



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

GRAND OPENING OF CAMP SWEENEY LIBRARY

Tuesday, October 2, 2012, at 2:00 p.m.

2600 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro, CA

The Alameda County Library, in partnership with the Alameda County Probation Department and the Alameda County Office of Education, is proud to announce the opening of the Camp Sweeney Library on Tuesday, October 2, 2012. The library will play an important role in helping Camp Sweeney youth to meet their educational and personal goals. The library will offer books in many different areas including popular fiction, biographies, self-improvement, inspirational, job and computer skills. The library will feature access to the Alameda County Library's extensive free online resources such as eBooks, homework help, job search tools, language learning, genealogy and online classes for learning computer skills, job skills, resume writing and practice SAT, ACT and other academic tests.

Camp Wilmont Sweeney is an unlocked, 24-hour residential program currently staffed for 80 minors ranging in age from 15 through 18 years of age who are ordered by the Juvenile Court to be committed to the Camp. The overall goal is to return each minor to his community as a positive and productive citizen. The Camp Sweeney Library will play an integral role in reaching that goal for each young man.

Camp Wilmont Sweeney is Alameda County's minimum-security residential facility for juveniles convicted of misdemeanors or nonviolent felonies. It is administered by the Alameda County Probation Department in partnership with Alameda County Office of Education, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency and community volunteers. It is known as "Camp Sweeney," in honor of Judge Sweeney. Judge Sweeney, a resident of Berkeley, became that city's first African American to be elected to the City Council. In 1979, then Governor Jerry Brown appointed Judge Sweeney to the Superior Court. Judge Sweeney was a longtime advocate of finding alternatives to detention centers for juveniles, such as rehabilitation and counseling.

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