SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONO

RULES OF COURT

TABLE OF

CONTENTS

Rule-C	hapter 1: Introductory
1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6	Adoption of Rules (7/1/01) 7/01/17) 17 Repeal of Prior Rules (7/1/01) 17 Citation (7/1/01) 17 Construction and Application (7/1/01) 17 Definition of Terms (7/1/04) 17 Amendment and Repeal (7/1/01) 28
ADMI	NISTRATION
Rule-C	Chapter 2: Administration of the Courts; Fairness; Courtroom Decorum
	27
2.1	Location (7/1/01)
2.2	Holidays (7/1/01)27
2.3	Presiding Judge (7/1/01) 39
2.4	Duty to Prevent Gender or Other Bias Bias Informal Complaint Policy (7/1/01)
	(7/1/22)39
2.5	Gender Neutral Language (7/1/01)
2.6	Complaints Re: Bias or Sexual Harassment (7/1/01)311
2.7	General Policy Courtroom Decorum (7/1/01)
2.8	Attire (7/1/01)
2.9	General Courtroom Behavior (7/1/01) 4 <u>12</u>
2.10	Communications to Court or Jury $\frac{(7/1/01)}{1}$
2.11	Telephones, Cellular Phones, and Beepers Personal Digital Devices (7/1/01)
	(7/01/17)
2.12	Traversing the Well $\frac{(7/1/01)}{1}$ $\frac{313}{1}$
2.13	Examination from Counsel Table (7/1/01)
2.14	Approaching a Witness (7/1/01)
2.15	Smoking $(7/1/01)$ 615
2.16	Forms of Paper Presented for Filing (1/1103)
2.17	Bridgeport-Courthouse Proceedings May Be Held By Phone Conferenc/Video
	Conference In The Event Of Hazardous Weather, Natural Disaster, Or Emergency
	Situations (7/01/17)

CIVIL RULES

Rule-Chapter 3 General Pretrial Rules

3.1	Application of General Court Rules (7/1/01)	716
3.2	Relief from Local Rules (7/1/01)	716
3.3	Sanctions (7/1/01) (7/01/17)	717
3.4	Regular Law and Motion (7/1/01) (Rev. 7/1/06) (7/01/17)	
3.5	Short Causes (7/1/01)	717
3.6	Authority of Clerk's Office Regarding Settings(7/1/01)	

3.7 3.8 3.9 3.10 3.11 3.12	No At Issue Memorandum-Civil Cases(7/1/01)
3.13	Pretrial Conference(7/1/01)
Ruie-C	Hapter 4 Civil Case Management
4.1	Scope of Chapter(7/1/01)
4.2	Definitions. (7/1/01) 919
4.3	Transferred Cases(7/1/01)
4.4	PolicyCivil Litigation Delay Reduction(7/1/0l)
4.5	Responsive Pleadings(7/1/01) 1021
4.6 4.7	Case Management Conference(1/1/03) (Rev. 711/06) (7/01/17)
4.7	Pretrial Conferences (7/1/01)
4.9	Sanctions (7/1/01)
4.10	Settlement Conferences (7/1/01) 4223
4.10.1	Presence of Accessibility of Attorneys, Parties and Others (711/01). 1223
4.10.2	Duties of Counsel Prior to Conference (7/1/01) (7/01/17) 1223
4.10.3	Duties of Counsel at Conferences (7/1/0J)
4.10.4	Vacating Conference(7/1/01)
4.10.5	Sanctions(7/1/01)
4.11	Presentation, Filing and Service of Court Papers(7/1/01)
4.11.1	Proposed Judgments, Decrees and Orders in Uncontested Matters (7/1/01)1325
4.11.2	Filing and Service of Orders (7/1/01)
4.11.3	Ex Parte Applications (1/1/03) 13 25
4.11.4	Headings on Pleadings Identifying Parties (7/1/01) (7/01/17)1427
Rule C	Chapter 5 Telephonic Appearance and Facsimile FilingRemote Appearances and
Electro	onic Filing
2.3	G Manager Conference and Status Conferences Pemote Appearances (711/08)
5.1	Case Management Conference and Status Conferences Remote Appearances (711/08)
9	1427
5.2	Facsimile Filing Pursuant to Rule 2006 Electronic Filing(7/1/01) (7/1/17) (7/1/22)
	1428 11 With Perla 201 (7/1/01) (7/01/17) 1429
5.3	Compliance With Rule 201 (7/1/01) (7/01/17)
5.4	Facsimile Filing Requirements(7/1/01)1430
D 1 (North and C. Count Proportions
Kule-C	Chapter 6 Court Reporters
6.1	When provided by the Court Provided Court Reporters(7/1/01) (7/01/17) 1430
6.2	Gov. Code§ 68086 and Rule 891 CRCRequesting a Court Reporter for Non-Mandated
Case 7	<u>Types</u> (711/01) (7/01/17)
6.3	Time Allotted Without Cost to Party (7/1/01)
6.4	Transcript Requests (7/1/01)

Rule Chapter 7 Miscellaneous Rules

7.1	Attorney Fees in Civil Actions or Proceedings (7/1/05)	31
7.2	Attorney Fees in Residential Unlawful Detainer Actions (7/1/05) 16	

FAMILY LAW RULES

Rule Chapter 8: Family

8.1 8.2 8.3	Child Custody and/or Visitation (1/103) (Rev. 7/1/05) (7/01/17)	
PROE	BATE RULES	
Rule (Rule-Chapter 9: Probate Rules	
9.1	Tax Certificates (7/1/01) (Rev. 7/1/05)	
CRIM	IINAL RULES	
Rule (Chapter 10: Criminal Rules	
10.1 10.2 10.3 10.4 10.5 10.6 10.7 10.8	Filing of Misdemeanors(7/1/01) (Rev. 7/1105)	
	ENILE COURT RULES	
Kule-0	Chapter 11: Juvenile Court Rules	
11.1 11.2 11.3	Timelines (7/1/01)	

FAMILY LAW FACILITATOR RULES

Rule-Chapter 12: Family Law Facilitator
12.1 Additional Facilitator Duties (7/1/01) (Rev. 7/1/05)
JURY RULES
Rule-Chapter 13: Jury Rules
13.1 Request for Jury Trial in Equity Cases, etc(7/1/01) - (Rev. 7/1/05) 2239 13.2 Verdict Forms and Interrogatories(7/1101) (Rev. 7/1/05) 2239 13.3 Request for Jury Instructions(7/1101) (Rev. 7/1/05) (Rev. 7/1106). 2340 13.4 Attorney Testifying May Not Argue the Case(7/1101) 2340 13.5 Deposit and Refund of Jury Fees(7/1/01) (Rev. 7/1105)(7/01/17) 2340 13.6 Jury Panels(7/1/01) (Rev. 7/1/05) 2340
JURY COMMISSIONER
Rule-Chapter 14: Jury Commissioner
14.1 Standing Order for Drawing of Jury (7/1101) (Rev. 7/1105)
APPENDIX A – Alphabetical Index of Local Rules57
APPENDIX B – List of Rules with Date of Adoption or Latest Revision61
APPENDIX C – List of Local Forms

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONO LOCAL RULES OF COURT

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTORY

RULE 1.1 ADOPTION OF RULES

These rules are adopted by the Superior Court of the County of Mono pursuant to Government Code §§68070 and 68071, and California Rules of Court, Rule 10.613, and are effective July 1, 2001.

(Effective July I, 2001; amended effective July 1, 2017).

RULE 1.2 REPEAL OF PRIOR RULES

Upon the effective date of these rules, all other rules heretofore adopted by this court shall be repealed, provided that no action theretofore taken in compliance with such rules shall be made or deemed invalid or ineffective by such repeal.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 1.3 CITATION

These rules shall be known and cited as the Superior Court Rules and at all times be supplementary and subject to any and all rules heretofore and hereafter adopted for the courts by the Judicial Council of California.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 1.4 CONSTRUCTION AND APPLICATION

These rules shall be liberally construed to serve the proper and efficient administration of the business and affairs of this court and to promote and facilitate the administration of justice by the courts.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 1.5 DEFINITION OF TERMS

The definitions set forth in the California Rules of Court apply with equal force and for all purposes to the local rules unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires. Set forth below are definitions of selected terms used in these rules:

Court: The word court shall mean the particular court in which a matter is pending, unless

- -- Any judge who is appointed or elected a member of this court;
- --Any judge, including a retired judge, who is assigned by the Chairperson of the Judicial Council to serve this court;
 - -- Any commissioner or referee who is appointed by the judges of this court;
- --Any retired commissioner who is assigned by the Presiding Judge pursuant to Government Code §72190 to serve the court; and,--Any member of the State Bar of California ordered to act as a temporary judge to serve this court pursuant to Article VI, Section 21 of the California Constitution and Rule 2.830 to 2.834 of the California Rules of Court.

California Rules of Court: California Rules of Court mean the rules of court administration, practice and procedure adopted by the Judicial Council of California.

Judicial Officer: The term judicial officer includes any judge who is appointed or elected a member of this court and any commissioner or referee who is appointed by the judges of this court.

Presiding Judge: The word, Presiding Judge, shall mean the Presiding Judge of the Superior court of Mono County. The presiding judge shall be selected in accordance with Government Code \$69508.5 and Rule 10.602 of the California Rules of Court.

Clerk: The word Clerk includes the Court Executive Officer and any duly appointed and sworn deputy clerks of the courts.

Person: The word person includes corporations, associations, public entities and all other entities as well as natural persons.

Paper: The word paper includes all documents except as otherwise provided in the California Rules of Court.

Judgment: The word judgment includes and applies to any judgment and to any order or decree from which an appeal lies.

