



Judicial Council of California
Rules Committee

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RULES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF OPEN VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING

Thursday, December 4, 2025

12:10 – 1:10 p.m.

Advisory Body Members Present:	Hon. Joan K. Irion (Chair), Hon. Tamara L. Wood (Vice-Chair), Hon. Charles S. Crompton, Hon. Ryan Davis, Ms. Rachel W. Hill, Mr. Charles Johnson, Hon. Jeffrey C. Kauffman, Mr. Darrel E. Parker, Hon. Michael Rhoads, and Ms. Dena Stone
Advisory Body Members Absent:	Hon. Bunmi O. Awoniyi, Hon. Ricardo R. Ocampo, and Mr. Craig M. Peters
Advisory Body Staff Present:	Kristin Burford, Benita Downs, and Eric Long
Advisory Bodies Staff Presenting:	Deanna Adams, Kristin Burford, Tony Cheng, Sarah Fleischer-Ihn, Jenny Grantz, Maddie Joyner, Tyler Shill, and Jeremy Varon.
Other JC Staff Present:	James Barolo, Audrey Fancy, Nikki Marquez, Greg Tanaka, and Shayla Taylor

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes of the October 30, 2025, Rules Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 01–09)

CIVIL AND SMALL CLAIMS

Item 01/W26-01

Civil Practice and Procedure: Revise Civil Case Cover Sheet

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to revise the Civil Case Cover Sheet (form CM-010) to add a case type for Song-Beverly Act motor vehicle lemon law cases. Judicial officers and court executive officers at several courts have requested this revision to address recent significant increases in the number of Song-Beverly Act motor vehicle case filings. The proposed form revision will allow courts and the branch to more easily and effectively collect data about

the number of these cases being filed and the court resources they require. The advisory committee also proposes revising page 3 of the form to add introductory text, use consistent terminology, and clarify the meaning of several items.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

Item 02/W26-02

Civil Practice and Procedure: Revisions to Enforcement of Judgment and Wage Garnishment Forms to Implement Assembly Bill 774

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to adopt 3 forms and revise 10 forms to implement Assembly Bill 774 (Stats. 2025, ch. 708). AB 774 makes several changes to the laws regarding enforcement of judgment, including creation of a new procedure by which the judgment creditor may seek reinstatement of a judgment lien on real or personal property.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

Item 03/W26-03

Civil Practice and Procedure: Name Change and Gender Change Rules and Forms

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to revise and add to the Judicial Council forms that individuals use to request a change of name and recognition of a change of gender and sex identifier. The proposal implements Assembly Bill 1084 (Stats. 2025, ch. 723) and Senate Bill 59 (Stats. 2025, ch. 738). AB 1084 streamlines the process associated with a change of name and recognition of a change of gender and sex identifier. SB 59 makes court records associated with these proceedings confidential. The advisory committee also proposes revisions to certain forms in response to feedback from members of the public regarding clarity and ease of use.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

COLLABORATIVE JUSTICE

Item 04/W26-04

Collaborative Justice: Guidelines for Adult Collaborative Treatment Courts

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee to amend standard 4.10 of the California Standards of Judicial Administration to expand the scope of its application from diversion drug court programs to adult collaborative treatment courts. This proposal is in response to Senate Bill 910 (Stats. 2024, ch. 641), which expressly requires the Judicial Council to amend standards

of judicial administration to reflect specified state and nationally recognized best practices and guidelines for collaborative programs.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

CRIMINAL

Item 05/W26-05 (jointly with Appellate Advisory Committee)

Criminal Procedure: Rule and Form Revisions Related to the Racial Justice Act

The committee reviewed a joint proposal from the Appellate Advisory Committee and the Criminal Law Advisory Committee to amend two rules of court and revise three forms. This proposal would implement recent legislation related to the Racial Justice Act and address urgent issues identified by courts on existing court forms implementing the Act.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

Item 06/W26-06

Criminal Law: Advisements on the Felony Plea Form

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Criminal Law Advisory Committee to revise the optional felony plea form to incorporate the verbatim immigration advisement and to clarify the advisement in cases involving sexually violent offenses. Under existing law, before accepting a plea of guilty or no contest, courts must advise a defendant on the record that if they are not a citizen, conviction of the charged offense may result in specified immigration consequences. Recent legislation requires courts to advise defendants of these immigration consequences with the verbatim language of Penal Code section 1016.5(a). Additionally, when a defendant pleads guilty or no contest to a sexually violent offense, the California Supreme Court has directed trial courts to advise defendants about the possibility of being referred to sexually violent predator civil commitment proceedings.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

FAMILY AND JUVENILE LAW

Item 07/W26-07

Juvenile Law: Update to Racial Justice Act Forms

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee to revise two forms to implement Assembly Bill 1071 (Stats. 2025, ch. 721) in juvenile court. AB 1071 amends

provisions of the Racial Justice Act by, among other changes, adding a service requirement to Penal Code section 745. The proposal also includes minor, non-substantive revisions for clarity.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

PROBATE AND MENTAL HEALTH

Item 08/W26-08

Mental Health Law: Implementation of CARE Act Legislation

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee to amend three rules of court, repeal one rule of court, approve two forms, and revise five forms to implement recently enacted legislation regarding the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act. The proposal also includes minor changes to improve form usability and clarity.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

PROVIDING ACCESS AND FAIRNESS

Item 09/W26-09

Access and Fairness: Gender Inclusivity of Juror Identification and Juror Questionnaires (Implementation of Assembly Bill 1899)

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness to adopt a new standard of judicial administration to ensure gender inclusivity of juror identification and juror questionnaires, consistent with the directive in Assembly Bill 1899 (Stats. 2024, ch. 812). This proposal also includes amendments of two standards and three rules and revisions of two forms, all of which use language for jurors that is not inclusive of all genders. In addition, the advisory committee proposes minor changes to conform to style guidelines and to improve accuracy, consistency, clarity, and usability of the materials.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the proposal for circulation on the regular winter cycle through January 7, 2026.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

The Rules Committee's next meeting will be held on January 7, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Approved by the committee on January 7, 2026