



Judicial Council of California

455 Golden Gate Avenue · San Francisco, California 94102-3688

www.courts.ca.gov

REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 25-159

For business meeting on October 24, 2025

Title

Rules and Forms: Miscellaneous Technical Changes to CARE Act Rule and Adoption, CARE Act, and Sheriff Service Forms

Report Type

Action Required

Effective Date

January 1, 2026

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected

Amend Cal. Rules of Court, rule 7.2221; revise forms ADOPT-050-INFO, ADOPT-205, ADOPT-206, CARE-105, CARE-106, CARE-107, CARE-110, CARE-111, and SER-001

Date of Report

October 2, 2025

Contact

Sarah Jacobvitz, 415-865-4533

sarah.jacobvitz@jud.ca.gov

Tyler Shill, 415-865-4571

tyler.shill@jud.ca.gov

Recommended by

Judicial Council staff

Sarah Jacobvitz, Attorney

Tyler Shill, Attorney

Center for Families, Children & the Courts

Executive Summary

Judicial Council staff have identified errors in one rule of court and nine Judicial Council forms resulting from typographical mistakes, changes resulting from legislation, and previous rule amendments and form revisions. Judicial Council staff recommend making the necessary corrections to avoid causing confusion for court users, clerks, and judicial officers.

Recommendation

Judicial Council staff recommend that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2026:

1. Amend California Rules of Court, rule 7.2221 to add headings to subdivisions (a)–(c);
2. Revise *How to Adopt a Child in California* (form ADOPT-050-INFO) to replace “child, if over 12” with “child, if 12 or older” on pages 2, 3, and 4 and to replace “over the age of 12”

with “12 or older” on page 6, to change the wording of one sentence and the formatting of one citation, and to make other minor typographical corrections;

3. Revise *Declaration Confirming Parentage in Stepparent Adoption* (form ADOPT-205) to replace references to form ADOPT-200 with references to form ADOPT-203 because that form is now required to petition for stepparent adoption;
4. Revise *Declaration Confirming Parentage in Stepparent Adoption: Gestational Surrogacy* (form ADOPT-206) to replace references to form ADOPT-200 with references to form ADOPT-203 because that form is now required to petition for stepparent adoption;
5. Revise *Order for CARE Act Report* (form CARE-105) to remove specific reference to form CARE-100 in item 1 because that form is no longer the only petition option;
6. Revise *Notice of Order for CARE Act Report* (form CARE-106) to remove specific reference to form CARE-100 in item 4(b) because that form is no longer the only petition option;
7. Revise *Proof of Personal Service of Notice of Order for CARE Act Report* (form CARE-107) to remove specific reference to form CARE-100 in item 3 because that form is no longer the only petition option;
8. Revise *Notice of Initial Appearance—CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-110) to remove specific reference to form CARE-100 in item 5(a) because that form is no longer the only petition option;
9. Revise *Proof of Personal Service of Notice of Initial Appearance—CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-111) to remove specific reference to form CARE-100 in item 3 because that form is no longer the only petition option; and
10. Revise *Request for Sheriff to Serve Court Papers* (SER-001) to specify that a party asking for service by the sheriff can turn in their papers in person or submit them electronically.

The proposed amended rule and revised forms are attached at pages 5–25.

Relevant Previous Council Action

The Judicial Council has previously acted on rule 7.2221 and forms ADOPT-050-INFO, CARE-105, CARE-106, CARE-107, CARE-110, and CARE-111. This proposal involves minor corrections to these forms.

The Judicial Council adopted form SER-001, effective January 1, 2024, to implement the provisions of Assembly Bill 2791 (Stats. 2022, ch. 417) that became operative on January 1, 2024.

Analysis/Rationale

***How to Adopt a Child in California* (form ADOPT-050-INFO)**

The recommended revisions to form ADOPT-050-INFO are necessary to conform the information sheet's content with two mandatory forms, *Adoption Agreement* (form ADOPT-210) and *Contact After Adoption Agreement* (form ADOPT-310). Form ADOPT-050-INFO incorrectly states that "children over 12" must sign these mandatory forms. However, the form language should be "children 12 years of age or older," as required by statute and as reflected in both council-approved mandatory forms.¹

The wording of one sentence on page 1 was also changed to improve clarity and flow, and the formatting of a citation to a federal statute on page 6 was changed to adhere to the guidelines outlined in the *California Style Manual*. Minor typographical errors throughout the form were also corrected.