(Effective July 1, 2004; amended; July 1, 2017)

RULE 1.6 AMENDMENT AND REPEAL

These rules may be amended by the Presiding Judge after consultation with the judges of the court in which these rules shall apply.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

CHAPTER 2. ADMINISTRATION OF THE COURTS; FAIRNESS; COURTROOM DECORUM

ADMINISTRATION

RULE 2.1 LOCATION

Sessions of the court shall be held in Bridgeport and Mammoth Lakes, CA.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 2.2 HOLIDAYS

If any day on which an act is required by these rules to be done falls on a holiday as defined in Code of Civil Procedure §1354 and Government Code §6700, the act may be performed with the same effect as if it had been

performed on the required day on the next succeeding court day after the holiday.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 2.3 PRESIDING JUDGE

The superior court shall have a presiding judge, to be selected as set forth in Rule 1.5. (Effective July 1, 2001)

RULE 2.35 JUDICIAL OFFICER VACATION DAYS

A day of vacation for a judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Mono, is an approved absence from the Court for one full business day. Other absences from the Court listed in Rule 10.603, California Rules of Court, section (C) (2) (H) are excluded from this definition.

(Effective July 1, 2024)

FAIRNESS

—RULE 2.4 DUTY TO PREVENT GENDER OR OTHER BIAS TO PREVENT GENDER OR OTHER BIAS

To preserve the integrity and impartiality of the judicial system, each judge shall:

Insure that courtroom proceedings are conducted in the manner that is fair and impartial to all the participants.

In all judicial proceedings refrain from engaging in conduct and prohibit others from engaging in conduct that exhibits gender or other bias whether that bias is directed toward counsel, court personnel, witnesses, parties, jurors or any other person.

Insure that all orders, rulings and decisions are based on the sound exercise of judicial discretion and the balancing of competing rights and interests and are not influenced by sex based or other stereotypes or biases.

(Effective July 1, 2001<u>; amended July 1, 2024</u>).

RULE 2.5 GENDER NEUTRAL LANGUAGE

The court shall use gender neutral language in all local rules, forms and court documents and shall provide for periodic review to insure the continued use of gender-neutral language. These changes will be made as local rules, forms and documents are modified for other reasons.

(Effective. July 1, 2001).

RULE 2.6 COMPLAINTS RE: BIAS OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Court employees, attendants and officers of the court will not engage in any conduct or activity that produces or_contributes to bias or sexual harassment in the court system.

Any person who observes or believes they have been subjected to bias or sexual harassment shall immediately report the incident to the court's Executive Officer. The Executive officer shall have the following duties and powers:

- a. Investigate any complaints promptly and thoroughly.
- b. Ensure that the complainant's rights are protected.
- c. When appropriate, consult with attorneys and/or members of the public.
- d. Maintain confidentiality.
- e. Maintain quarterly report on complaints received, if any.
- f. Make recommendations for policy or procedure changes, training, and any other means that will prevent and eliminate bias and /or sexual harassment in the court system.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

COURTROOM DECORUM

RULE 2.7 GENERAL POLICY

- a. These rules have been adopted to foster orderly proceedings and respect for the Constitution of the United States, the constitution of the State of California, the laws of this state, and the Superior Court.
- b. The rules set forth herein shall apply in all superior court proceedings unless a judicial officer orders otherwise in a particular circumstance. A judicial officer, upon appropriate application in a particular case, may waive the application of any particular rule or may impose additional rules applicable to such case.
- c. Each attorney who appears in court should:
- 1. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code §6068(be) "maintain the respect due to the courts of justice and judicial officers."
- 2. Be polite and considerate toward opposing counsel, opposing parties, witnesses, and members of the court's staff.
- 3. Be familiar with the rules and guidelines set forth in this chapter as well as other applicable statues and rules of conduct, ethics, and professionalism.
- 4. Make reasonable efforts to advise clients, witnesses, and others accompanying them of these rules, and make a reasonable attempt to see that such persons abide by these rules.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 2.8 ATTIRE

All attorneys, litigants, witnesses and spectators shall be required to dress and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the traditional dignity of the superior court.

a. **Litigants and Attendees.** All persons in the courtroom should dress in a manner that is not offensive or distracting to others of usual sensibilities. Counsel shall so instruct parties they represent, witnesses they call, and persons accompanying them. No person shall appear in court without a shirt, barefoot or with a bare midriff. The following shall not be worn in court: sunglasses, hats, or any clothing that displays inappropriate words or pictures.

Bailiffs will remove any person from court who violates this rule. This rule does not limit the power of any judicial officer to further prescribe appropriate attire in the courtroom.

County of Mono

b. Attorneys. Attorneys should be neatly and appropriately dressed in business attire for all court appearances.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 2.9 GENERAL COURTROOM BEHAVIOR

Persons in the courtroom shall not:

a. Talk to clerks when the court is in session, except conversation that may be necessary in relation to the matter at that moment before the court.

- b. Converse with anyone in a manner that is distracting to the proceedings then before the court.
- c. Eat, drink, chew gum, or read newspapers.
- d. Visibly or audibly display approval or disapproval, agreement or disagreement with any testimony, ruling, or statement of the court, counsel, or a witness.
- e. Communicate in any way with a prisoner.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 2.10 COMMUNICATIONS TO COURT OR JURY

- a. Counsel shall instruct their staff, the parties they represent, any associates of such parties who may attend court, and the witnesses they call that they shall have no communication with the court touching upon any subject of the pending litigation except on the record with all counsel or parties appearing in propria persona present.
- b. Counsel shall instruct the parties that they represent, any associates of such parties who may attend court, and the witnesses they call that they shall have no communication with any juror or alternate juror.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 2.11 TELEPHONES, CELLULAR PHONES, AND PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES AND BEEPERS

- a. No one other than a judicial officer or a member of the court's staff shall use a courtroom telephone without the specific permission of the court.
- b. Cellular phones and or personal digital devices shall not be used within the courtroom at any time, except for court related purpose by judicial officers, court staff, attorneys and self-represented litigants.
- c. All noise audible alerts devices related to such cellular phones and or and personal digital devices shall be turned off to silent mode when in the courtroom.
- d. All beepers and other noise alert devices shall be turned off in the courtroom.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 2.12 TRAVERSING THE WELL

Persons in the courtroom should not traverse the area between the bench and counsel table,

Superior Court of California County of Mono except with the express approval of the court. Counsel shall so instruct their clients, witnesses they call, and persons accompanying them.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

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RULE 2.13 EXAMINATION FROM COUNSEL TABLE

Counsel, and parties appearing in propria persona, shall remain at a lectern or behind the counsel table when examining a witness. During trial, counsel shall not exhibit familiarity with witnesses, parties or other counsel, nor address them by use of first names (except children).

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 2.14 APPROACHING A WITNESS

Unless directed otherwise by the court, counsel need not request the permission of the court to approach a witness for the purpose of showing the witness a document or object. Before approaching a witness for any other purpose, a party shall request permission from the court.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 2.15 SMOKING

Smoking and tobacco use including vaping is prohibited throughout the courthouse. Persons desiring to smoke or use tobacco including vaping shall do so outside of the courthouse abiding to local and state ordinances with regard to distance from public entrances. Recesses during jury deliberation will be permitted at reasonable intervals to permit smoking outside the courthouse.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 2.16 FORM OF PAPERS PRESENTED FOR FILING

All papers presented for filing shall comply with California Rules of Court, Rules 2.100 to 2.119. The use of white-out to delete or amend any of the contents of such papers is not permitted.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended January 1, 2003; amended July 1, 2017)

RULE 2.17 BRIDGEPORT COURTHOUSE COURT PROCEEDINGS
MAYBE—HELD BY PHONE
CONFERENCE/VIDEO CONFERENCE IN THE EVENT OF HAZARDOUS WEATHER.
NATURAL DISASTERS, OR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

If at 2:00 PM the day before Bridgeport Courthouse proceedings, the National Weather-Service for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecasts for the next day hazardous weather conditions for Northern Mono County and or Bridgeport area, Bridgeport proceedings may be held with the bench officer and court staff in the Mammoth Lakes-Courthouse participating by phone conference and/or video conference. The bench officer-hearing the Bridgeport proceedings possibly affected by hazardous weather will make the decision whether Bridgeport proceedings will be held by phone conference and or video-conference. It is the responsibility of the Court Executive Officer, or Court Operations Manager, if the CEO is not at work, to monitor the NOAA National Weather Service weather forecasts to provide forecasts to the bench officer hearing the Bridgeport proceedings. On or before 3:00-PM, the day before Bridgeport proceedings, the bench officer shall decide if Bridgeport calendar

Superior Court of California

County of Mono

for the next day will be held by phone conference and/or video conference. If the bench officer decides next day's Bridgeport proceedings will be held by phone conference and or video conference, the bench officer will issue an order invoking this rule.

Court-staff will immediately advise justice partners of the order invoking this rule and provide a copy of the order by fax and or email to Sheriff Department bailiffs,

Probation Department, District Attorneys' Office, Public Defenders, Bridgeport California-Highway Patrol Commander and the jailer for the County-jail.

Holding Bridgeport proceedings by phone conference and/or video conference means that the bench officer, courtroom clerk and court reporter will be in the Mammoth Lakes Courthouse participating in proceedings by phone conference and or video conference. Criminal matters will not be held by phone conference unless weather conditions or other circumstances make video conference technologically unfeasible. If a defendant in a criminal matter has a right to be personally present and does not agree to proceedings held by video or phone conference, the matter will be re-calendared. Nothing in this rule is intended to diminish access to justice and due process rights of all parties participating in Bridgeport proceedings. In-custody defendants held at the Bridgeport jail will make their appearance before the court by video conference or phone conference by being taken to either the jail video conference room or Bridgeport courtroom.

Justice partners (Probation Officers, District Attorneys, Public Defenders and law enforcement officials), defendants not in custody, other parties and witnesses may appear by going to the Bridgeport courtroom or Mammoth Lakes Courthouse.

In an effort to ensure continuity of operations, court proceedings may be conducted remotely during times of hazardous weather, natural disasters, or emergency situations. Remote appearances may involve judicial officers, court staff, justice partners, defendants, other parties, and witnesses and will be conducted as outlined in rule 5.1.

