

# Superior Court of California

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ  
Justice With Dignity and Respect



701 Ocean Street, Room 110  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Phone: (831) 420-2200  
Fax: (831) 420-2260

## Lactation Policy for Court Users

### Purpose

The purpose of this Lactation Policy is to ensure that all individuals who need to breastfeed or express breast milk while attending court proceedings are provided with reasonable accommodations in accordance with California law.

### Overview

In compliance with California Senate Bill 949, any person who requires a lactation break while in a courthouse—including members of the public, jurors, attorneys, witnesses, and other non-employees—will be provided access to designated lactation rooms and accommodations, supporting the health and well-being of both lactating individuals and their infants.

### Notification and Request Process

- **To request Lactation Space:**
  - In the Santa Cruz Courthouse, located at 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, please visit the Judges' Chambers Reception Area. The clerk will provide you access to the public lactation space. Judges' Chambers Reception is closed from 12 PM-1 PM; if a lactation space is needed during this time, please make a request to the Sheriffs stationed at Security Screening.
  - In the Watsonville Courthouse, located at 1 Second Street, Watsonville, please visit the clerk's window. The clerk will provide you with an instructional card with an access code for the lactation space. The clerk's window closes at 3 PM; if a lactation space is needed after this time, please knock on the Self Help Center's door.
- Lactation rooms will be private, safe, clean, and equipped to meet the needs of breastfeeding individuals.
- For safety and security purposes, lactation spaces will be checked out for a total of 45 minutes. After 45 minutes, court personnel will discreetly knock on the lactation space to ensure that it is still being occupied.

- All lactation requests and accommodations will be handled with the utmost confidentiality, dignity, and respect.
- Individuals requesting room access will not be asked to disclose medical details or the nature of their needs beyond the need for a lactation space.

### **Guidelines for Use of Lactation Space**

- Individuals who access the court's lactation space must comply with the following guidelines:
  - **Cleanliness:** Users are expected to keep the space clean by disposing of any waste and wiping down surfaces after use.
  - **Time Limits:** A total of 45 minutes per session will be permitted to ensure equitable access for all who need the room.
  - **Personal Items:** Users should take their personal items with them after use to keep the space tidy for the next person.
  - **No Food or Drink:** Food and drink other than baby food or water for the lactating individual should not be consumed in the room to maintain hygiene.
  - **Respect:** Users should respect the needs of others by vacating the room promptly at the end of their allotted time.
  - **No Unnecessary Access:** Access is generally limited to those who need to use the space for lactation purposes.

These rules help maintain a safe, respectful environment for everyone needing to use the lactation space.

### **Conclusion**

This policy aims to support breastfeeding individuals while ensuring fair access to the court system. All persons attending court are entitled to accommodations in accordance with the law, and the court is committed to providing an inclusive, respectful environment for all.

For more information on lactation accommodations or to make a request, please contact [hrinfo@santacruzcourt.org](mailto:hrinfo@santacruzcourt.org).