Declaration forms for confirming parentage in stepparent adoption cases

The recommended revisions to *Declaration Confirming Parentage in Stepparent Adoption* (form ADOPT-205) and *Declaration Confirming Parentage in Stepparent Adoption: Gestational Surrogacy* (form ADOPT-206) are necessary to reflect recent council action, specifically the adoption of *Stepparent Adoption Request* (form ADOPT-203), effective July 1, 2025, for mandatory use in stepparent adoption cases. Previously, *Adoption Request* (form ADOPT-200) was used to petition for stepparent adoptions. The recommended revisions to form ADOPT-205 and form ADOPT-206 replace outdated references to form ADOPT-200 with references to new mandatory form ADOPT-203.

CARE Act rule and forms

The recommended amendment to rule 7.2221 is a formatting change to add headings to subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of the rule, which were inadvertently omitted from the rule.

The recommended revisions to the CARE Act forms are technical in nature and necessary to reflect recent council action, specifically amendments to rule 7.2221 to allow an alternative petition option and the adoption of *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings by Licensed Behavioral Health Professional Only* (form CARE-102) as an alternative petition option. The forms reference *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-100) as the only petition option. However, form CARE-102 was adopted as a new form, effective July 1, 2025, as an alternative petition option to form CARE-100. The recommended revisions to forms CARE-105, CARE-106, CARE-107, CARE-110, and CARE-111 remove references to *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-100) and replace them with "the petition filed to begin these proceedings," or similar language.

¹ Fam. Code, § 8616.5.

***Request for Sheriff to Serve Court Papers* (form SER-001)**

The recommended revisions to *Request for Sheriff to Serve Court Papers* (form SER-001) are needed to implement Assembly Bill 2791 (Stats. 2022, ch. 417), which went into effect on January 1, 2023. AB 2791 added several sections to the Government Code concerning service of court papers in civil actions by the sheriff or marshal. The legislation added two different versions of section 26666.5 to the Government Code—one that is operative between January 1, 2024, and January 1, 2026, and one that is operative on and after January 1, 2026. Accordingly, throughout 2024 and 2025, a marshal or sheriff must accept the transmission of form SER-001 and certain court papers by email, fax, or in-person delivery *only* in cases where a litigant has been granted a fee waiver or is otherwise exempt by law from paying fees for service. However, starting January 1, 2026, a marshal or sheriff must accept transmission of these documents by email, fax, or in-person delivery in all cases.² By specifying that any person asking for service can submit these documents electronically, the proposed revisions reflect the law as it will operate on January 1, 2026.

Policy implications

There are no policy implications to this proposal.

Comments

This proposal was not circulated for public comment because the changes are within the council's purview to adopt without circulation. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.22(d)(2).)

Alternatives considered

Judicial Council staff considered not updating the forms this year and waiting until other revisions were required to each of the forms to update them but rejected this approach because the errors could lead to confusion.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

Operational impacts are expected to be minor. The proposed revisions should not have fiscal or operational costs other than the costs of replacing outdated forms, including reproduction costs if courts or other users provide hard copies of any of the forms recommended for revision.

Attachments and Links

1. Cal. Rules of Court, rule 7.2221, at page 5
2. Forms ADOPT-050-INFO, ADOPT-205, ADOPT-206, CARE-105, CARE-106, CARE-107, CARE-110, CARE-111, and SER-001, at pages 6–25
3. Link A: Assem. Bill 2791 (Stats. 2022, ch. 417),
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB2791

² Gov. Code, § 26666.5(a).

Rule 7.2221 of the California Rules of Court is amended, effective January 1, 2026, to read:

Rule 7.2221. Papers to be filed (§ 5975)

(a) Alternative petitions to begin CARE Act proceedings

A petition to commence CARE Act proceedings must be made on *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-100) or, if the petitioner is a licensed behavioral health professional as defined in section 5971(l), on *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings by Licensed Behavioral Health Professional Only* (form CARE-102).

(b) Documentation required to support *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings*

If using *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-100), the petition must include either:

- (1) A completed *Mental Health Declaration—CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-101); or
- (2) The evidence described in section 5975(d)(2).

(c) Documentation required to support *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings by Licensed Behavioral Health Professional Only*

If using *Petition to Begin CARE Act Proceedings by Licensed Behavioral Health Professional Only* (form CARE-102), the documentation in subdivision (b) is not required.