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecasts for the next day hazardous weather conditions for Mono County, proceedings may be held with the bench officer and court staff appearing remotely by phone conference and/or video conference. It is the responsibility of the Court Executive Officer or Court Operations Manager, if the CEO is not available, to monitor the NOAA national Weather Service weather forecasts and to provide the bench officer hearing the proceedings. On or before 3:00 PM, the day before Bridgeport proceedings, the bench officer if the calendar for the next day will be help remotely. If the bench officer decides the next day's proceedings will be held remotely, the bench officer will issue an order invoking this rule. Court staff will immediately notify justice partners of the order invoking this rule and provide a copy of the order by fax or email to the Sheriff Department Bailiffs, Probation Department, District's Attorneys' Office, Public Defenders, Highway Patrol Commanders, and the jailer at the Mono County Jail.

If a defendant in a criminal matter has a right to be personally present and does not agree to proceedings held by phone or video conference, the matter will be calendared. Nothing is in this rule is intended to diminish access to justice and due process rights of all parties participating in court proceedings.

(Effective February 17, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

CHAPTER 3 GENERAL PRETRIAL RULES

18

RULE 3.1 APPLICATION OF GENERAL COURT RULES

These Rules are in addition to, and do not supersede, applicable state rules unless specifically authorized and so stated.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 3.2 RELIEF FROM LOCAL RULES

Relief from operation of these rules must be on prior request to

the court. (Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 3.3 SANCTIONS

Failure to comply with any local rule or California Rules of Court may subject the party to sanctions pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 2.30; Code of Civil Procedure sections 177.5 and 575.2.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2017)

RULE 3.4 REGULAR LAW AND MOTION

Civil Law and Motion matters are heard on <u>Tuesday and</u> Thursdays in Mammoth Lakes, and <u>on Tuesdays</u> as needed in Bridgeport. <u>Parties are required to Ccontact the</u> clerk for date <u>at civil@mono.courts.ca.gov</u>. Matters in which the time estimates are 20 minutes or less are heard at 9:30 a.m.

Ex parte communication and mandatory settlement conference. Counsel and parties are expected to execute an Ex Parte Communication form allowing assigned judge to handle mandatory settlement conference.

(Effective July 1,200l; revised July 1,2006; amended July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 3.5 SHORT CAUSES

Matters in which the time estimates are one-half day or less may be set on Law and Motion Day at such times as are approved in advance of setting by the Branch Calendaring Clerk.

(Effective July 1, 2001.)

RULE 3.6 AUTHORITY OF CLERK'S OFFICE REGARDING SETTINGS

The setting of cases for trial and for pretrial and mandatory settlement conferences is done by the presiding judge who has delegated initial authority in these matters to the clerk's office.

When matters are assigned for trial by the clerk's office they will be assigned to the available location and department.

(Effective July 1, 2001, repealed July 1, 2024)

RULE 3.7 NO AT ISSUE MEMORANDUM-CIVIL CASES

No at issue memorandum need be filed with the

court. (Effective July 1, 2001, -; repealed July 1, 2024)

RULE 3.8 SETTING CASES FOR TRIAL

Cases may be set for trial without a trial setting conference. Trial dates will be selected by the judge assigned to the case, who will consider the nature of the case, the Case Management Statement, the attorney's availability calendar and the condition of the court's calendar. The place of trial will be selected by the court after consideration of the convenience of the witnesses and parties as well as the availability of courtrooms.

(Effective July 1, 2001.)

RULE 3.9 REQUESTS FOR CHANGES IN TRIAL DATES

All requests for a change in trial date must either conform to section 3.10, or be brought by motion pursuant to Rule 3.1332 California Rule of Court 3.1332.

(Amended July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 3.10 STIPULATION REGARDING CALENDARED MATTERS

Stipulations to vacate a matter that has been calendared or for a change of a date for a trial or other-matter that has been calendared by the court are joint requests by the stipulating parties that a date be changed. The originally calendared date will not automatically be changed. If the stipulation is that the matter be continued to a specific date, the stipulation must aver that the clerk's office has approved the availability of the proposed date.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 3.11 TRIAL SETTING CONFERENCE/SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

Trial Setting Conference/Settlement Conferences are mandatory for any civil case where jury is demanded.

Appearances are mandatory. The Clerk of the Court shall notice counsel by mail of Trial Setting-Conference/Settlement Conferences after the case is on the civil active list, unless counsel appeared in Court when such a hearing was scheduled. (see rule 4.10)

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024.)

RULE 3.12 NOTICE OF TRIAL

Following the trial setting conference, the Clerk shall mail notice of trial, <u>unless counsel appeared in</u> Court when Trial was set, and waived notice.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 3.13 PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

A pre-trial conference will be set approximately two weeks prior to trial. Motions in limine shall be heard at the pretrial conference, and not on the day of trial. (see Rule 4.8).

(Effective July 1, 2001).

CHAPTER 4 CIVIL CASE MANAGEMENT

RULE 4.1 SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter applies to all general civil cases filed after July 1, 1992, "General Civil Case" means all civil cases except probate, guardianship, conservatorship, family law (including proceedings under the Family Law Act, Uniform Parentage Act, and Uniform echild Custody Jurisdiction Enforcement Act, freedom from parental custody and control proceedings, and adoption proceeding), juvenile court proceedings, small claims appeals, and "other civil petitions" as defined in the Regulation on Superior Court Reports to the Judicial Council, including petitions for writ of mandate of prohibition, temporary restraining order, harassment restraining order, domestic violence restraining order, writ of possession, appointment of a receiver, release of property from lien, and change of name.

(Effective July 1, 2001.)

RULE 4.2 DEFINITIONS

- (A) The term "counsel" includes parties representing themselves;
- (B) The term "defendant" also includes cross-

defendant.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1,

2024).

RULE 4.3 TRANSFERRED CASES

All cases transferred from another jurisdiction are subject to this

Rule. (Effective Jul 1, 2001).

RULE 4.4 POLICYRULE 4.4 CIVIL LITIGATION DELAY REDUCTION

Pursuant to the Trial Court Delay Reduction Act of 1986, as revised, set forth in Government Code section 68600, et seq. and California Rules of Court Title 3 Civil Rules et seq., <u>4ti</u>t is the policy of the Mono County Superior Court to <u>actively</u> manage all cases from the moment the Complaint is filed. The court adopts the case disposition time standards as set forth in <u>Standards for Judicial Administration</u>, standards 2.1 and 2.2.

(A)—It is the policy of the Court to conclude 90% of all civil litigation cases filed within twelve (12) months of the filing of the Complaint. strive to meet these time standards from the filing of the initial pleading to disposition of general scicile cases in the following manner: 90% within 12 months, 98% within 18 months, and 100% within 24 months.

- (B) It is the policy of the Court to conclude 98% of all civil litigation cases within eighteen (18) months of the filing of the complaint and 100% within twenty-four (24) months.
- (E) (B) It is the policy of the Court that, once any date has been set, it cannot be changed without a showing of good cause.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July1, 2024).

RULE 4.5 SERVICE OF SUMMONS

- (A) Within sixty (60) days of the filing, the Complaint must be served and a proof of service filed with the Court. When a complaint is voluntarily amended for the first time, pursuant to CCP the California Code of Civil Procedures 472, before the defendant answers (even after demurrer), the time herein shall run from the file date of the amended complaint.
- (B) Upon failure to serve the Complaint and file a proof of service as required above, an Order to Show Cause shall be issued as to why counsel should not be sanctioned for failure to comply with this Rule.
- (C) Responsive papers to the Order to Show Cause must be filed and served five (5) days in advance of the hearing.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 4.6 RESPONSIVE PLEADINGS

- (A) Each party served shall file and serve all necessary responsive pleadings within the time required by law.
- (B) Absent the filing of the responsive pleadings, the plaintiff is required, within sixty (60) days after the statutory time for filing the responsive pleadings, to request the entry of default, as herein provided. Failing that, an Order to Show Cause will issue as to why sanctions should not be imposed.
- (C) After a request for entry of default is filed, the Court will set and notice the case for default <u>judgment</u> hearing. In lieu of appearance and in an appropriate case, a declaration under Code of Civil Procedure Section 585 may be submitted.
- (D) Default hearings and judgments need not be pursued in multi-defendant cases until the entire action against all responding defendants has concluded.
- (E) Parties may seek to set aside a default by a stipulation submitted with a proposed Order. If the Court approves the Order, an Answer or other pleading must be filed within

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 4.7 CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Case Management Conferences shall be conducted pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rules 3.720 to 3.730.

(A) **Filing of Complaint**. Upon filing a Complaint, the plaintiff shall receive the following from the Clerk:

- (1) Summons and Complaint indicating case number.
- (2) Notice and date of the Case Management Conference which will be set within one hundred eighty
- (180) days of the filing of the original complaint; and
- (3) A Notice of Filing Complaint and Dispute Resolution Packet.
- (B) **Notice.** At the time of serving the Summons and Complaint (and a cross-complaint upon a new party), the responding party shall be served with the Notice of initial Case Management Conference.
- (C) Case Management Conference. Counsel for each appearing party shall attend the Case Management Conference, shall be familiar with the case, and shall be prepared to discuss all matters. Counsel who fail to attend or participate shall be subject to sanctions. At the Case Management Conference, the Court may make all the appropriate pretrial orders, which can include the following:
 - (a) Alternative Dispute Resolution. The Court may make Orders on stipulations to binding arbitration and filing of the award, and/or set a future status conference date for referral to arbitration. The
 - (b) Court shall examine and consider alternative dispute resolution programs or procedures available to the parties;
 - (c)(b) Discovery. Orders establishing a plan regulating the timing, scope, issues, and deadlines for completing any remaining discovery;
 - (d)(c)Law and Motion. Orders scheduling dates by which law and motion matters must be completed;
 - (e)(d) Subsequent Conferences and Trial Date. Orders setting further interim status conferences and setting the issue conference/trial date. (Failure to file cross-complaints shall not be considered a valid ground for enlarging the time for trial, arbitration, or other processes). Untimely cross-complaints shall, in most cases, be served so as not to delay the orderly processes of the Court.
- (D) Counsel and self-represented parties are not to attend an initial Case Management Conference in limited civil cases unless ordered to do so by the Court.

