

## Alameda County, California to Cut 29 Attorneys



Alameda County, California's new budget calls for layoffs and program cuts to close a \$178 million funding deficit, including cutting 14 attorney positions in the District Attorney's Office and 15 in the Public Defender's Office.

The cuts will likely force prosecutors to limit prosecutions.

The County will eliminate 285 full-time equivalent positions. It currently has 9,300 such jobs.

The Sheriff's Office will lose 100 positions, disband its Marine Patrol Unit and close its Fairmont Animal Shelter. Public Protection will lose 180, the DA and PD positions. Probation will cut 49.

Less than half of the reductions will be layoffs of current personnel. Empty positions will be left vacant.

California's Alameda County occupies most of the East Bay region of the San Francisco Bay Area. As of the 2000 census it had a population of 1.4 million, making it the seventh largest county in the state. The county seat is Oakland.