ADOPT-050-INFO How to Adopt a Child in California

General Information on Adoptions

Before you begin

Seek legal advice about your family's options before beginning any adoption. Every family is different and adoption may not be necessary for some families. Visit the Self-Help Guide to the California Courts adoption page to get copies of adoption forms, look for organizations that provide legal help with adoptions, and learn how to complete the adoption process on your own if you do not have a lawyer: selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/adoptions. You can also get copies of adoption forms at your local court clerk's office.

What type of adoption will you be filing? In California there are several kinds of adoptions. This information sheet provides steps for the following types:

- Stepparent and domestic partnership
- Stepparent and domestic partnership confirmation of parentage
- Independent
- Agency (within the United States) and includes:
 - Agency placement or agency joinder
- Intercountry

For more information and definitions on these types of adoptions, see selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/adoptions.

What department or agency will be handling your home study or investigation?

In most adoptions, a home study or an investigation will be necessary.

- For independent adoptions
 - A regional office of the Department of Social Services (DSS).
 - An adoption agency.
 - For an independent adoption of a newborn, you must also choose an adoption service provider (ASP).

The ASP is an individual or an adoption agency licensed and certified by the State of California. Their role is to explain to the birth parent their rights in the adoption process (before “placing” the child with you) and to witness the signing of documents and consent.

There is a listing of all providers who have been licensed as an ASP on the California Department of Social Services website. You can see the list by agency or the list by individual. The ASP will charge a fee. You must pay the fee as the adoptive parent.

- For more information on a home study or ASP, see selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/independent-adoption/placed.
- For stepparent adoptions, the court investigator or a privately hired, licensed clinical social worker or other appropriate licensed individual will be handling your home study or investigation. See selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/stepparent-adoption.

If you need more information about what office or agency can conduct your home study, you can visit the California Department of Social Services website. Find out what paperwork they will need from you and when it must be sent to them once you file your *Adoption Request*.

Documents needed in addition to the *Adoption Request*

For most adoptions, the adopting parent, their legal representative, or the agency will be required to obtain additional signed forms or certified documents. These documents can include:

- Consent or relinquishment for adoption
- Death certificate (if applies)
- Other court orders
- Waiver of notice or denial of parentage



ADOPT-050-INFO

How to Adopt a Child in California

In certain situations additional court proceedings may be necessary. These may include:

- Petition freeing the child from parental custody and control and an order. (Note: This is a separate court action.)
- Petition to terminate parental rights of an alleged parent and an order. (Note: In some courts, this can be filed within the adoption case but in other courts it is a separate court action.)

Each of the above are specific procedures which must be followed based on the determination of the status of the parent.

If this is an agency adoption, the agency will obtain the above information for the court.

This paperwork is needed to complete your adoption home-study or investigation.

The status of a parent is based on the relationship of that parent to the child and other factors. For definitions and more information about status of parent and what additional involvement or paperwork is needed, go to

selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/adoptions.

Stepparent/Domestic Partner Adoptions

If you wish to adopt the child of your spouse or domestic partner, you may be eligible for a stepparent adoption. There are two types of stepparent adoptions. Answer these questions to figure out which process is right for you:

- Were you in a union with the child's legal parent **at the time the child was born** and are you **still in a union** with the legal parent? (A "union" means a marriage, a California registered domestic partnership, or a registered domestic partnership or civil union from another state that is legally equivalent to a marriage.)
- Did your **spouse or domestic partner give birth to the child** or was the child born through a **gestational surrogacy process** brought about by one or both of you?

If you answered no to **either** question, complete the items below for a **stepparent/domestic partner adoption**.

If you answered yes to **both** questions, complete the items below for a **stepparent adoption to confirm parentage**.

1 Fill out court forms

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| • ADOPT-203 | <i>Stepparent Adoption Request</i> | This tells the judge about you and the child you are adopting. |
| • ADOPT-210 | <i>Adoption Agreement</i> | This tells the judge that you and the child, if 12 or older , agree to the adoption. Fill it out, but do not sign it until the judge asks you to sign it. |
| • ADOPT-215 | <i>Adoption Order</i> | The judge signs this form if your adoption is approved. |
| • ICWA-010(A) | <i>Indian Child Inquiry Attachment</i> | This lets the judge know that you have asked whether the child may be an Indian child. |
| • ICWA-020 | <i>Parental Notification of Indian Status</i> | One form is required for each birth parent. This shows that the child's parents have been asked about potential Indian status. |