(Effective July 1, 2001; revised January 1, 2003; revised July 1, 2006; revised July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 4.8 PRETRIAL CONFERENCES

As to all cases, approximately fourteen (14) days prior to the trial date, a Pretrial Conference will be held before the trial judge in which all matters necessary to be resolved before trial will be before the Court. All trial counsel must be present, along with all principals or clients and claims representatives if ordered by the Court.

(A) Motions in Limine. All motions in limine must be in writing and are to be filed and served at least three (3) court days before the conference.

- (B) Pretrial Conference Statement. A "Pretrial Conference Statement" must be filed with the Court five (5) court days prior to the Pretrial Conference. The following shall be included in this statement and will be considered at the conference.
 - (a) A statement of facts, law and respective contentions of the parties regarding liability, damages, nature and extent of injuries, any unusual evidentiary or legal issues anticipated at trial, and all matters of fact believed by any party to be appropriate for stipulations;
 - (b) All witness lists, a brief statement of anticipated testimony, an exhibit list, jury instructions, any witness issues, interpreter needs, need for a court reporter, proposed verdict-and a trial length estimate;
 - (c) A proposed statement of the case to be read to

the jury, (Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 4.9 SANCTIONS

If the Court finds that any party has not proceeded with due diligence or has otherwise failed to comply with these rules, sanctions may be imposed.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 4.10 SETTLEMENT CONFERENCES

4.10.1 Presence of Accessibility of Attorneys, Parties and Others

At the mandatory settlement conference, each party appearing in an action must be personally present (remote or in-person) or must be immediately accessible by telephone at all times during the conference. Corporate parties and governmental entities must be represented by a responsible officer in addition to and separate from counsel for such parties – authorized to make all decisions regarding the case, subject only to the approval of any governing board having the ultimate power to make such decisions. By way of illustrating the legal capacity of the representative of a governmental party, it is expected that the responsible officer, in the case of a city, would be the city manager, mayor or authorized public official at the "Department Manager" level and, in the case of a county, would be the county administrator, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, or authorized public official at the "Department Manager" level. For every party appearing in the action, counsel who will actually try the case must attend the conference. In any tort case wherein a party who might be liable for damages has insurance coverage, the insurance company shall have present, or immediately accessible by telephone throughout the entire duration of the conference, a representative who shall be authorized to make all decisions regarding the case.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July, 2024).

4.10.2 DUTIES OF COUNSEL PRIOR TO CONFERENCE

- (A) Settlement Conference Statement. At least five (5) fifteen (15) 5 court days before the conference, counsel for each party will lodge file with the Clerk of this Court, and serve upon all other counsel, a detailed settlement conference statement. The statement will not form a part of the Clerk's file but will be retained by the settlement conference judge following the conference, if a party designates the statement as a confidential statement. Any party's settlement conference statement may incorporate another party's settlement conference statement by reference.
- (B) Content. In every case, the statement will contain a summary of the facts, the harm claimed by plaintiff to have been produced by defendant's conduct and the legal issues involved as well as a proposal for the settlement of the case.

County of Mono

(C) Tort Actions – Damages. In actions seeking damages for injury to person or property, the statement shall contain a detailed summary of all items of claimed damage and a statement that copies of all medical or other bills evidencing some damage have been delivered to opposing counsel. In actions seeking damages for personal injury, the statement of each party shall have attached to it a copy of that party's most recent medical report and a statement that either copies of all medical reports in the possession of that party have been delivered to all other parties or that, for a specified reason, certain reports will not be so delivered.

(D) When damage for earning or profit loss is claimed, the claimant's statement shall show in detail how the amount of the claimed loss is composed and shall include a statement that copies of all wage statements or other earnings or profit records available to the claimant have been delivered to opposing counsel.

(Đ)(E) Ex parte communication and mandatory settlement conference. Counsel and parties are expected to execute an Ex Parte Communication form allowing assigned judge to handle mandatory settlement conference.

(E)

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2017)

4.10.3 DUTIES OF COUNSEL AT CONFERENCES

Each attorney attending a mandatory settlement conference has a duty to be thoroughly familiar with the relevant evidence available to him pertaining to them pertaining to all issues and shall be prepared to discuss all aspects of the case. In

addition, the attorney for each party who has requested a jury trial in a case where the right thereto is not guaranteed by law or in a case in which special verdicts or findings of the jury will be required, shall present the form of any special verdicts or interrogatories which will be required for the resolution of the case by the jury.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

4.10.4 VACATING CONFERENCE

A mandatory settlement conference will not be vacated at the request of counsel unless counsel for each defendant advises the Court in writing that his client will neither make or accept any offer to settle the case at any time prior to trial.

(Effective July 1, 2001, repealed July 1, 2024).

4.10.54.10.4 SANCTIONS

The failure of any person to appear at, prepare for, or participate in good faith in a mandatory settlement conference, in conformity with the requirements of this chapter, unless good cause is shown for such failure, is an unlawful interference with the proceedings of the Court and may result in sanctions as set forth in Chapter 3 of these Rules.

(Effective July 1, 2001; renumbered July 1, 2024).

RULE 4.11 PRESENTATION, FILING AND SERVICE OF COURT PAPERS

4.11.1 PROPOSED JUDGMENTS, DECREES AND ORDERS IN UNCONTESTED MATTERS

In uncontested proceedings (e.g., uncontested dissolution of marriage, default judgment, and routine probate applications), an original and one copy of the proposed judgment, decree or order sought in the proceeding shall be presented to the Clerk prior to the Clerk's preparation of the calendar upon which such matter is proposed to be heard and the Clerk shall not place such proceeding on the calendar for hearing unless the original and copy of the proposed judgment, decree or order shall have been so presented. The copy mentioned in the foregoing requirement is in addition to any copy which counsel desire to have endorsed and returned to counsel by the Clerk.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 4.11.2 FILING AND SERVICE OF ORDERS

All written orders, including orders to show cause, orders for examination of judgment debtors, temporary restraining orders and injunctions, signed by a judge, shall be filed forthwith. An endorsed copy shall be served upon the parties to be notified thereof and an endorsed copy, bearing proof of service, shall be filed prior to the hearing.

(Effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 4.11.3 EX PARTE APPLICATIONS

A hearing date and time for ex parte applications and order must be made in advance by contacting the Superior Court Clerk's office. Unless otherwise herein directed or unless otherwise specifically ordered all ex parte applications for temporary relief, orders to show cause, orders shortening or extending time, or other kinds of orders (except probate orders) sought in the civil law and motion department or in the family law department shall be made pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 379.3.1200

A hearing date and time for ex parte applications and order must be made in advance by contacting the Superior Court Clerk's office.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended January 1, 2003; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 4.11.4 HEADINGS ON PLEADINGS IDENTIFYING PARTIES

Each pleading shall contain a heading which includes a brief description of the pleading and the identity of the party for whom it is filed (e.g. "Defendant Jane Doe's Answer to Complaint" or "Cross-Defendant John Doe's Answer to Cross-Complaint of ABC Corporation"). No clerk shall accept for filing or file any papers which do not comply with this rule and California Rules of Court 311 through 319 inclusive.

If the matter is one that prior to unification would have been filed in the municipal court or in it is a matter described in California Rules of Court, rule 719, insert the word "Limited". The clerk will assume all filings not marked limited are unlimited filings an dwill charge the appropriate "higher" fee. Each pleading shall comply in all respects with California Rules of Court 311 through 319 inclusive.

(Effective July 1, 2001; repealed July 1, 2017; repealed July 1, 2024)

CHAPTER 5 TELEPHONIC REMOTE APPEARANCES AND FACSIMILE FILINGELECTRONIC FILING

RULE 5.1 <u>REMOTE APPEARANCES</u> <u>Parties may appear by telephone in accordance with Rule 3.670 California Rules of Court.</u>

- A. This Local Rule is adopted pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 367.75 and California Rule of Court, rule 3.672. Requirements for notice are set forth in Rule 3.672 and below. The subsection concerning remote hearings in domestic violence and gun violence restraining order matters is adopted pursuant to Family Code §6308(b) and Penal Code § 18123(b). Where they conflict, these rules supersede other previously enacted rules, emergency rules, or directives concerning remote appearances.
- B. General Provisions Regarding Remote Appearances
 - 1. The Court has two remote appearance platforms available: Zoom (audio and video) and CourtCall (audio only). They may be used concurrently during the same Court session unless otherwise determined by the judicial officer. The Court may, at its discretion and upon notice to the public, move to a single service provider for all remote hearings.
 - 2. Remote appearances in contested hearings, excluding those described in subsection (c), shall be by video. Audio-only appearances shall not be permitted for such hearings unless specifically permitted by the judicial officer.
 - 3. A remote hearing is subject to all laws governing confidentiality, photographing and recordings of proceedings in a courtroom. No one appearing remotely may record,

Superior Court of California

County of Mono

photograph or reproduce any hearing, or any part of a hearing, including any screenshots.

Any person who violates this provision shall be subject to all sanctions provided under the law for a like action in an in-person hearing.

4. A judicial officer may order that a specific hearing be conducted by remote appearance. If that hearing is an evidentiary hearing or trial, parties objecting to the remote hearing shall

file their objection as provided in California Rule of Court 3.672(h).

5. In any hearing not specifically set by the court to be conducted by remote appearance, a party who has failed to provide a notice of remote appearance may appear remotely upon a judicial officer's finding under California Rule of Court 3.672(j)(2) of good cause, unforeseen circumstances, or that the remote appearance would promote access to justice.

6. A judicial officer may elect to terminate a remote hearing and continue the matter to a later in-person appearance should the judicial officer find that any of the criteria of Code of Civil

Procedure section 367.75(b) and/or Rule of Court 3.672(d) are met.

