



Judicial Council of California

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 25-092

For business meeting on April 25, 2025

Title

Judicial Council: Rules Committee Report

Report Type

Information

Submitted by

Rules Committee

Hon. Carin T. Fujisaki, Chair

Hon. Joan K. Irion, Vice-Chair

Date of Report

April 8, 2025

Contact

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Executive Summary

The Rules Committee establishes and maintains the Judicial Council rulemaking process and assists the council in making informed decisions about rules of court, forms, standards of judicial administration, and jury instructions. Among other actions, the committee “[r]ecommends whether the council should approve, modify, or reject each proposal.” (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.13(c)(1).)

This report describes the committee’s activities since the February 21, 2025, Judicial Council meeting. These activities include the committee’s consideration of one special-cycle invitation to comment, to be circulated through April 17, recommending the adoption of one rule and one standard to address the use of generative artificial intelligence for court-related work. They also include the committee’s recommendations for the rules and forms proposals identified below, all but one of which are on the consent agenda for the April 25 council meeting. The one proposal not on the consent agenda has already been circulated to the council for action.

Overview of Committee Meetings

Since the council’s last meeting, the Rules Committee met once by videoconference on March 13, 2025, to consider the following:

- Ten proposed reports to the Judicial Council with recommendations for new and revised rules and forms, all of which were circulated during the winter public comment cycle:
 - Judicial Branch Technology: *Rules for Adoption of Technology and Data Security Guidelines*
 - CEQA Actions: *New Projects and Fees for Expedited Review*
 - Civil Practice and Procedure: *Termination of Complex Coordination Proceedings and Actions*
 - Criminal Law: *Felony Plea Form*
 - Criminal Law: *New Postconviction Retail Crime Restraining Order*
 - Juvenile Law: *Restitution Orders*
 - Protective Orders: *New Civil Retail Crime Restraining Order*
 - Rules and Forms: *Additional CARE Act Legislation*
 - Conservatorship and Guardianship: *Notice of Change of Residence and Notice of Death*
 - Decedents' Estates: *Succession to Property of Small Value*
- Eight proposed reports to the Judicial Council with recommendations for new and revised rules and forms not circulated for public comment because the recommended rule and form changes are technical in nature and necessary to correct inadvertent omissions or incorrect references:
 - Judicial Branch Education: *Center for Judicial Education and Research Advisory Committee Name Change and Other Technical Amendments*
 - Family Law: *Technical Changes to Forms*
 - Family Law: *Summary Dissolution Forms*
 - Rules and Forms: *Miscellaneous Technical Changes to Traffic Form*
 - Rules and Forms: *Miscellaneous Technical Changes*
 - Appellate Procedure: *Certified Record in Capital Cases*
 - Protective Orders: *Technical Change to Domestic Violence Form*
 - 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*
- One circulating order memorandum from Judicial Council staff proposing that the council revise two forms (EJ-156 and EJ-186) and amend Appendix B to reflect recent changes to the California Consumer Price Index, as required by statute.
- One proposed invitation to comment from the Artificial Intelligence Task Force, to be circulated on a special cycle, proposing one new rule and one new standard to address the use of generative artificial intelligence for court-related work.

Action

After considering the reports and items above, the Rules Committee approved:

- The 18 proposed reports and recommended that they go on the council's consent agenda for the April 25 meeting;
- The circulating order memorandum, which has already been circulated to the council for action; and
- The rule and standard proposal, which has been posted for public comment through April 17, 2025.

Recommendation to the Judicial Council

The Rules Committee recommends council approval of the 18 rules and forms recommendations in the reports identified above, which are on the council's consent agenda for the April 25 meeting.