and rewarding to know that I played a small part at the beginning of a couple's journey. I enjoy meeting people and also help the Clerk-Recorder staff to be able to help the public with less waiting times. I look forward to my volunteer time every month!*

# AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

**EMPLOYEE  
OF THE  
MONTH**



## **Johan DeWaal**

Each month we are recognizing 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, has their name placed on a recognition plaque, uses the special designated parking space and may dress casual during their month of recognition.

It is my pleasure to announce Johan DeWaal as the Employee of the Month for November.

Johan hit the ground running from the first day he started working at the Clerk-Recorder Department. He joined us with a great attitude and was eager to learn everything about our agency. Johan's previous experience with the County Auditor-Controller Department has made him a great asset to the Finance Unit and the department as a whole. He is more than willing to share his knowledge with anyone who is willing to learn. He has helped the Finance Unit understand a lot of the policies and procedures that we need to adhere to when it comes to dealing with the Auditor-Controller's Office.

Johan's insight and experience has made our Finance Unit stronger and better. Johan volunteers for Saturday openings and never hesitates to stay overtime as needed. He is a reliable employee who can always be counted on. More importantly, Johan is a great fit to our department and works well with everyone he has come across during the course of business. We really appreciate his positive attitude, hard work and his willingness to share his vast knowledge.

Please join me in congratulating Johan on his achievement!

# CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING . . .

In this section we will share what customers are saying about us. We strive to provide the best customer experience each and every time a customer visits our offices.

Marriages

**1. Please rate our service in the following areas.**

	Outstanding	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Promptness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Courtesy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Efficiency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**2. How would you rate our overall service?**  
(Please circle your selection)

Outstanding    Good    Average    Fair    Poor

**3. Date of your visit:** 10/31/17.

**4. Reason for your visit?**  
Marriage license & ceremony

**5. How long did you wait in line?** 2 minutes

**6. Do you have any suggestions to improve our services?**  
None whatsoever. Wendy was  
informative, courteous and professional  
So happy we decided to get  
married in the OC courthouse!

We received this comment card from a customer who visited our Marriage Services Unit at the Old County Courthouse.

We would like to thank Wendy for providing this couple with outstanding customer service and for making their visit a special and memorable one.

# NOVEMBER IN O.C. HISTORY



On November 2, 1967, the City of Yorba Linda was incorporated with a population of about 11,433.

- November 06, 1905** The Pacific Electric Railway officially opened its line from Watts to Santa Ana. The first "red Car" in Santa Ana arrived a day earlier - a parlor car called Peregrino
- November 10, 1887** The tract map of the Town of Fairview, now part of Costa Mesa, was filed with the County of Los Angeles. (Orange County didn't exist until 1889)
- November 15, 1945** The Santa Ana Army Air Base closed. This WWII-era facility provided ground training for pilots and other crew. Today, the Orange County Fairgrounds, Orange Coast College and Vanguard University occupy some of the base's old footprint.
- November 22, 1901** Ten attorneys met in the newly completed Orange County Courthouse to found the Orange County Bar Association.

*This section brought to you courtesy of the Orange County Archives, a function under the Office of Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen.  
Historical facts provided by Assistant Archivist Chris Jepsen*

**OCArchives.com**

# OUT AND ABOUT

This section will feature photos taken by department employees while they were out and about to help close our newsletter on a good visual note.



Diana, from our Data Entry Unit, shared this photo she took of an autographed shopping bag obtained during the grand opening of Cake Boss' Carlo's Bake Shop in Santa Monica.

Visit our webpage at: [OCrecorder.com](http://OCrecorder.com)

Follow us on social media

[@ocrecorder](https://www.instagram.com/ocrecorder)

For more about the Orange County Archives visit:  
[OCArchives.com](http://OCArchives.com)