Additional Forms for Stepparent Adoption to Confirm Parentage

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| • ADOPT-205 (or an equivalent declaration) | <i>Declaration Confirming Parentage in Stepparent Adoption</i> | This tells the court how you conceived your child and whether there are any other parents. Only use this if you are seeking a stepparent adoption to confirm parentage. See above for more information on this type of adoption. Both the birth parent and the adopting parent must complete a separate declaration. |
|--|--|--|

-OR-

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| • ADOPT-206 (or an equivalent declaration) | <i>Declaration Confirming Parentage in Stepparent Adoption: Gestational Surrogacy</i> | This tells the court how you conceived your child and whether there are any other parents. Only use this if you are seeking a stepparent adoption to confirm parentage because the child was conceived through a gestational surrogate and was born outside of California, and the state where the child was born only allowed one intended parent to be named as a legal parent on the child's birth certificate. |
|--|---|--|



2 Take your forms to court

Take the completed forms to the court clerk in the county where you live. The court will charge a \$20 filing fee (set by Health and Safety Code section 103730). Or take the forms to your lawyer or adoption agency, if you are using one. If there is no hearing, form ADOPT-210 must be signed in front of the court clerk or a notary.

Note: In a stepparent adoption to confirm parentage, no investigation or hearing is required unless ordered by the court for good cause. Sign form ADOPT-210 in front of a notary or the court clerk when you file the forms and a judge will review your request. If the paperwork is complete and you meet the requirements, the judge will sign the *Adoption Order* (form ADOPT-215) and the adoption is complete. You and your attorney will receive copies. If the judge orders an investigation and hearing, go to the next steps.

3 An investigation is completed

In most stepparent adoptions an investigation or a report must be completed before the final hearing. This will be completed by either someone you identified in the request or who was ordered by the court. To begin the investigation you will be required to send the *Adoption Request* and supporting documentation to the investigator. A home visit may also be required.

4 Go to court on the date of your hearing

Bring:

- The child you are adopting;
- Form ADOPT-210;
- Form ADOPT-215;
- A camera, if you want a photo of you and your child with the judge (*optional*); and
- Friends/relatives (*optional*).
- California Department of Social Services form VS-44 may be needed, see selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/stepparent-adoption/prepare-lodge-forms.

Independent or Agency Adoptions in the United States

If this is an independent or agency adoption in the United States, complete items 1 through 4 below.

Note: The rights of the existing parents usually terminate with adoptions. In an independent adoption, if the existing and adopting parents agree, the rights of the existing parents do not have to be terminated. See Family Code section 8617(b).

1 Fill out court forms

- | | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| • ADOPT-200 | <i>Adoption Request</i> | This tells the judge about you and the child you are adopting. |
| • ADOPT-210 | <i>Adoption Agreement</i> | This tells the judge that you and the child, if 12 or older , agree to the adoption. Fill it out, but do not sign it until the judge asks you to sign it. |
| • ADOPT-215 | <i>Adoption Order</i> | The judge signs this form if your adoption is approved. |
| • ADOPT-230 | <i>Adoption Expenses</i> | This lets the judge know what payments were made that relate to the child you are adopting. |
| • ICWA-010(A)* | <i>Indian Child Inquiry Attachment</i> | This lets the judge know that the required questions have been asked to determine whether the child may be an Indian child. |
| • ICWA-020* | <i>Parental Notification of Indian Status</i> | One form is required for each birth parent. This shows that the child's parents have been asked about potential Indian status. |

*The agency or adoption service provider is responsible for getting these forms completed and making them part of the adoption file for adoptions under the Welfare and Institutions Code; other evidence, including court orders regarding ICWA may be necessary.



2 Take your forms to court

Take the completed forms to the court clerk in the county where you live. The court will charge a \$20.00 filing fee (set by Health and Safety Code section 103730). Or take the forms to your lawyer or adoption agency, if you are using one.

3 The social worker writes a report

In most adoptions, a social worker writes a report. This report gives important information to the judge about the adopting parents and the child. The social worker will ask you questions. You may have to fill out forms. You may be required to pay a fee for this report. The social worker will file the report with the court and send you and your attorney a copy. When you get the report, ask the clerk for a date for your adoption hearing.

4 Go to court on the date of your hearing

Bring:

- The child you are adopting;
- Form ADOPT-210;
- Form ADOPT-215;
- Form ADOPT-230;
- A camera, if you want a photo of you and your child with the judge (*optional*); and
- Friends/relatives (*optional*).

Intercountry Adoptions

If this is an intercountry (international) adoption, complete items 1 through 6 below.

