



Judicial Council of California

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 24-016

For business meeting on July 12, 2024

Title

Judicial Council: Rules Committee Report

Agenda Item Type

Information Only

Submitted by

Rules Committee

Hon. Carin T. Fujisaki, Chair

Hon. Michelle Williams Court, Vice-Chair

Date of Report

July 8, 2024

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Executive Summary

The Rules Committee establishes and maintains the Judicial Council rule-making 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 May 17, 2024, Judicial Council meeting. These activities include the committee’s consideration of one special-cycle invitation to comment, to be circulated through July 10, concerning rules and forms modifications proposed by various advisory committees. They also include the committee’s recommendations for council approval of the rules and forms proposals identified below, all of which are on the consent agenda for the July 12 council meeting.

Overview of Committee Meetings

Since the council’s last meeting, the Rules Committee has met once by videoconference and twice by email.

On **June 4, 2024**, the Rules Committee met by videoconference to consider the following:

- One proposed invitation to comment from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee to circulate on a special cycle proposing four new forms to assist litigants and juvenile courts with claims under the Racial Justice Act.
- Two proposed reports to the Judicial Council with recommendations for new and revised rules and forms, both circulated on a special public comment cycle:
 - *Child Support: Implementing Amendments*
 - *Mental Health Law: CARE Act and Related Proceedings to the Family Code*
- One proposed report to the Judicial Council with recommendations 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:
 - *Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes*

Actions: The Rules Committee approved all the proposed reports and recommended that they go on the council's consent agenda for the July 12 meeting. It also approved the circulation of the one rules and forms invitation to comment (SP24-07), which is posted for public comment through July 10. Following public comment and review by the proponent committees and the Rules Committee, the proposal is expected to come before the council at the November 2024 business meeting.

On **June 10, 2024**, the Rules Committee acted by email to consider a proposed report from Judicial Council staff recommending that the Judicial Council, effective July 15, 2024, revise *Current Dollar Amounts of Exemptions From Enforcement of Judgments* (form EJ-156) to reflect increases in the minimum basic standard of care for a family of four and to implement new law. The proposal was not circulated for public comment because the recommended form changes are technical in nature and unlikely to create controversy.

Action: The Rules Committee approved the proposed report and recommended it go on the council's consent agenda for the July 12 meeting.

On **June 27, 2024**, the Rules Committee acted by email to consider a proposed invitation to comment from the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, *Civil Practice and Procedure: Implementation of Assembly Bill 1119 in Small Claims Cases*, which included the second circulation of one form from the spring invitation-to-comment cycle along with some further proposed form revisions.

Action: The Rules Committee approved the circulation of the proposal (SP24-08), which is posted for public comment through July 31. Following public comment and review by the proponent committees and the Rules Committee, the proposal is expected to come before the council at its September 20, 2024, business meeting.

Recommendation to the Judicial Council

The Rules Committee recommends that the Judicial Council approve the recommendations in the council reports on rules and forms identified above.