



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

WELCOME

Newsletter - February 2025

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...](#)

[February 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

Valentine's Day is always special at OC Clerk-Recorder because memories of a lifetime are made right here in our offices. My department and I were happy to help couples say "I do" on this romantic holiday with marriage licenses, civil ceremonies, and renewal of vow services.

Thank you to my incredible staff for making one of our busiest days of the year a great success. From their teamwork in decorating our offices with festive Valentine's colors and hearts, to their commitment to excellent customer service, my staff's efforts ensured every couple had a special and memorable experience today.

Congratulations to all the couples who got married today, we are proud to serve you. We warmly wish you the best in your future together, and may your love shine brightly through the years!





CLERK-RECORDER HOSTS SPECIAL PASSPORT DAY TO HELP FAMILIES PLAN FOR SUMMER TRAVELS

Orange County Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen invites families and individuals to prepare for their summer travels at the 9th Special Passport Day on Saturday, March 15, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Old Orange County Courthouse, located at 211 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701. This Special Passport Day will be a one-stop shop to get passport photos taken and apply for a new passport. Due to high demand, appointments are highly recommended. Walk-ins are accepted on a first come, first served basis. To book an appointment for Passport Day, please visit OCCLERKRECORDER.GOV.

“Since 2017, Special Passport Day has been a fantastic opportunity for busy families and individuals to apply for a new passport without missing school or work,” said Clerk-Recorder Nguyen. “Let us help you get a head start on your travel plans.”

Special Passport Day is scheduled on a weekend to accommodate those with weekday commitments at school or work. This timing is particularly beneficial for parents, as both parents are required for passport applications for children under the age of 16. For applicants aged 16 and 17, only one parent's presence is necessary.

To ensure a smooth experience, please bring the following:

- A completed and unsigned DS-11 Form
- Proof of U.S. Citizenship
- Proof of Identity
- A check or money order for the U.S. Department of State fees
- Payments for the Clerk-Recorder's processing fee of \$35 and the passport photo fee of \$7, which can be made via cash, credit/debit card, money order, or check payable to "Orange County Clerk-Recorder"

For passport renewal eligibility, please visit the U.S. Department of State website.

For more information, call (714) 834-2500 or visit OCCLERKRECORDER.GOV. Our information line is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except holidays. For media inquiries, please contact Billy Le at (714) 834-2248.

NEWS

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of our special guests who helped make Valentine's Day at OC Clerk-Recorder a day to cherish.

Thank you to the Orange County Board of Supervisors for helping us celebrate love by performing civil ceremonies. We are grateful to Chairman Doug Chaffee of the Fourth District, Supervisor Janet Nguyen of the First District, and Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento of the Second District for bringing their heartfelt touch to each ceremony.

Thank you to our special guests, Vera Jimenez, esteemed meteorologist of KTLA 5 and internationally recognized mariachi musician, composer, and educator, José Hernández, for joining us as special guest officiants for the day. Their presence brought extra warmth and joy to the couples and their guests.

Thank you to Wild Wing, of the Anaheim Ducks, for bringing great energy, joy, and laughter to couples as they said "I do." We know many couples enjoyed having Wild Wing as part of their big day!

Together, our special guests created unforgettable moments for couples at OC Clerk-Recorder. It is our department's pleasure to have them as part of one of our biggest days of the year, Valentine's Day.



NEWS



On February 25, OC Clerk-Recorder's North County Branch Office in Anaheim celebrated its 6th anniversary.

For the past 6 years, we are so proud to serve Orange County residents with services such as vital records, marriage licenses, civil ceremonies, fictitious business names, real property recordings, new passport services, and more.

Many unforgettable memories have been made in our ceremony rooms, and we are honored to share in couples' big day through marriage license and civil ceremony services.

Thank you to everyone who visited us in Anaheim. We look forward to providing you with excellent and efficient services for many years to come.



Hugh Nguyen
Orange County Clerk-Recorder

Follow Us!



@OCRecorder

PASSPORT DAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025

9AM - 3PM



Services:

- New passport books/cards
- Passport photos at \$7

Only NEW passport applications accepted

Old Orange County Courthouse
211 W Santa Ana Blvd
Santa Ana, CA 92701

APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED & WALK-INS ACCEPTED

LEARN MORE & BOOK
YOUR APPOINTMENT

[OCRecorder.com](https://www.ocrecorder.com)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the month of February:



On February 7, my team joined in the celebration at Bandoleros Café in Huntington Beach to honor two years of serving authentic and flavorful Mexican breakfast delights! From the sweet indulgence of pan dulce to the bold flavors of chilaquiles, every dish reflects a passion for rich culinary tradition and a commitment to making breakfast a memorable experience for the community.