Note: You must follow this process to adopt your child under California law, even if the adoption was previously finalized in a foreign country. If the child's adoption was finalized in a foreign country, you must file the *Adoption Request* within the earlier of 60 days of the child's entry to the United States, or the child's 16th birthday.

1 Fill out court forms

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| • ADOPT-200 | <i>Adoption Request</i> | This tells the judge about you and the child you are adopting. |
| • ADOPT-210 | <i>Adoption Agreement</i> | This tells the judge that you and the child, if 12 or older , agree to the adoption. Fill it out, but do not sign it until the judge asks you to sign it. |
| • ADOPT-215 | <i>Adoption Order</i> | The judge signs this form if your adoption is approved. |
| • ADOPT-230 | <i>Adoption Expenses</i> | This lets the judge know what payments were made that relate to the child you are adopting. |
| • ICWA-010(A) | <i>Indian Child Inquiry Attachment</i> | This lets the judge know that you have asked whether the child may be an Indian child. |
| • ICWA-020 | <i>Parental Notification of Indian Status</i> | One form is required for each birth parent. This shows that the child's parents have been asked about potential Indian status. |

2 Postadoption or postplacement visits and reports

If the child's adoption was finalized in a foreign country, there will be at least one postadoption visit provided by the international adoption agency. The report of this visit must be submitted to the court as described below. If the child was born in a foreign country and placed with a California family for adoption in this state, the adoption agency must provide postplacement supervision with up to four visits. These reports are also provided to the court.



3 Attach documentation

If the child's adoption was finalized in a foreign country, you must attach the following documents to your *Adoption Request*:

- A certified or otherwise official copy of the foreign decree, order, or certification of adoption that reflects finalization of the adoption in the foreign country;
- A certified or otherwise official copy of the child's foreign birth certificate;
- A certified translation of all required documents that are not written in English;
- Proof that the child was granted lawful entry into the United States as an immediate relative of the adoptive parent or parents;
- A report from at least one postplacement home visit by an intercountry adoption agency or a contractor of that agency licensed to provide intercountry adoption services in the state of California; and
- A copy of the home study report previously completed for the international finalized adoption by an adoption agency authorized to provide intercountry adoption services, in accordance with Family Code section 8900.

4 Take your forms to court

Take the completed forms and any required documents to the court clerk in the county where you live. The court will charge a \$20.00 filing fee (set by Health and Safety Code section 103730). Or take the forms to your lawyer or adoption agency, if you are using one.

5 Provide a copy of the forms and documents

If the child's adoption was finalized in a foreign country, provide a copy of the forms and documentation you filed with the court to any adoption agency that provided services to you for your international adoption.

6 Go to court on the date of your hearing

Bring:

- The child you are adopting;
- Form ADOPT-210;
- Form ADOPT-215;
- Form ADOPT-230;
- A camera, if you want a photo of you and your child with the judge (*optional*); and
- Friends/relatives (*optional*).

Inquiry and Notice Under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

- ☐ The child and other people in the child's life (parents and extended family members, see definition below) must be asked specific questions in order to determine whether the child may be an Indian child. The *Indian Child Inquiry Attachment* (form [ICWA-010\(A\)](#)) should be attached to the *Adoption Request*. In agency adoptions, it is the responsibility of the agency to ensure that this inquiry is conducted and that the form is made part of the adoption file. In independent adoptions, the adoption service provider, CDSS Regional Office, or delegated county adoption agency is responsible. For more information about the duty of inquiry, see form [ICWA-005-INFO](#).
- ☐ Extended family member is defined by law or custom of the Indian child's tribe or, if no law or custom, must be a person who is 18 years or older and who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent. (25 U.S.C. § 1903(2)(2).)
- ☐ A completed version of *Parental Notification of Indian Status* (form [ICWA-020](#)) for each birth parent should be attached to the *Adoption Request*, OR it should be shown that a good faith attempt was made to provide the form to each birth parent, the Indian custodian, or guardian of the child and inform them that they are required to complete and submit the form to the court. In agency adoptions, it is the responsibility of the agency to ensure that this form is provided to the birth parents and made part of the adoption file. In independent adoptions, the adoption service provider, CDSS Regional Office, or delegated county adoption agency is responsible.