C. Civil Case Management, Law & Motion, and Ex Parte Hearings; Short-Cause Family Matters

1. Parties in civil case management, civil law and motion, civil ex parte (not including domestic violence restraining orders), and short-cause family law matters may stipulate either orally or in writing to waive notice of other parties' remote appearance.

2. The Court waives notice of parties appearing remotely for these matters. Parties do not need to file a Notice of Remote Appearance, but must serve the notice as set forth in Rule 3.672

unless the parties have stipulated to waive notice.

D. Civil Evidentiary Hearings, Settlement Conferences, and Trials

1. For evidentiary hearings, settlement conferences, and bench or jury trials, parties must appear in person unless the Court has granted prior express written authorization for a remote appearance.

2. The time frames and procedures for remote appearance requests and oppositions are set

forth in Rule 3.672(h).

3. Courtesy copies of any requests or oppositions shall be filed with the department.

4. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to require personal appearance of an expert witness unless the judicial officer has previously found good cause for the expert witness to appear in person.

E. Probate Matters

1. For probate hearings other than evidentiary hearings, settlement conferences, and trials, parties may stipulate either orally or in writing to waive notice of other parties' remote appearance.

2. The Court waives notice of parties appearing remotely for these matters. Parties do not need to file a Notice of Remote Appearance, but must serve the notice as set forth in California

Rule of Court 3.672 unless the parties have stipulated to waive notice.

3. For evidentiary hearings, settlement conferences, and trials, the provisions of subsection (d) shall apply.

F. Juvenile Dependency Matters.

1. The provisions of California Rule of Court 3.672 (i) shall apply to Juvenile Dependency matters.

2. All confidentiality requirements applicable to in-person Juvenile Dependency proceedings shall apply equally to remote hearings. In the event the Court cannot ensure that a remote appearance will have the privacy and security necessary to preserve the confidentiality of the proceeding, the judicial officer may order any person to appear in-person, and may elect to terminate a remote hearing and continue the matter for a later in-person appearance.

G. Special Rules for Domestic Violence and Gun Violence Restraining Orders

1. Instructions for remote appearances in domestic violence and gun violence restraining order hearings will be posted to the Court's restraining order webpage: https://www.cc-courts.org/restraining-orders/restraining-orders.aspx.

2. The Court designates the departmental phone number for the department hearing each respective order as the phone number for the public to call to obtain assistance regarding a remote appearance. The designated departmental phone numbers will be posted on the restraining order webpage above. These phone numbers will be staffed from 30 minutes prior to the start of the court session at which the hearing will take place and during that court session.

(Effective July l, 2001; adopted January l, 2003; amended July l, 2008; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 5.2 TELEPHONE APPEARANCE AND FACSIMILE FILINGELECTRONIC FILING

Facsimile filing pursuant to Rule 2.304, California Rules of Court, will be accepted by the court. Filing fees must be paid at the time of the filing by facsimile pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 2.304 and will be subject to the additional charge set forth in paragraph (e)(3) thereof. Filing fee accounts pursuant to paragraph (f) of Rule 2.304 will not be allowed. The additional fee set forth in paragraph (e)(3) of Rule 2.304 shall be charged and must also be paid at the time of filing by facsimile.

- A. AUTHORITY: The Superior Court of California, County of Mono, permits the electronic filing (eFiling) of documents in accordance with California Code of Civil Procedure 1010.6 and California Rules of Court Rule 2.250 et seq., for specified matters as listed on the Court's website at www.mono.courts.ca.gov.
- B. Use of eFiling is permissive and in-person filings will continue to be accepted at the Clerk's office. eFiling can be changed to a mandatory requirement at any time through further orders of this Court.
- C. Any documents received electronically by the Court between 12:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. on any court day, are deemed filed that same day. Any documents received electronically on a non-court day (i.e., weekend or holiday) are deemed filed on the next court day.
- D. Filings will not be accepted by this Court through any other electronic methods (for example, email or fax for the following case types: Civil, Family Law, Small Claims and Probate.
- E. eFilings must be submitted through an authorized Electronic Filing Service Provider (EFSP).

 Each EFSP may charge a transaction fee. EFSP fees are waived for parties with an active fee waiver and government entities. A list of authorized EFSPs is maintained on the Court's website.
- F. Documents submitted through eFiling must be in PDF Format, text searchable, and viewable on any standard PDF viewer.
 - 1) All documents equal to or exceeding 10 pages and containing multiple exhibits or sections must be bookmarked with the title of the corresponding exhibit or section.
 - 2) All documents submitted electronically must include page numbers.

County of Mono

- 3) A printed courtesy copy (along with proof of electronic submission) is required for all Motions of Summary Judgment, Motions for Summary Adjudication, and Anti-SLAPP Motions, including all supporting documents, regardless of the number of pages. The printed courtesy copy should be provided the same day the electronic copy is submitted.
- G. The following documents are excluded from eFiling and must be submitted in paper format:
 - 1) Original will and codicil
 - 2) Peremptory Challenges or Challenges for Cause of a Judicial Officer pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 170.6 or 170.3
 - 3) Any ex parte application that is filed concurrently with a new complaint.
 - 4) Out-of-State Commission
 - 5) Documents submitted conditionally under seal
 - 6) Certificate of Facts Re Unsatisfied Judgment
 - 7) Bonds/undertaking
 - 8) Exhibits to be lodged for hearings or trials.
 - 9) Subpoenaed documents
 - 10) Request for Administrative Records
 - 11) Affidavit Re Real Property of Small Value (Probate)
 - 12) Copy requests
 - 13) Any document ordered by the Court to be submitted in paper format
 - 14) Family Law:
 - A. Request for Entry of Default
 - B. Notice of Entry of Judgment
 - C. Out-of-State Judgments or Orders to be Registered
 - D. Exhibits to be lodged for Hearings or Trials
- E. Child Custody Evaluation Reports

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024; effective date TBD)

RULE 5.3 TELEPHONE APPEARANCE AND FACSIMILE FILING A document filed by

facsimile shall comply with Rule 2.100 to 2.119, California Rules of Court and all applicable rules of this court.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2017; repealed July 1, 2024)

RULE 5.4 In order to be filed with the court, all facsimile produced documents must be produced on plain 8# bond paper by laser printer or better quality technique, and in terms of legibility, quality of paper and permanence must be of equal or better quality than non-facsimile produced documents.

(Effective July 1, 2001; repealed July 1, 2024).

RULE 6.1 "COURT REPORTER" COURT PROVIDED COURT REPORTERS-

The court shall provide a court reporter in all matters statutorily required (Felony felony criminal proceedings, juvenile proceedings, etc.). For law and motion calendars, the court may provide a court reporter if the court has sufficient funding. On or before August 31stJanuary 15th of each year, the court will make a determination if the court has sufficient funding. The court will publicize that determination in accordance with California Rule of Court 2.956.

(Effective July I, 2001; amended July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 6.2 "COURT REPORTER" REQUESTING A COURT REPORTER FOR NON-MANDATED CASE TYPES

__ In accordance with Gov. Code §68086 and California Rule of Court Rule 2.956 when a party requests a court reporter and the reporter is not required by the foregoing rule or by statute to report the court proceeding, such party shall provide and pay for a certified court reporter approved by the court.

(Effective July I, 2001; amended July 1, 2017; amended July 1, 2024)

RULE 6.3 TIME ALLOTED WITHOUT COST TO PARTY

All civil proceedings where the court provides a reporter, including family law proceedings, of less than one hour in duration will be reported without cost to any party. A fee for reporting services will be charged for all matters lasting more than one hour.

(Effective. July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

RULE 6.4 TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS

Any party requesting a transcript in any civil proceeding, including family law proceedings, shall order from and pay for such transcript directly with the court reporter.

(Effective July 1, 2001; amended July 1, 2024).

CHAPTER 7 MISCELLANEOUS RULES

RULE 7.1 ATTORNEY FEES IN CIVIL ACTIONS OR PROCEEDINGS

- (A) In actions on promissory notes and contracts providing for the payment of attorney fees, whenever a prevailing party is entitled to the recovery of reasonable attorney fees, the following schedule shall be considered by the court, in its discretion, in awarding attorney's fees:
 - (1) Default Action. Exclusive of costs and interest,
 - (a) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the first two thousand dollars (\$2,000) awarded as damages;
 - (b) Twenty percent (20%) of the next four thousand dollars (\$4,000);
 - (c) Fifteen percent (15%) of the next four thousand dollars (\$4,000);
 - (d) Ten percent (10%) of the next ten thousand dollars (\$10,000);
 - (e) Five percent (5%) of the next thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000); and
 - Two percent (2%) of amounts in excess of the first fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).
 - (2) Contested Action. The same amount as computed under paragraph (A)(1), increased by

such compensation computed on an hourly or per-day basis for any additional research, general preparation, trial or other services as may be allowed by the court.

- (B) Where a defendant is the prevailing party, the fees will be fixed by reasonable compensation computed on an hourly or per-day basis for research, general preparation, trial or other services rendered.
- (C) Where a prevailing party is entitled to the recovery of reasonable attorney fees in an otherwise appropriate clerk's judgment, the Clerk shall include attorney fees computed pursuant to the fee schedule contained in this Rule.
- (D) In any case where a party claims fees in excess of those allowed by this Rule, application for attorney fees shall be made to the court, supported by declarations setting forth the factual basis for the claimed attorney fees. The fees thereupon be fixed by the court.

(Effective July 1, 2005; amended July 1, 2024).

7.1 RULE 7.2 ATTORNEY FEES IN RESIDENTIAL UNLAWFUL DETAINER ACTIONS

In actions for residential unlawful detainer, the attorney fees awarded by the Court will not, under normal circumstances, exceed three hundred dollars (\$300) in cases by default where the defendant has filed no answer pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1170, or four hundred dollars (\$400) in cases uncontested at trial where the defendant has filed an answer.

(Effective July 1, 2005; amended July 1, 2024).