We commend your dedication to bringing people together through great food and warm hospitality. Here's to many more years of success, delicious flavors, and cherished mornings at Bandoleros Café!



On February 9, my team had the honor of joining a beautiful mass wedding ceremony at the Anaheim Marketplace!

We were thrilled to witness so many couples say "I do" all at once and to share information about our essential services. A special highlight: my very own Community Outreach Manager, Martin Plascencia, officiated the ceremony in Spanish, making the moment even more meaningful for the newlyweds and their families.

Congratulations to all the happy couples on this unforgettable milestone! Wishing you a lifetime of love and happiness.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the month of February:



On February 27, my team and I attended the Senior Fraud Prevention event in Stanton to help empower our community, especially our seniors, with the knowledge they need to protect themselves from real estate fraud.

I had the opportunity to share our department's commitment to safeguarding property owners. Since 2007, we have implemented the Property Fraud Prevention Courtesy Notice, a free service that automatically notifies property owners whenever a document affecting their property's title is recorded - no sign-up required.

Our office works closely with the Orange County District Attorney's Office to combat real estate fraud and protect property owners from fraudulent activities. By collaborating with law enforcement agencies and local leaders, we strive to keep our community informed and safeguarded.

A huge thank you to Chairman Doug Chaffee of the OC Board of Supervisors, the City of Stanton, the OC Sheriff's Department, Council on Aging - Southern California, and the United States Postal Inspection Service for organizing this crucial event.

We are proud to be part of this initiative to protect our community. Thank you to everyone who stopped by the Clerk-Recorder table—it was a pleasure speaking with you!

OCRecorder.com

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



Orange County Clerk-Recorder *Employee of the Month*



Congratulations!

Toby

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.

It gives me great pleasure to announce Toby Tsai as Employee of the Month for February.

Toby is a valuable part of our Document Examining unit and has consistently demonstrated exceptional performance, dedication, and professionalism. One of Toby's standout qualities is her ability to take ownership of projects to deliver outstanding results. Most recently, Toby worked in a team to establish more efficient procedures in the identification of unlawfully restrictive covenants on our Digital Reel software. Her efforts helped colleagues access necessary information quicker and improved the workflow of the AB1466 project significantly. Supervisors praise Toby's proactive approach and her problem-solving skills. She navigates challenges effectively and turns them into opportunities for growth.

In addition to special projects, Toby can always be counted on to complete her daily assignments on time. She can handle multiple responsibilities with ease and maintain priorities without compromising quality of work. Toby shows great teamwork and is always willing to assist her supervisors and colleagues. Her excellent punctuality and attendance contribute to the smooth operation of our team.

Thank you to Toby for her hard work and continuous commitment to excellence. It is a pleasure to have her on our team.

Please join me in congratulating Toby on this achievement!

OCRecorder.com

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

We received the following review for staff at our North County branch office in Anaheim. Thank you Sonia and Esmeralda for your exemplary service. Keep up the amazing work.

North County

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

Excellent

3. Date of your visit: 2/4/2025

4. Reason for your visit?
FBN

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

6. Do you have any suggestions to improve our services?
Sonia + Esmeralda were very helpful and kind reminds me of old school service. They are a light in this dark world.

North County

SONIA

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

Outstanding Beyond Expectations

3. Date of your visit: 2/25/25

4. Reason for your visit?
BIRTH CERTIFICATE

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

6. Do you have any suggestions to improve our services?
SONIA WAS AWESOME 100% PROFESSIONAL

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

We received the following review for our document examining staff at our North County branch office. Thank you Faith for providing quick and outstanding service to our customers.

Faith North County

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: 2/21/24

4. Reason for your visit?
Recording of real property doc.

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

6. Do you have any suggestions to improve our services?
There was an issue but
it got resolved quickly.
thank you Faith for all
your help.

CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING...

The following comment was provided by a customer through our Access OC submissions. Thank you to my amazing staff for going above and beyond to inform the public about our fraud prevention program to keep our community informed and safeguarded.