ADOPT-050-INFO

How to Adopt a Child in California

- ☐ If there is **reason to believe** that the child is or may be an Indian child, additional inquiry is required. For more information about the duty of inquiry, see form [ICWA-005-INFO](#).
- ☐ If, at any time during the proceeding, there is **reason to know** that the child is an Indian child, notice must be provided of the adoption request to the child's tribe or tribes, parents, Indian custodian, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, using *Notice of Child Custody Proceeding for Indian Child* (form [ICWA-030](#)). This form must be served by registered or certified mail, with return receipt requested.
 - Reason to know a child is an Indian child means that (1) a person having an interest in the child, including the child, informs the court the child is an Indian child; or (2) the child, the child's parents, or Indian custodian lives on a reservation or in an Alaska Native village; or (3) any person, tribe, or organization informs the court that it has discovered information indicating that the child is an Indian child. The court must proceed per rule 5.481(b)(3) of the California Rules of Court.
- ☐ If it is determined that the child is an **Indian child** or this is a tribal customary adoption, see Adoption of an Indian Child, below.

Adoption of an Indian Child

If you are adopting an Indian child, fill out and bring to court the following additional forms:

- ☐ *Adoption of Indian Child* (form ADOPT-220); and
- ☐ *Parent of Indian Child Agrees to End Parental Rights* (form ADOPT-225).

If this is a tribal customary adoption, a copy of the tribal customary adoption order must be attached to the petition (form ADOPT-200) and the order (form ADOPT-215).

Note: An Indian child who has reached the age of 18 and who was placed for adoption, may apply to the court which entered the final order or decree. That court shall inform that child of their tribal affiliation, if any, of the child's biological parents and provide such other information as may be necessary to protect any rights flowing from the child's tribal relationship. [25 U.S.C. § 1917]

"Open" Adoption and Use of *Contact After Adoption Agreement* (Family Code Section 8616.5)

If you want your child to have contact with their birth relatives after the adoption, you can use *Contact After Adoption Agreement* (form ADOPT-310). This form describes the kind of contact the birth relatives will have with your child after the adoption is finalized. If you use this form, fill it out and file this form with the court before the finalization hearing or order of the court. A file-marked copy of this agreement must be provided within 30 days of filing to all adult parties to this agreement and any licensed agency that placed the child or consented to the adoption, and the child, if age 12 or older.

Important: This is a voluntary agreement and is not required for the finalization of the adoption. If you chose to use this form, it will become part of the adoption file and will be enforceable by the court.

The adoptive parent or parents, the child, and the child's birth relatives can agree to continuing contact without using this form, but unless that agreement is in writing and attached to the *Contact After Adoption Agreement* (form ADOPT-310) it may not be enforced by the court if it is not followed.

Birth relatives are birth parents, siblings, and other birth relatives. For Indian children, this can also include the child's Indian tribe.

Your name: _____

☐ This form is attached to form ADOPT-203, *Stepparent Adoption Request*.

*This optional form may be attached to **form ADOPT-203** if the adopting parent was married to or in a state-registered domestic partnership with the parent who gave birth to the child at the time the child was born. You may instead attach a declaration in another format containing substantially the same information. The birth parent and the adopting parent must complete separate declarations.*

- 1 I (write your name) _____ declare as follows:
- 2 Relationship between the birth parent and the adopting parent seeking to confirm parentage (check one):
 - a. ☐ I am the parent who gave birth to the child to be adopted. I married or entered into a state-registered domestic partnership (including a domestic partnership or civil union from out-of-state that is legally equivalent to a marriage) with the adopting parent who is seeking to confirm parentage (name of adopting parent seeking to confirm parentage) _____ and we remain in that union.
 - b. ☐ I am the adopting parent seeking to confirm parentage. I married or entered into a state-registered domestic partnership with the parent who gave birth (name of parent who gave birth to the child to be adopted) _____ and we remain in that union.
- 3 We were married/registered as domestic partners on (date you entered into your earliest union) _____, before our child was born. A copy of our marriage certificate, registered domestic partner certificate, or certificate of out-of-state domestic partnership or civil union is attached.
- 4 Our child (name of child to be adopted) _____ was born on (date) _____. A copy of our child's birth certificate is attached.
- 5 ☐ Our child was conceived through assisted reproduction in compliance with Family Code section 7613 as described below (Describe how your child was conceived and whether you used a known or unknown donor. A letter from your sperm bank or a written donor agreement verifying conception by assisted reproduction should be attached. If you used a known donor without a sperm bank or written donor agreement, you should seek legal advice before submitting this form):

Case Number:

[illegible]

Date: _____

Type or print your name *Sign name*

Your name: _____

Declaration Confirming Parentage in Stepparent Adoption: Gestational Surrogacy

☐ This form is attached to form ADOPT-203, *Stepparent Adoption Request*.