CHAPTER 8 FAMILY LAW RULES

RULE 8.1 CHILD CUSTODY AND/OR VISITATION

Section A Applicability/General Procedure

- (1) This rule applies to all Family Law cases involving a dispute regarding child custody and/or visitation, including any action for Dissolution of Marriage, Legal Separation, Paternity (excluding District Attorney actions) or Domestic Violence.
- This rule and the name and telephone number of the Family Court Services Coordinator (FCSC) shall be provided by the clerk of the court to a petitioner upon any filing of a petition or moving papers. The petitioner shall serve the same, along with the petition or moving papers, on the responding party.
- (3) The clerk of the court will not schedule a court date until the requirements set forth in Section B of this rule have been met.

Section B Family Court Services Mediation Completion Requirements

- (1) The parties shall contact the Family Court Services Coordinator to set up an appointment to attend a mediation orientation session (a pre-mediation video) explaining the mediation process. The parties may attend the orientation session separately. Both parties must attend the orientation session unless the court has specifically ordered otherwise. Generally, the court will not exempt parties from attending the orientation session unless it would cause undue hardship (i.e., you reside out of state and the court has authorized telephonic mediation).
- (2) After attending the orientation session the parties will be given a form verifying the parties attendance and a list of approved "court mediators". (Court mediators have agreed to the court's compensation schedule, and have demonstrated they meet the qualifications for a mediator set forth in the California Family Code and California Rules of Court). The parties must give the verification form to their attorneys for filing with the court, or if the parties don't have attorneys, they should bring the form with them to the next court appearance at which time deliver it to the court clerk.
- (3) The parties are directed to agree on a mediator. You may select any mediator you wish; however, the court can only pay for mediation provided by a mediator who is on the court's list of approved "court mediators". If you elect to use a mediator who is not on the court's list you will

Superior Court of California County of Mono be responsible for paying the mediator's fees. If the parties cannot agree on a mediator, the FCSC will select a mediator from the list of "court mediators" at random. The parties shall each have one peremptory challenge of a mediator if the FCSC random selection is required.

1

(4) The mediation session shall be held in private and all communications from the parties to the mediator shall be deemed official information within the meaning of Evidence Code Section 1040. Only the parents or the parties involved in the action shall be present in the mediation session.

- (5) It is the parties' responsibility to schedule the mediation with the mediator selected, and to attend the mediation session as scheduled, prior to the date of any child custody and/or visitation hearing. The FCSC will verify attendance with the mediator; and, if mediation has been completed, the FCSC will notify the clerk of the court to schedule a hearing date.
- (6) Pursuant to §575.2 of the Code of Civil Procedure, appropriate sanctions may be imposed by the court upon any party for failure to attend the orientation session or mediation.
- (7) If after mediation all issues regarding custody and/or visitation have been resolved the parties shall file a stipulation to that effect.

Section C Custody and/or Visitation Issues Filed Under the Domestic Violence Act

- (1) Separate Mediation Sessions. In any proceeding for which mediation is required and there is a history of domestic violence between the parties, or where a protective order as defined in Family Code §6218 is in effect, then at the request of the party who alleges domestic violence (in a written declaration under penalty of perjury) or who is protected by the order, the appointed Mediator shall meet with the parties individually, and at separate times.
- Conducting the Mediation. If the parties agree to meet jointly rather than individually with the Mediator, then during the mediation a support person may accompany any party who is protected by a restraining order. However, the mediator may exclude a support person from a session if that person disrupts the process of mediation.

Section D Custody and/or Visitation Evaluations

- (1) The court may order an investigation or evaluation pursuant to California Rule of Court 5.220 of a family and the other pertinent parties, and a report thereon, to assist it in assessing the health, safety, welfare and best interests of a minor child or children, when there are disputed custody and/or visitation issues.
- (2) Where the parties stipulate to such an investigation or evaluation, such stipulation will be approved only where the court deems it to be warranted.
- (3) The parties may stipulate to an investigator or evaluator. However, absent such stipulation, the court will appoint an investigator or evaluator of its selection, or may for good cause appoint someone other than as stipulated. In any event, any investigator or evaluator appointed by the court shall meet the requirements set forth in Rules 5.220, 5.225 and 5.230 of the California Rules of Court. Investigators/evaluators appointed by the court are not subject to peremptory challenge.
- (4) At the time an evaluation order is executed, whether pursuant to stipulation or otherwise, the costs associated with evaluations must be determined. The court will order payment according to the Court's assessment of ability to pay. Generally, fees are not waived for these evaluations. The court will require an initial deposit of the estimated costs thereof, but not less than \$1,500 to be made by the parties prior to commencement of the evaluation.

41

Superior Court of California

County of Mono

(5) A copy of the evaluator's report shall be provided to the court and to any attorneys of record not less than ten

- (10) days before any related hearings. A copy of the report may be made available for review in the courtroom to self-represented parties only upon order of the court. The report may not be used for any purpose other than as
- evidence at a custody or visitation hearing, unless otherwise ordered by the court. The court's copy of the report shall be placed in a confidential envelope, to be kept in the court file, not to be opened, except by a judicial officer or as may otherwise be ordered by the court after prior notice to all parties.
- (6) Grievances in connection with court-ordered evaluations shall be presented, in writing to the Presiding Judge within ten (10) days of receipt of the report and such grievances shall be addressed at the scheduled custody hearing.

(Rule 7.1 renumbered rule 8.1 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1,2001; revised effective

January 1, 2003; amended effective date of July 1, 2017.)

RULE 8.2 FINANCIAL DECLARATIONS

In all proceedings brought under the Family Code, prior to every default hearing and every contested hearing, there shall be filed by each party an income and expense declaration and a property declaration, using the applicable Judicial Council forms unless the matter to be considered at the hearing does not involve the consideration of any financial issue. Such statements shall show conditions as they existed no earlier than three (3) weeks prior to the hearing, shall be completely filled out so that every blank calling for information available to the declarant is filled out (with the word "none", if that be an appropriate response), and shall be filed no later than the Court day prior to the hearing, unless an earlier filing is required by rule or statute.

(Rule 7.2 renumbered rule 8.2 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1,2001; amended effective date of July 1, 2017).

RULE 8.3 PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

No matter (including a motion, order to show cause, or trial) in a proceeding brought under the Family Code will be heard until counsel, with their respective clients are either physically present or immediately physically available, or parties in pro per, have met and conferred in a good faith effort to resolve all issues. Such Conference

shall include an exchange of all documents which may be relevant to contested issued or which may be offered in evidence. At the onset of the hearing on the matter, counsel, or parties in pro per, will be expected to represent to the Court that there has been compliance with this rule. Non-compliance with the rule may result in the matter being dropped from the calendar or continued, or the rejection of documents not exchanged, or other appropriate sanctions.

Rule 7.3 renumbered rule 8.3 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001; amended effective date of July 1, 2017).

CHAPTER 9 PROBATE RULES

RULE 9.1 TAX CERTIFICATES

All real and personal property taxes due on estate assets must be paid prior to final distribution. A Property Tax Clearance Certificate (required to be on file prior to final distribution) will be issued by the Mono County Tax Collector after the Assessor has received all of the following documents:

- (A) A copy of the Petition for Probate.
- (B) Change of ownership statement for each parcel of real property in Mono County in which decedent owned an interest, if such real property will be included in the Inventory of estate assets.

1

(C) An endorsed copy of each Inventory filed in the estate. Receipt by the Assessor of an endorsed copy of any Inventory marked "Final" will act as an automatic request for issuance of the Property Tax Clearance Certificate.

If it is likely that a final Inventory will not be on file within ninety (90) days of the date of death, mail directly to the Assessor within that period a copy of the Inventory that the personal representative plans to file (appraised values are not necessary), and thereafter furnish the Assessor with endorsed copies of the Inventories actually filed.

(Rule 8.1 renumbered rule 9.1 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

44

CHAPTER 10 CRIMINAL RULES

RULE 10.1 FILING OF MISDEMEANORS.

Except as ordered upon a showing of good cause, the complaint shall be presented to the clerk for filing not later than (i) 3:00 p.m. on the day before the defendant's first appearance, if the defendant is in custody; or (ii) 3:00 p.m. of the second calendar day preceding the date of first appearance, if the defendant is not in custody. The district attorney shall provide a copy of the complaint for distribution to the defendant at the time of arraignment.

(Rule 9.1 renumbered rule 101 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 10.2 FILING OF FELONIES.

Except as ordered upon a showing of good cause, the information or indictment shall be presented to the clerk for filing not later than 12:00 noon on the day before defendant's first appearance for arraignment on the Information.

(Rule 9.2 renumbered rule 10.2 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 10.3 COUNTER ARRAIGNMENTS IN MISDEMEANOR MATTERS.

Entry of plea, time waiver, and request to continue for pretrial in misdemeanor matters only can be handled through counter arraignment form (see Appendix A) for defendants represented by counsel. Counter arraignment forms must be received by the clerk no later than 3:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled arraignment.

(Rule 9.3 renumbered rule 10.3 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 10.4 TRIAL SETTING

(Rule 9.4 renumbered rule 10.4 effective July 1, 2005; repealed effective July 1, 2006; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 10.5 TRIAL CONFIRMATION HEARING

All criminal matters set for jury trial will be set for trial confirmation hearing at least fourteen (14) days prior to trial. All other criminal trials, or probation revocation hearings, will be set for pretrial at least one day prior to date of hearing or trial.

Confirmation of jury trial constitutes a representation by counsel that they are ready to proceed to trial. No continuance of the trial will be granted without compliance with Penal Code §1050 procedures.

(Rule 9.5 renumbered rule 10.5 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 10.6 PRETRIAL MOTIONS

1

All pretrial motions, including in limine motions, shall be set for hearing on or before the date set for trial confirmation hearing

(Rule 9.6 renumbered rule 10.6 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2004).