Last month, I submitted a question regarding whether the county has a program to notify property owners in the event of a change of owner or other information. Within just a few days, I received a very detailed explanation, informing me that there is such a program, but there is no need to apply for it. The county automatically will notify the property owner. I was very impressed with the speed and detail with which my question was answered.

I shared your answer on the Yorba Linda Buss and Placentia Buzz Community pages. I got several hundred likes and many thanked me for sharing this information. Everyone and I were very pleasantly surprised that the county has this proactive program.

So thank-you so much for your very rapid, thorough reply and for protecting property owners.

Our main office in Santa Ana received the following review. I would like to thank my staff for providing efficient customer service.

 2/14/25 ...

Very easy to find and the process was easy to obtain what I need . Wait time maybe 20 mins in and out.

Thank

Comment

Direct message

FEBRUARY IN O.C. HISTORY



El Heraldo de San Clemente
THE SAN CLEMENTE HERALD

VOL. II—NO. 13 SAN CLEMENTE, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1928 \$2 Per Year; \$1 for 6 Months

CITY OFFICERS OF SAN CLEMENTE



New trustees of the City of San Clemente. Left to right: Thomas Murphins, Oscar F. Easley, LeRoy Strang, Earl Von Bonhorst, Ole Hanson Jr.

SOUNDINGS FOR NEW PIER BEING MADE BY U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY; WILL START ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION WORK VERY SOON

Construction Work to Start When Preliminary Survey Is Completed. 1200 Foot Pier Will Be Welcomed.
By Fishermen and Yachtsmen.

With the arrival of a United States Coast and Geodetic Survey vessel off San Clemente on Wednesday, preliminary work has been started on the fishing pier which will be a gift to the city from its founder, Mr. Ole Hanson. The crew of this vessel are engaged in making soundings, to determine the most suitable and practical place to construct the pier. The preliminary survey indicates that the logical place for the pier will be at the foot of Avenida Del Mar, near the underbank crossing to the beach, but this location has not been definitely determined by the survey officials.

Actual construction work cannot be started until the federal government has given its permission and determined the exact location of the pier, as no pier can be built anywhere in the United States without the supervision and authority of the government.

1200 Foot Pier

Present plans contemplate the construction of a pier approximately 1200 feet in length, which will end in the neighborhood of Avenida Del Mar. The pier will be constructed in such a manner that if practicable in the years to come, a breakwater can be constructed from the end of the pier over to the Seal Rocks, making a shelter and anchorage for small boats.

Annet to city

This fishing pier will be one of the greatest assets to the city and will doubtless attract many visitors. A pier of this nature will not only provide a harbor for the Spanish Village fishing fleet, but it will also afford much pleasure to fishermen and yachtsmen. The city of Oceania has recently completed its municipal pier, and it is proving one of the greatest attractions of the city. It is expected that the Coast and Geodetic Survey will finish the part of the work within a few days, and as soon as this work is completed and reports submitted, actual construction work will start on San Clemente's new pier.

CHairs FOR AUDITORIUM

The new theater chairs which have been purchased for the auditorium of the school house will be shipped to San Clemente sometime next week, according to J. H. Cuskey, president of the chamber of commerce, who will be installed as soon as they are received. There are 260 chairs in the lot, of which 100 are new upholstered folding theater chairs, and the remainder are wood veneer. The chairs will be mounted on stringers, in tiers of six each, and by using this method, they may be moved as often as desired, and the floor of the auditorium cleared for dancing. The procurement of these chairs was made possible through the generous Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Ole Hanson, as well as the helpful performance which was given recently to raise the money for the purchase of suitable chairs for the auditorium.

Hanson Says G. Washington Was Real Estate Man

Tells Santa Ana Klwanis Club of Early Land Deals

In a Washington's birthday address before the Klwanis Club of Santa Ana, Ole Hanson, founder of the city, told the audience that George Washington was the first real estate man in the United States. His address was interesting and revealed many activities of the Father of his country which are not generally known.

At the age of sixteen, Washington was persuaded by his mother to give up a life at sea, and he devoted his time for the following two years to study. When still in his teens, he went from his home to Vernon, to spend the winter with his half brother Lawrence, who was also his guardian, and it was here that he made the acquaintance of Lord Thomas Fairfax, who lived on a neighboring plantation. Lord Fairfax was immediately impressed with the young Washington, and their friendship ripened. In the spring, Washington was sent by Lord Fairfax to survey his great land holdings beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains and this was the beginning of his activity in land dealings.