*This optional form may be attached to **form ADOPT-203** if the adopting parent was married to or in a state-registered domestic partnership or equivalent civil union with the parent who established parentage through a gestational surrogacy process. You may instead attach a declaration in another format containing substantially the same information. The legal parent through surrogacy and the adopting parent must complete separate declarations.*

- 1 I (write your name) _____ declare as follows:
- 2 Relationship between the legal parent and the adopting parent seeking to confirm parentage (check one):
 - a. ☐ I am the parent of a child born through a gestational surrogacy process. Only my parentage was established through the Uniform Parentage Act or another proceeding related to the surrogacy. Before the birth of the child, I married, or entered into a state-registered domestic partnership (including a domestic partnership or civil union from out-of-state that is legally equivalent to a marriage) with, the adopting parent who is seeking to confirm parentage, (name) _____, and we remain in that union.
 - b. ☐ I am the adopting parent seeking to confirm parentage. Before the birth of the child, I married, or entered into a state-registered domestic partnership (including a domestic partnership or civil union from out-of-state that is legally equivalent to a marriage) with, the parent whose parentage has been established for a child born through a gestational surrogacy process, (name) _____, and we remain in that union.
- 3 We were married/registered as domestic partners on (date you entered into your earliest union) _____ before our child was born. A copy of our marriage certificate, registered domestic partner certificate, or certificate of out-of-state domestic partnership or civil union is attached.
- 4 Our child (name of child to be adopted) _____ was born on (date) _____ outside of the state of California. A copy of our child's birth certificate is attached.
- 5 ☐ Our child was conceived through a gestational surrogacy process. (Describe how your child was conceived.) _____

Case Number:

- [illegible]

Date: _____

Type or print your name *Sign your name*

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY NAME: FIRM NAME: STREET ADDRESS: CITY: TELEPHONE NO.: EMAIL ADDRESS: ATTORNEY FOR (name):	STATE BAR NUMBER: STATE: ZIP CODE: FAX NO.:	FOR COURT USE ONLY DRAFT Not approved by the Judicial Council CARE-106.v7.082525
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:		
CARE ACT PROCEEDINGS FOR (name): RESPONDENT		
NOTICE OF ORDER FOR CARE ACT REPORT		CASE NUMBER:

1. Petitioner (name):
2. Respondent (name):
3. The court has ordered (name of county agency):
 or its designee to engage the respondent and, no later than (date): , file with the court a written report that includes all of the following information:
 - a. The respondent's county of residence;
 - b. A determination whether the respondent meets, or is likely to meet, the criteria necessary to participate in the CARE Act process;
 - c. The outcome of efforts made to voluntarily engage the respondent;
 - d. Conclusions and recommendations about the respondent's ability to voluntarily engage in services; and
 - e. The information, including protected health information, necessary to support the determinations, conclusions, and recommendations in the report.
4. Attached to this notice, as required by California Rules of Court, rule 7.2235(a), are
 - a. a copy of *Order for CARE Act Report* (form CARE-105) issued by the court in this proceeding on (date): ,
 - b. a copy of **the petition** filed on (date): to begin these proceedings, and
 - c. *Information for Respondents—About the CARE Act* (form CARE-060-INFO).

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF COUNTY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE)	 (SIGNATURE OF COUNTY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE)
--	---

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY NAME: FIRM NAME: STREET ADDRESS: CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: TELEPHONE NO.: FAX NO.: EMAIL ADDRESS: ATTORNEY FOR (name):	FOR COURT USE ONLY DRAFT Not approved by the Judicial Council CARE-110.v6.082525
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:	
CARE ACT PROCEEDINGS FOR (name): RESPONDENT	
NOTICE OF INITIAL APPEARANCE—CARE ACT PROCEEDINGS	CASE NUMBER:

1. Petitioner (name):
2. Respondent (name):
3. The court will hold an initial appearance (a hearing) in the CARE Act proceedings for respondent named above.

