



RULES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF OPEN VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING

Wednesday, March 17, 2026

12:10 – 1:10 p.m.

Advisory Body Members Present: Hon. Tamara L. Wood, Hon. Bunmi O. Awoniyi, Hon. Ryan Davis, Mr. Charles Johnson, Hon. Jeffrey C. Kauffman, Hon. Ricardo R. Ocampo, Mr. Craig M. Peters, and Hon. Michael Rhoads

Advisory Body Members Absent: Ms. Rachel W. Hill and Ms. Dena Stone

Advisory Body Staff Present: Kristin Burford, Benita Downs, and Eric Long

Advisory Bodies Staff Presenting Deanna Adams, Kristin Burford, Tony Cheng, Jessica Devencenzi, Sarah Fleischer-Ihn, Jenny Grantz, Maddie Joyner, Tyler Shill, and Jeremy Varon,

Other JC Staff Present James Barolo, Sarah Davis, Audrey Fancy, Saskia Kim, Eunice Lee, Anna Maves, Elyse Pulley, Marymichael Smrdeli, and Corby Sturges

OPEN MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call

Judge Wood called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m., after which Ms. Downs called the roll.

Approval of Minutes

The advisory body reviewed and approved the minutes from the January 7, 2026, meeting, as well as the January 29, 2026, Rules Committee meeting conducted by email; Judge Awoniyi abstained as to the vote on the January 29 meeting minutes.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 01 – 12)

CIVIL AND SMALL CLAIMS

Item 01/W26-01

Civil Practice and Procedure: Revise Civil Case Cover Sheet

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to revise Civil Case Cover Sheet (form CM-010) by adding a case category for Song-Beverly Act motor

vehicle lemon law matters. This change was requested by judicial officers and court executive officers from several courts in response to a rise in filings under the Song-Beverly Act.

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

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 recommendation from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to adopt three new forms and revise five existing forms to implement AB 774. This legislation makes several changes to laws regarding judgment enforcement, including a new procedure allowing a judgment creditor to seek reinstatement of a lien on real or personal property, and additionally improves the clarity and readability of the forms

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

Item 03/W26-03

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

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee to adopt, approve, revise, and revoke various Judicial Council forms used by individuals to request a name change or recognition of a change in gender or sex identifier. It also proposed amendments to two related court rules. These updates are needed to implement Assembly Bill 1084 (Stats. 2025, ch. 723) and Senate Bill 59 (Stats. 2025, ch. 738), improve support for participants in the Secretary of State's address confidentiality program, incorporate technical and clarifying revisions, and address public feedback regarding clarity and ease of use.

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

COLLABORATIVE JUSTICE

Item 04/W26-04

Collaborative Justice: Guidelines for Adult Collaborative Treatment Courts

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee to revise Standard 4.10 by expanding its scope from diversion drug court programs to adult collaborative treatment courts. Senate Bill 910 (Stats. 2024, ch. 641) amended Health and Safety Code section 11972, requiring counties and courts with treatment court programs to design and operate them in accordance

with specified state and national best practices and guidelines. The amended section 11972(b) also requires the Judicial Council to revise the standards of judicial administration accordingly.

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

CRIMINAL

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

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

The committee reviewed a joint recommendation from the Appellate Advisory Committee and the Criminal Law Advisory Committee to amend two court rules and revise three forms. These changes are needed to implement recent legislation related to the Racial Justice Act and to address urgent issues identified by courts in the forms used to make claims under the Act, which prohibits the state from seeking or obtaining a conviction or sentence based on race, ethnicity, or national origin.

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

Item 06/W26-06

Criminal Law: Advisements on the Felony Plea Form

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Criminal Law Advisory Committee to revise Plea Form, With Explanations and Waiver of Rights—Felony (form CR-101) to incorporate recent statutory amendments on immigration advisements and update the existing advisement on sexually violent predator civil commitment proceedings.

Action: The committee 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 LAW

Item 07/W26-07

Juvenile Law: Update to Racial Justice Act Forms

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee to revise Request for Relief Under the Racial Justice Act—Juvenile Adjudication (form JV-720) and The Racial Justice Act in Juvenile Court (form JV-720-INFO) to incorporate the service requirement for counsel of represented applicants mandated by AB 1071 and to improve clarity and readability.

Action: *The committee 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

Item 08/W26-08

Mental Health Law: Implementation of CARE Act Legislation

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee to amend a heading of an article of the California Rules of Court, amend four rules, 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. Senate Bill 27 (Stats. 2025, ch. 528) amended both the substantive and procedural aspects of the CARE Act, including changes to eligibility criteria and processes for initiating proceedings. The committee also suggested minor revisions to improve the clarity, usability, and consistency of the rules and forms.

Action: *The committee 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.*

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 recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness to adopt a new standard of judicial administration to ensure gender inclusivity in juror identification and juror questionnaires, consistent with the directive in Assembly Bill 1899 (Stats. 2024, ch. 812). In line with AB 1899's directive and the recommended new standard, the committee also recommended conforming changes to three court rules, two forms, and two standards of judicial administration; these materials currently use language directed to jurors that is not gender inclusive. In

addition, the committee recommends minor changes to conform to style guidelines and to improve accuracy, consistency, clarity, and usability of the materials.

Action: The committee approved the recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.

JUDICIAL BRANCH ADMINISTRATION

Item 10/SP25-05

Judicial Branch Administration: Rule for Reporting Civil Arrests in Court Facilities

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee to adopt a rule of court requiring reporting of civil arrests in superior court facilities, as defined. The recommended rule will help ensure consistent and coordinated statewide collection and reporting of data. The collected data is intended to help the judicial branch better understand the statewide impact that civil arrests in court facilities have on courts and access to justice, while also promoting public trust and confidence through transparency.

Action: The committee approved the recommendation from the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee, which is to go to the Judicial Council for action at the April council meeting.

APPELLATE

Item 11

Appellate Procedure: Increased File-Size Limit for Electronic Filings

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Appellate Advisory Committee to revise Rule 8.74 by increasing the file-size limit from 25 megabytes to 100 megabytes. This change reflects the Courts of Appeal's increased capacity to handle larger electronic filings.

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

JUDICIAL COUNCIL STAFF

Item 12

Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes

The committee reviewed a recommendation from Judicial Council staff to amend rules 2.571, 2.1010, 5.605, 5.710, 5.715, 5.720, and 5.812; and to revise forms ADOPT-220, DV-105, DV-300, EM-115, FL-341, FL-355, FL-720, JV-415, UD-100, WG-010/EJ-175, and WV-120-INFO to make the necessary

corrections to ensure that the rules and forms conform to law and to avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

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

A D J O U R N M E N T

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Approved by the advisory body on April 9, 2026.