Mr. Hanson has made an exhaustive study of the life of Washington, as well as other American pioneers, and his speech was replete with interesting details of the life of the first president.

New Home Bought by Murphins, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Murphins, Jr. have purchased this improved property on Avenida Cabrillo near the club house, formerly owned by Mrs. Ole Hanson and moved into their new home Wednesday. The property has a frontage of sixty feet on Avenida Cabrillo, and is improved with a five room Spanish bungalow, lawn, trees and shrubbery.

As Mr. Hanson's new home on the corner front Avenida Cabrillo and E. Street was sold, Mr. Murphins was able to acquire this property, which has served the Hansons for about a year.

Mr. Murphins is connected with the firm of Hutson and Murphins and was one of the first residents of the Spanish Village.

Big Attendance at Men's Club

A large crowd attended the regular meeting of the San Clemente Men's Club at the clubhouse on Tuesday night. An entertainment program was presented by Bob Gies and Chas. C. Oster, Gies, who is always a favorite, sang several new songs and made his present appearance before the club. The secretary reported that the hotel had had been ordered and would doubtless arrive before the meeting. Mr. Southwell is a well known contractor of the northern city and will engage in the general contracting business in San Clemente. He has two sons living in Tacoma and was in New York one of whom is

ANOTHER APPEAL FOR INCORPORATION

Last Tuesday an election was held in San Clemente for the purpose of incorporation and election of city officers. Many of the residents of the Village were dissatisfied from voting because they had not registered, although every effort had been made to have them do so.

There will be another election held on the 10th of April—a general election—and every resident of the town who has not done so should see to it that his or her name appears in the Great Register. Don't wait for some one to come around and beg you to do your American duty, but go to the office of Hal Warner and do it without solicitation. The Village will need your voting support from now on, so register and be ready to give it when needed.

Tacoma Man Is Erecting Home

A. N. Southwell, formerly of Tacoma, Washington, has come to San Clemente to make his home and is erecting a home on Avenida Granada, which he expects to occupy shortly. Mr. Southwell is a well known contractor of the northern city and will engage in the general contracting business in San Clemente. He has two sons living in Tacoma and was in New York one of whom is

VOTERS GIVE INCORPORATION MEASURE SWEEPING VICTORY; CITY OFFICIALS ARE ELECTED

At the first election held in the city of San Clemente on February 21, the citizens of the community expressed themselves almost unanimously as being in favor of incorporation, the measure carrying with hardly a dissenting vote, and in addition five trustees, a city treasurer and city clerk were elected. Trustees elected were Ole Hanson, Jr., Oscar F. Easley, Thomas Murphins, Earl Von Bonhorst and Roy Strang. Harry H. Cavin was elected city treasurer and William J. Barry city clerk. None of the candidates was opposed for election and there were no measures on the ballot except that for incorp-

Vic Consul for Sweden a Visitor

Mr. Eric Brattstrom, vice consul for Sweden living at Seattle, accompanied by his wife, were being shown around the Spanish Village on Tuesday by their very close friend F. H. Hallberg.

Mr. and Mrs. Brattstrom paid their first visit to San Clemente about a year and a half ago when there was nothing here but scenery and atmosphere, and their present visit is an open-house to them both.

These good people have lived in Seattle for twenty years, and while they are in love with the country up there they say they are glad to get down to California every so often and dry out after the winter rains. Mr. Brattstrom says that he can

San Clemente's town newspaper announces the results of the Feb. 21, 1928 election in which most residents voted to become a city. (Photo courtesy Orange County Achieves)

- Feb. 8, 1956** The County and State signed an agreement to begin construction of the Garden Grove (22) Freeway.
- Feb. 11, 1936** Famed aviator Amelia Earhart spoke before a large audience at the Santa Ana Ebell clubhouse.
- Feb. 11, 1943** Representatives from Orange County packing houses met to discuss importing seasonal laborers from Mexico to alleviate the wartime labor shortage.
- Feb. 24, 1857** A group of German immigrants met in San Francisco to form the Los Angeles Vineyard Society, which would later found the community of Anaheim.
- Feb. 27, 1928** San Clemente incorporated as a city with a population of about 650.

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 took this photo of the Seven Magic Mountains while visiting Las Vegas, Nevada.

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)