RULE 10.7 PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

A pretrial conference shall be set prior to trial. At least seven (7) days prior to the date set for pretrial, the District Attorney and defense counsel shall confer and discuss the issues to be addressed. Any offers which the

District Attorney proposes to make at pretrial shall be disclosed to defense counsel at said conference. Defense counsel shall forthwith communicate any such offers to the defendant, and shall respond to the District Attorney's offer prior to the date scheduled for pretrial.

(Rule 9.7 renumbered rule 10.7 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001.)

RULE 10.8 CRIMINAL DISCOVERY

Criminal Discovery shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the California Penal Code, and Case Law. (Rule 9.8 renumbered rule 10.8 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

CHAPTER 11 JUVENILE COURT RULES

RULE 11.1 TIMELINESS

Unless otherwise specifically approved by the Court, accompanied by applicable time waivers, attorneys for parties are required to adhere to the statutory timeliness for all filings and hearings.

(Rule 10.1 renumbered rule 11.1 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 11.2 MANDATORY SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

In every dependency case in which a Petition for Jurisdiction has been filed, the Court shall set a Mandatory Settlement Conference prior to the date for the Jurisdictional Hearing in order to afford all parties and their counsel the opportunity to attempt to resolve the matter by Stipulation without the necessity of Jurisdictional Hearing.

(Rule 10.2 renumbered rule 11.2 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

11.3 COMPETENCY OF COUNSEL IN DEPENDENCY

PROCEEDINGS Section A Purpose and Applicability

This rule is established to comply with Section 317 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and Rule 5.660 of the California Rules of Court. On proper application and showing, the requirements of these Rules pertaining to competence of counsel can be waived or modified when necessary to provide counsel in juvenile dependency cases (Court automatically appoints counsel for children for duration of court's juris over minor child. Counsel will only be relieved upon proper motion and order of the Court.)

Section B General Competency Requirement

Superior Court of California

County of Mono

Any party in a dependency proceeding who is represented by an attorney is entitled to competent counsel.

(1) [Definition] "Competent counsel" means an attorney who is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California, who has participated in training in the law of juvenile dependency, and who demonstrates adequate forensic skills, knowledge and comprehension of the statutory scheme, the purposes and goals of dependency proceedings, the specific statutes, rules of court, and cases relevant to such proceedings, and procedures for filing petitions for extraordinary writs.

- (2) [Evidence of Competence] The court may require evidence of competency of any attorney appointed to represent a party in a dependency proceeding.
- (3) [Experience and Education] Only those attorneys who have completed a minimum of eight (8) hours of training or education in the area of juvenile dependency, or who have sufficient recent experience in dependency proceedings in which the attorney has demonstrated competency, may be appointed to represent parties. Training and education must include information on child development, child abuse, domestic violence, family reunification and preservation. Within every three years attorneys must complete at least eight (8) hours of continuing education related to dependency proceedings.
- (4) [Standards of Representation] Attorneys or their agents are expected to meet regularly with clients including clients who are children, regardless of the age of the child or the child's ability to communicate verbally, to contact social workers and other professionals associated with the client's case, Superior Court of California, County of Mono, to work with other counsel to resolve disputed aspects of a case without a contested hearing, and to adhere to the mandated timelines. The attorney for the child must have sufficient contact with the child to establish and maintain an adequate and professional attorney-client relationship.

Section C Procedures For Reviewing and Resolving Complaints

- (1) Any party to a dependency proceeding may lodge a written complaint with the Court concerning the performance of his or her appointed counsel in that proceeding.
- (2) When counsel is appointed the Court shall advise each adult, in general terms, of the procedure for lodging complaints with the Court concerning the performance of an appointed attorney. In the case of a minor client the notice shall be given to the current caretaker of the child.
- (3) All complaints to the Court shall be in writing and directed to the judge assigned to the proceeding and filed with a court clerk. The Court shall review all complaints received. If the Court determines that the complaint presents reasonable cause to believe that the attorney may have failed to act competently or professionally, the Court shall notify the attorney in question of the complaint and shall give the attorney the opportunity to respond in writing within 10 court days, or up to 30 calendar days if good cause shown. The Court shall review the complaint and response and make additional inquiry to determine if the attorney acted incompetently or unprofessional. If the Court so finds, the Court may replace the attorney, impose sanctions as provided by law and/or refer the matter to the State Bar of California for further action. The Court shall notify the attorney and the party in writing of its determination concerning the allegations of the complaint.

Section D Time Lines/Procedures

Attorneys for parties are required to adhere to the statutory time lines (Rules of court, Welfare and Institutions Code) for all hearings.

(Effective July, 2006; amended effective date of July 1, 2017)

CHAPTER 12 FAMILY LAW FACILITATOR RULES

RULE 12.1 ADDITIONAL FACILITATOR DUTIES

(A) In addition to the duties designated by the Family Law Facilitator Act, the duties of the family law facilitator may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Meeting with litigants to mediate issues of child support, spousal support, and maintenance of health insurance, subject to §10012 of the Family Code. Actions in which one or both of the parties are unrepresented by counsel shall have priority.
- (2) Drafting stipulations to include all issues agreed to by the parties, which may include issues other than those specified in Section §10003 of the Family Code.
- (3) If the parties are unable to resolve issues with the assistance of the family law facilitator, prior to or at the hearing, and at the request of the court, the family law facilitator shall review the paperwork, examine documents, prepare support schedules, and advise the judge whether or not the matter is ready to proceed.
- (4) Assisting the clerk in maintaining records.
- (5) Preparing formal orders consistent with the court's announced order in cases where both parties are unrepresented.
- (6) Serving as a special master in proceedings and making findings to the court unless he or she has they have served as a mediator in that case.
- (B) If staff and other resources are available and the duties listed in subdivision (A) have been accomplished, the duties of the family law facilitator may also include the following:
- (1) Assisting the court with research and any other responsibilities which will enable the court to be responsive to the litigants' needs.
- (2) Developing programs for bar and community outreach through day and evening programs, videotapes, and other innovative means that will assist unrepresented and financially disadvantaged litigants in gaining meaningful access to family court. These programs shall specifically include information concerning underutilized legislation, such as expedited child support orders and preexisting, court-sponsored programs such as appointment of attorneys for children.

(Rule 11.1 renumbered rule 12.1 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001; amended effective date July 1, 2017).

CHAPTER 13 JURY RULES

RULE 13.1 REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL IN EQUITY CASES, ETC.

A party desiring a jury trial where the right thereto is not guaranteed by law will be deemed to have waived a jury trial unless the party has complied with California Rules of Court, rule 377.

(Rule 12.1 renumbered rule 13.1 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 13.2 VERDICT FORMS AND INTERROGATORIES

A party requesting a jury trial shall submit to the trial judge at the times required by these rule and in no event later than 9:30 a.m. on the first morning of trial every form of special and general verdict and every form of interrogatory which may be required for disposition of the case.

(Rule 12.2 renumbered rule 13.2 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 13.3 REQUEST FOR JURY INSTRUCTIONS

Requested jury instructions shall be delivered to the trial judge at the times provided herein, or at such other times provided herein, or at such other times as my be ordered by the court. Additional supplementary instructions may be received by the trial judge at such time and on such conditions as may be just.

The request for jury instructions shall have a face sheet with the court cause and action number which will also contain a list of CACI (Judicial Council Civil Jury Instructions) and CALCRIM (Judicial Council Criminal Jury Instructions) instructions requested. Such lists shall have two columns: (1) CACI or CALCRIM number; and, (2) the title of the instruction.

Attached to said cover sheet shall be copies of all CACI and CALCRIM instructions requested with all blanks filled in and all surplusage blocked out. All other instructions requested by a party shall be described in the cover sheet and attached thereto. All such instructions shall be in a form that may be appropriately delivered to the jury for their reference in the jury room (The instructions shall *not* be denominated "Plaintiff's Instruction" or "Defendant's Instruction.")

(Rule 12.3 renumbered rule 13.3, effective July 1, 2006; amended effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 13.4 ATTORNEY TESTIFYING MAY NOT ARGUE THE CASE

An attorney testifying on the merits of the case as a witness on behalf of his client shall not argue the case to the jury unless by permission of the court.

(Rule 12.4 renumbered rule 13.4 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 13.5 DEPOSIT NONREFUNDABLE OF JURY FEES

A deposit of jury fees in the statutory amount shall be made by the party requesting a trial by jury as provided in section 631 of the Code of Civil Procedure. In the event that a jury is not required for the trial of any case for which a deposit of jury fees has been made, the deposit will be appropriated by the court.

(Rule 12.5 renumbered rule I 3.5 effective July 1. 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001; amended effective date of July 1, 2017)

RULE 13.6 JURY PANELS

For all trials scheduled in Bridgeport, jurors shall be summoned from Northern Mono County only.

For all trials scheduled in Mammoth Lakes, jurors shall be summoned from Southern

Mono county only. The trial judge, in his discretion, may order a jury panel from throughout the county.

Northern Mono County is hereby designated as the following zip codes: 93517, 93541, 96107 & 96133. Southern Mono County is hereby designated as the following zip codes: 93512, 93514, 93529 & 93546.

(Rule 12.6 renumbered rule 13.6 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

CHAPTER 14 JURY COMMISSIONER

RULE 14.1 STANDING ORDER FOR DRAWING OF JURY

Whenever the business of the Court, shall require the attendance of a trial jury, the Jury Commissioner shall direct that a trial jury venire be drawn and summoned to attend before the Court in such a number and at such a time as shall be appropriate for the conduct of the trials for which juries are required. This rule constitutes a continuing delegation to the Jury Commissioner of the Court's authority pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §196.

(Rule 13.1 renumbered rule 14.1 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2001).

RULE 14.2 EXCUSES FROM TRIAL JURY SERVICE

Excuses from trial jury service shall be administered pursuant to Code of Civil Procedures §204 and California Rules of Court, Rule 2.1008.

(Rule 13.2 renumbered rule 14.2 effective July 1, 2005; adopted effective July 1, 2002; amended effective date of July 1, 2017).

