



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

Office of the Circuit Executive · 95 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 · (415) 355-8800 · mediarelease@ce9.uscourts.gov

NEWS RELEASE

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Neoclassical Browning Courthouse to Resume Docent-Led Tours



SAN FRANCISCO – The art and architecture of the most beautiful and historic building in San Francisco, the James R. Browning United States Courthouse, is, once again, ready for visitors following suspension of tours during the pandemic.

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The Browning Courthouse, a National Historic Landmark, is at the corner of 7th and Mission Streets in San Francisco. Opened in 1905 as the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, it is considered one of America's most beautiful public buildings. Following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, which damaged the building, it was carefully restored and seismically upgraded for safety. The building is filled with fine marbles from around the world, with world class stone and wood carvings, and sculptures. The original courtrooms are especially palatial, including one that is considered the most detailed and elegant in America. Please see this [video](#) for a view of the courthouse.

The courthouse reopened to the general public in September 2022 and is now offering free docent-led public tours on specified Tuesdays (see below). The tours begin at 1 p.m. and last approximately 60 minutes. The tours include visiting the old post office lobby, on the first floor, and available courtrooms.

No reservations are required for individuals to join the public tour. Enter the building and meet the tour guide in the lobby. Each adult entering the building needs to pass through security screening and bring a valid government issued photo ID and must comply with the court's current [health and safety protocols](#) concerning COVID.

The Browning Courthouse is headquarters for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which hears appeals decided by certain executive branch agencies and federal trial courts in nine Western states and two Pacific island jurisdictions. Oral arguments are held for one week of each month and are available for public attendance now that the courthouse has reopened. A list of oral argument dates and locations is available at <https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/calendar/>. Hearings are also [livestreamed](#) on the court's website and are [archived](#) for later viewing.

Tours are planned for the following dates: March 14, April 4 and 25, May 16 and 30, June 13 and 27, July 25, August 8 and 29, September 19, October 10 and 24, November 7 and December 19.

The court also welcomes group tours requiring advance arrangements. For more information about future tours, or to schedule a hosted group tour, please submit an application at least 21 days in advance at <https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/information/group-visit-request/>. In addition, virtual group experiences are available upon request. If you have additional questions, call (415) 355-8090.

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The U.S. Courts for the Ninth Circuit consists of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the federal trial and bankruptcy courts and related court units in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington state, the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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