



Judicial Council of California  
Rules Committee

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**RULES COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF OPEN VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday, March 13, 2025

12:10 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.

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<b>Rules Committee Members Present:</b>	Hon. Carin T. Fujisaki (Chair), Hon. Joan K. Irion (Vice-chair), Hon. Bunni O. Awoniyi, Ms. Kate Bieker, Hon. Charles S. Crompton, Hon. Ryan Davis, and Mr. Charles Johnson
<b>Rules Committee Members Absent:</b>	Hon. Khymberli S. Apaloo, Hon. Ricardo R. Ocampo, Mr. Craig M. Peters, and Mr. Maxwell Pritt
<b>Rules Committee Staff Present:</b>	Mr. James Barolo, Mr. Eric Long, and Ms. Benita Downs
<b>Advisory Bodies Chair(s) and Staff Present</b>	Eric Divine, Sarah Fleischer-Ihn, Jenny Grantz, Anne Hadreas, Frances Ho, Gabrielle Selden, Jamie Schechter, Tyler Shill, Laura Speed, Corby Sturges, and Jeremy Varon
<b>Other JC Staff Present</b>	Amber Barnett, Laura Brown, Marshall Comia, Jessica Devencenzi, Audrey Fancy, Michael Giden, Donna Ignacio, Stephanie Lacambra, Anna Maves, Kim Saskia, Christy Simons, Marymichael Smrdeli, and Greg Tanaka

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**OPEN MEETING**

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**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:12 p.m., and Ms. Downs took roll call.

Approved minutes of the August 6, August 13, August 30, October 4, October 22, December 5, and December 19, 2024, meetings, and the January 8 and January 24, 2025, meetings.

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**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 01–19)**

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**EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Judicial Council Report—Recommend Council Action**

**Item 01**

**Judicial Branch Education: Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee  
Name Change and Other Technical Amendments**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Executive and Planning Committee that the Judicial Council amend 12 rules of court to change the name of the Center for Judicial Education and Research

Advisory Committee to the Center for Judicial Education and Resources Advisory Committee and make other technical amendments. The revised name adopts the recent name change of the Judicial Council's education office and more accurately reflects the work of the committee.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Executive and Planning Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

## **JUDICIAL BRANCH ADMINISTRATION**

### **Invitation to Comment–Recommend Circulation for Comment**

#### **Item 02/SP25-01**

#### **Judicial Branch Administration: Rule and Standard for Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Court-Related Work**

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Artificial Intelligence Task Force that recommends adopting one rule and one standard to address the use of generative artificial intelligence for court-related work. The task force developed the proposal as part of its charge from the Chief Justice to oversee the development of policy recommendations on the use of artificial intelligence in the judicial branch.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on a special cycle through April 17.***

### **Judicial Council Report–Recommend Council Action**

#### **Item 03 (Jointly by the Court Executive Advisory Committee and the Information Technology Advisory Committee)**

#### **Judicial Branch Technology: Rules for Adoption of Technology and Data Security Guidelines**

The committee reviewed a joint recommendation from the Court Executives Advisory Committee (CEAC) and the Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) that the Judicial Council adopt one rule and amend one rule to create a process for adopting and revising technology and data security guidelines for the courts and the Judicial Council. The proposal originated with the Joint Information Security Governance Subcommittee, which reviews and recommends security-related guidelines, policies, and other proposals for action by ITAC and CEAC.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the joint recommendation from CEAC and ITAC, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

## **APPELLATE**

### **Judicial Council Report–Recommend Council Action**

#### **Item 04 (Jointly with the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee)**

#### **CEQA Actions: New Projects and Fees for Expedited Review**

The committee reviewed a joint recommendation from the Appellate Advisory Committee and the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council amend eight rules of the California Rules of Court governing the expedited resolution of actions and proceedings brought under the California Environmental Quality Act. These amendments would implement recent legislation requiring inclusion of “environmental leadership media campus project” for streamlined review and specify the fees that applicants of this project type must pay to cover the costs of the trial and appellate courts in adjudicating challenges to those projects.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the joint recommendation from the Appellate Advisory Committee and the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

## **CIVIL AND SMALL CLAIMS**

### **Judicial Council Report—Recommend Council Action**

#### **Item 05**

##### **Civil Practice and Procedure: Termination of Complex Coordination Proceedings and Actions**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council amend rule 3.545 and adopt rule 3.546 to adjust court procedures for coordinated actions and coordination proceedings. The recommended rule amendment and new rule aim to address concerns that the existing rules on these matters are overly burdensome for courts and do not contain a process to terminate coordination proceedings.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Civil and Small Claim Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

## **CRIMINAL**

### **Judicial Council Report—Recommend Council Action**

#### **Item 06**

##### **Criminal Law: Felony Plea Form**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Criminal Law Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council revise *Plea Form, With Explanations and Waiver of Rights—Felony* (form CR-101), to incorporate recent case law and legislation and clarify language about the factual basis for the plea.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Criminal Law Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 07**

**Criminal Law: New Postconviction Retail Crime Restraining Order**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Criminal Law Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council adopt a new retail crime restraining order for court use, to implement new law (Penal Code section 490.8), which allows a court to prohibit a defendant convicted of specified offenses from entering the premises of a protected retail establishment for up to two years.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Criminal Law Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**FAMILY AND JUVENILE**