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONO

APPENDIX A – Alphabetical Index of INDEXLocal Rules RULES OF COURT

A

Additional Facilitator Duties	21
Administration	2
Administration of the Courts; Fairness; Courtroom Decorum	2
Adoption of Rules	1
Amendment and Repeal	2
Appearance & Waiver Form	Appendix A
Application of General Court Rules	
Approaching a Witness	
At Issue Me mora ndum -Civil Cases	
Attire	4
Attorney Testifying May Not Argue the Case	23
Attorney Fees in Civil Actions or Proceedings	15
Attorney Fees in Residential Unlawful Detainer Actions	16
Authority of Clerk's Office Regarding Settings	8
В	2
Bias, Gender or Other	
Bridgeport Courthouse Proceedings	6
С	
Case Management Conference	9
Child ustody	16
Citation	1
Civil Case Management	9
Civil Rules	6
Complaints Re: Bias or Sexual Harassment	3
Communications to Court or Jury	5
Construction and Application	1
Counter Arraignments in Misdemeanor Matters	19
Court Reporters	1
Courtroom Decorum	
Criminal Discovery	20
Criminal Rules	19

٦	_

Deposit non Refundable of Jury Fees	
Definitions9	
Definition of Terms1	
Duties of Counsel Prior to Conference	
Duties of Counsel at Conferences12	
E	
Examination from Counsel Table5	
Excuses from Trial Jury Service24	
Ex Parte Applications	
F	
Facsimile Filing Pursuant to Rule 2006	
Facsimile Filing Requirements	
Fairness 3	
Family Law Facilitator Rules21	
Family Law Rules	
Filing and Service of Orders13	
Filing of Felonies	
Filing of Misdemeanors	
Financial Declarations	
Forms of Papers Presented for Filing6	
rothis of Tapers Tresented for Thing	
G	
Gender Neutral Language3	
General Courtroom Behavior4	
General Policy Courtroom Decorum4	
General Pretrial Rules7	
Gov. Code §68086 and Rule 891 CRC	
Н	
Headings on Pleadings Identifying Parties14	
Holidays2	
Hazardous Weather6	
Hazardous weather	
J	
Jury Commissioner24	
Jury Fees23	
Jury Panels23	

Jury Rules	
L	
Location2	
M	
Mandatory Settlement Conference	
N	
Notice of Trial9	
p	
Policy9)
Pre-Hearing Conference1	8
Pretrial Motions1	
Presentation, Filing and Service of Court Papers	3
Presiding Judge	
Pretrial Conferences	
Probate Rules	
Proposed Judgments, Decrees and Orders in Uncontested Matters1	3
R	
Regular Law and Motion	7
Relief from Local Rules	
Repeal of Prior Rules	
Requests for Changes in Trial Dates	3
Request for Jury Instructions	23
Request for Jury Trial in Equity Cases, Etc	
Responsive Pleadings	10
S	
Sanctions	;
Scope of Chapter	9
Service of Summons	0
Setting Cases for Trial	Ŏ

Settlement Conferences	
Sexual Harassment Complaints	3
Short Causes	7
Smoking	
Standing Order for Drawing of Jury	24
Status Conferences	12
Stipulation Regarding Calendared Matters	8
т	
Tax Certificates	18
Telephones, Cellular Phones, and Beepers	5
Telephonic Appearance and Facsimile Filing	14
Timeliness	20
Transcript Requests	
Transferred Cases	
Traversing the Well	
Trial Setting	19
Trial Setting Conference/Settlement Conference	
Trial Confirmation Hearing	19
v	
Vacating Conference	
Verdict Forms and Interrogatories	22
Visitation	

APPENDIX A - List of Rules with Date of Adoption or Latest Revision

Rule	Title of Rule	Date of
Number		Adoption
		or Latest
		Revision
1.1	Adoption of Rules	7/1/2017
1.2	Repeal of Prior Rules	7/1/2001
1.3	Citation	7/1/2001
1.4	Construction and Application	7/1/2004
1.5	Definition of Terms	7/1/2004
1.6	Amendment and Repeal	7/1/2001
2.1	Location	7/1/2001
2.2	Holidays	7/1/2001
2.3	Presiding Judge	7/1/2001
2.4	Bias Informal Complaint Policy	7/1/2024
2.5	Gender Neutral Language	7/1/2001
2.6	Complaints Re: Bias or Sexual Harassment	7/1/2001
2.7	General Policy Courtroom Decorum	7/1/2001
2.8	Attire	7/1/2001
2.9	General Courtroom Behavior	7/1/2001
2.10	Communications to Court or Jury	7/1/2001
2.11	Telephones, Cellular Phones, and Beepers	7/1/2017
2.12	Traversing the Well	7/1/2001
2.13	Examination from Counsel Table	7/1/2001
2.14	Approaching a Witness	7/1/2001
2.15	Smoking	7/1/2001
2.16	Forms of Paper Presented for Filing	1/1/2003
2.17	Bridgeport Courthouse Proceedings	7/1/2017
3.1	Application of General Court Rules	7/1/2001
3.2	Relief from Local Rules	7/1/2001
3.3	Sanctions	7/1/2017
3.4	Regular Law and Motion	7/1/2017
3.5	Short Causes	7/1/2001
3.6	Authority of Clerk's Office Regarding Settings	7/1/2001
3.7	No At Issue Memorandum-Civil Cases	7/1/2001
3.8	Setting Cases for Trial	7/1/2001
3.9	Requests for Changes in Trial Dates	7/1/2017
3.10	Stipulation Regarding Calendared Matters	7/1/2001
3.11	Trial Setting Conference/Settlement Conference	7/1/2001
3.12	Notice of Trial	7/1/2017
3.13	Pretrial Conference.	7/1/2001
4.1	Scope of Chapter	7/1/2001
4.2	Definitions	7/1/2001
4.3	Transferred Cases	7/1/2001

1.1	Policy	7/1/2024
4.4	Service of Summons	7/1/2001
4.5	Responsive Pleadings	7/1/2001
4.6	Case Management Conference	7/1/2017
4.7	Pretrial Conferences	7/1/2001
4.8	Sanctions	7/1/2001
4.9	Settlement Conferences	7/1/2001
4.10	Presence of Accessibility of Attorneys, Parties and Other	7/1/2001
4.10.1	Duties of Counsel Prior to Conference	7/1/2017
4.10.2	Duties of Counsel at Conferences	7/1/2001
4.10.3	Vacating Conference	7/1/2001
4.10.4	Sanctions	7/1/2001
4.10.5	Presentation, Filing and Service of Court Papers	7/1/2001
4.11	Proposed Judgments, Decrees and Orders in Uncontested Matters	7/1/2001
4.11.1		7/1/2001
4.11.2	Filing and Service of Orders	1/1/2001
4.11.3	Ex Parte Applications	
4.11.4	Headings on Pleadings Identifying Parties	7/1/2017 7/1/2008
<u>5.1</u>	Remote Appearances	
<u>5.2</u>	Electronic Filing	7/1/2024
5.3	Compliance with Rule 201	7/1/2024
5.4	Facsimile Filing Requirements	7/1/2024
6.1	When provided by the Court	7/1/2017
6.2	Gov. Code§ 68086 and Rule 891 CRC	7/1/2017
6.3	Time Allotted Without Cost to Party	7/1/2001
6.4	Transcript Requests	7/1/2001
<u>7.1</u>	Attorney Fees in Civil Actions or Proceedings	7/1/2005
7.2	Attorney Fees in Residential Unlawful Detainer Actions	7/1/2005
8.1	Child Custody and/or Visitation	7/1/2017
<u>8.2</u>	Financial Declarations	7/1/2017
8.3	Pre-Hearing Conference	7/1/2017
9.1	<u>Tax Certificates</u>	7/1/2005
10.1	Filing of Misdemeanors	7/1/2005
10.2	Filing of Felonies	7/1/2005
10.3	Counter Arraignments in Misdemeanor Matters	7/1/2005
10.4	<u>Trial Setting</u>	7/1/2005
10.5	Trial Confirmation Hearing	7/1/2005
10.6	Pretrial Motions	7/1/2005
10.7	Pretrial Conference	7/1/2005
10.8	Criminal Discovery	7/1/2005
11.1	Timelines	7/1/2001
11.2	Mandatory Settlement Conference	7/1/2005
11.3	Competency of Counsel in Dependency Proceedings	7/17/2017
12.1	Additional Facilitator Duties	7/1/2001
13.1	Request for Jury Trial in Equity Cases, etc	7/1/2024
13.2	Verdict Forms and Interrogatories	7/1/2005

13.3	Request for Jury Instructions	7/1/2005
13.4	Attorney Testifying May Not Argue the Case	7/1/2001
13.5	Deposit and Refund of Jury Fees	7/1/2017
13.6	Jury Panels	7/1/2005
14.1	Standing Order for Drawing of Jury	7/1/2005
14.2	Excuses from Trial Jury Service	7/1/2017

APPENDIX B - List of Local Forms

Form Name	Date of Adoption or Latest Revision	<u>Use</u>
Can't Afford to Pay Fine Forms	4/11/2019	Optional
Can't Afford to Pay Fine Forms (SP)	4/11/2019	<u>Optional</u>
Certificate of Correction	1/1/2015	<u>Optional</u>
Counter Arraignment	1/1/2015	Optional
Ex Parte Application	1/1/2015	<u>Optional</u>
Mental Health Diversion Packet	3/19/2021	Optional
Military Diversion Request and Order	3/19/2021	Optional
Misdemeanor Diversion Request and Order	3/11/2021	Optional
Notice of Motion & Motion to Continue (Infraction)	11/28/2017	Optional
Proposition 47: Petition & Order for Resentencing	1/23/2015	Optional
Request A Fine Reduction Online	1/1/2015	<u>Optional</u>
Request Changes Based on False Identification	1/1/2015	<u>Mandatory</u>
Request Changes Based on False Identification (SP)	1/1/2015	Mandatory
Request to Vacate Domestic Violence Restraining Order	11/28/2017	Optional