



TOM DALY
CLERK-RECORDER

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

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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CLERK-RECORDER BUSINESS INNOVATION RECOGNIZED

Orange County officials have nominated a groundbreaking electronic system developed by the Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department for a statewide technology award.

The innovation has a clunky name – Electronic Fictitious Business Name Statement System — but is elegant in its simplicity.

Business owners must file a Fictitious Business Name (FBN) statement when the name for their business doesn't include the owner's surname or suggests multiple owners. Orange County business owners now can instantly search whether another business shares their name and submit FBN statement applications securely over the Internet. The Clerk-Recorder Department also sends courtesy notices to business owners before their statements are due for renewal.

"This new system significantly reduces the time it takes for customers to file their statements and they appreciate it," Clerk-Recorder Tom Daly said. "We're always looking for ways to make our operation more efficient and user friendly."

The electronic process is an improvement over past practice. Historically, customers submitted FBN statements by mail or in person, with most of the applications hand-written. The applications were scanned and the information re-typed by Clerk-Recorder staff into a separate database.

The new system was nominated last month by the Orange County Executive Office for an award by the California County Information Services Directors Association.

Business owners have the option of mailing in their paperwork or visiting one of the Clerk-Recorder Department offices. State law requires an original signature on the FBN form. Appointments for office visits can easily be made online at www.ocrecorder.com.

Innovation in filing business statements is just one way the Clerk-Recorder Department is helping make services more accessible. The department has locations in downtown Santa Ana plus two branch offices in historic downtown Fullerton and the Laguna Hills Civic Center. Parking is free at the branch offices. The department also oversees the Orange County Archives, a center for preserving the county's history.

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