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**Judicial Council Report–Recommend Council Action**

**Item 08**

**Juvenile Law: Restitution Orders**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council revise the restitution order and instructions forms to delete joint and several liability for juvenile co-offenders, address restitution apportionment in juvenile court orders, and clarify the liability of who may be ordered to pay restitution in criminal and juvenile proceedings. In addition, the committee recommended revisions to allow for use of the order when a child under informal supervision has agreed to restitution.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 09**

**Family Law: Technical Changes to Forms**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council revise several forms by correcting clerical errors, updating references to state and federal codes, and making other minor changes to align the forms with statewide procedures. The technical changes will improve the accuracy of the forms and avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 09B****Family Law: Summary Dissolution Forms**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council revise two family law summary dissolution forms, which are mandated by Family Code section 2400 to reflect any increase in the California Consumer Price Index.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**PROTECTIVE ORDERS**

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**Judicial Council Report–Recommend Council Action****Item 10****Protective Orders: New Civil Retail Crime Restraining Order**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council amend three rules of court, adopt six forms for mandatory use, and approve two information sheets in a new forms series to implement recent legislation creating a new restraining order based on two or more alleged acts of retail crime.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**PROBATE AND MENTAL HEALTH**

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**Judicial Council Report–Recommend Council Action****Item 11****Rules and Forms: Additional CARE Act Legislation Item 05**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council amend three rules of court, adopt one form, approving two forms, revising three forms, adopting one standard of judicial administration, and renaming a title in the standards of judicial administration. These recommendations implement recent enacted legislation amending the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act in Senate Bills 42 (Stats. 2024. ch.640), 1323 (Stats. 2024, ch. 646), and 1400 (Stats. 2024, ch. 647). The committee also recommended revisions to certain forms in response to feedback from members of the public regarding the forms' readability and ease of use.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 12****Probate Conservatorship and Guardianship: Notice of Change of Residence and Notice of Death**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council amend rule 7.1016 to conform to Senate Bill 654 (Stats. 2021, ch. 768, § 2), which amended Family Code section 3042 to place additional conditions on a minor child's participation in court or testimony in proceedings, including probate guardianships of the person, that address child custody or visitation. The committee also recommended amending the rule to conform more closely to statute by limiting its application to specified proceedings and expanding its protections to apply to wards who are parties, as well as to express its requirements more clearly.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 13****Decedents' Estates: Succession to Property of Small Value**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council amend two rules and revise six forms to apply the new statutory requirements and update the rules and forms to conform to other amendments to the law, including the statutory authorization of electronic delivery of notices and other papers, subject to consent.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**TRAFFIC**

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**Judicial Council Report—Recommend Council Action****Item 14****Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules: Miscellaneous Technical Changes to the 2025 Edition for Traffic, Boating, Forestry, Fish and Game, Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Business Licensing**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Traffic Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council adopt the Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules, 2025 Edition (Revised): Traffic, Boating, Forestry, Fish and Game, Public Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Business Licensing to correct errors in the conviction assessment column for 32 offenses and to update the page numbers in the table of contents. These changes are technical, minor, and noncontroversial.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Traffic Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 15****Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes to Traffic Form**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Traffic Advisory Committee that the Judicial Council revise *Officer's Declaration* (form TR-235) to incorporate a change resulting from legislation and to correct and update grammar and stylistic conventions on the form. These changes are technical, minor, and noncontroversial. The committee recommended making the necessary corrections to conform to statute and to ensure clarity for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from the Traffic Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL STAFF TECHNICAL AMENDMENT**

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**Judicial Council Report—Recommend Council Action****Item 16****Appellate Procedure: Certified Record in Capital Cases**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from Judicial Council staff that the Judicial Council amend the rule of court addressing the record in capital cases to reflect the Legislature recent amendments to section 1218 to remove the requirement that a court transmit a complete transcript to the Governor in cases resulting in a judgment of death.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from Judicial Council staff, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 17****Protective Orders: Technical Change to Domestic Violence Form**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from Judicial Council staff that the Judicial Council revise one domestic violence restraining order form to correct a technical error and to make other minor corrections. The form's revisions will avoid confusion over the expiration date of the order.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from Judicial Council staff, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 18****Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from Judicial Council staff to correct errors identified in rules and forms resulting from input errors, and minor changes needed to conform to changes in law or previous council actions. These changes are technical in nature and necessary to avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from Judicial Council staff, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.***

**Item 19/ Circulating Order**

**Civil Practice and Procedure: Adjustments to Dollar Amounts of Exemptions**

The committee reviewed a recommendation from Judicial Council staff that the Judicial Council revise two forms and amend Appendix B to fulfill the statutory mandates that requires the Judicial Council to periodically update certain rules and forms to reflect changes in the California Consumer Price Index.

***Action: The committee unanimously approved the recommendation from Judicial Council staff in the circulating order memorandum, which was circulated to the Judicial Council for action.***

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**I. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)**

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**The Next Rules Committee meeting will be held on: April 10, 2025.**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Approved by the committee on April 10, 2025.