Hearing Date → Date:	Time:	Name and address of court, if different from above:
Dept.:	Room:	

4. The court has appointed an attorney to represent the respondent in the CARE Act proceedings. The name and contact information of the appointed attorney is:
 Name:
 Mailing Address:
 Phone: Email:
5. A copy of each of the following documents is included with this form.
 - a. **The petition** filed to begin these proceedings;
 - b. *Information for Respondents—About the CARE Act* (form CARE-060-INFO);
 - c. *Notice of Respondent's Rights—CARE Act Proceedings* (form CARE-113); and
 - d. Any report ordered under Welfare and Institutions Code section 5977(a)(3)(B).
6. ☐ The court ordered the county behavioral health agency, under Welfare and Institutions Code section 5977(a)(3)(A), to submit a report within 14 court days of the order setting the initial appearance. A copy of that report ☐ is included with this notice form ☐ will be provided to all parties no later than the date of the initial appearance.
7. Number of pages attached _____

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE)



(SIGNATURE OF COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE)



Requests for Accommodations

Assistive listening systems, computer-assisted real-time captioning, or sign language interpreter services are available if you ask at least five days before the proceeding. Contact the clerk's office or go to www.courts.ca.gov/forms for *Disability Accommodation Request* (form MC-410). (Civ. Code, § 54.8.)

SER-001**Request for Sheriff to Serve Court Papers**

Instructions: Each county in California has a sheriff (and sometimes a marshal's office) that can serve different types of court papers, including restraining orders. Note that the sheriff cannot guarantee that they will be successful in finding the person you need served, but they will try to serve based on the information you put on this form.

- Complete this form for each set of papers you need served. You must complete a separate form for each person you need served.
- Find out where the person you need served is located. Give your papers to the sheriff or marshal's office in that county.
- You may have to pay for service of some court papers. For more information, see page 5 of this form, or go to selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/sheriff-serves.
- Do not use this form if you are asking the sheriff to enforce a wage garnishment order on an employer. Instead, use forms WG-001, *Application for Earnings Withholding Order*, and WG-035, *Confidential Statement of Judgment Debtor's Social Security Number*.
- If you want the sheriff to enforce a writ or levy, complete this form and form SER-001A, *Special Instructions for Writs and Levies—Attachment*.

CONFIDENTIAL**To Court Clerk: Do not file this form.**

Sheriff File Number (for sheriff to complete, if needed):

Fill in case number:

Court Case Number:

All information is required unless it is listed as optional or does not apply to your case.

1 To the Sheriff or Marshal of (name of county): _____

2 Your Information

a. Your name (*party requesting service*): _____

b. Your lawyer's information (*if you have one*)

Name: _____

Firm name: _____

c. Court case name: _____

(*example: Garcia v. Smith*)

d. Contact information for the sheriff or marshal to reach you

(*Give an address where you can receive mail regularly, like a post office box, a Safe at Home address, or another safe address. If you have a lawyer, give the lawyer's information.*)

Address to receive mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone number (*optional*): _____ Email address (*optional*): _____

CONFIDENTIAL**This is not a court form. Do not file with the court.**

3 Information About Person or Entity You Want Served*(Check a or b)*

- a.
- ☐
- I ask the sheriff to serve a person
- (complete section below)*

(1) Name of person: _____
Nicknames or aliases *(optional)*: _____(2) Telephone number *(optional)*: _____

- (3) Can you describe the person?

☐ No, I do *not* have any information about the person's description.☐ Yes *(complete the section below with any information you have)*:Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Nonbinary

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Hair color: _____ Eye color: _____

Date of birth or age *(give estimate, if unknown)*: _____

Race/Ethnicity: _____

Special marks or features *(tattoos, scars, etc.)*: _____Vehicle *(type, model, year, color, plate number)*: _____☐ Check here if you are including a picture of the person.

- (4) Do you know of any safety or accessibility issues?

☐ No☐ Yes *(complete the section below with any information you have)*:The person *(check all that apply)*:☐ Has a gun or other weapon.☐ Is on probation or parole.☐ Has a history of violence or abuse.☐ Has an aggressive animal.☐ Has special training *(examples: military, first responder)*.☐ Has mental health issues.☐ Is deaf or hard of hearing.☐ Does not speak English *(list language)*: _____☐ Add any other information about safety or accessibility that you know about: _____

- b.
- ☐
- I ask the sheriff to serve an entity
- (examples: business or government agency)*

(1) Name and type of entity: _____
Telephone number *(optional)*: _____

(2) If there is a specific person who should be served, give name: _____

(3) If there is an agent for service of process, give name: _____

(4) List any safety or accessibility issues *(examples: weapons, aggressive animals, language barrier)*: _____

_____**CONFIDENTIAL****This is not a court form. Do not file with the court.**

4 Address Where Person or Entity Should Be Served

(The sheriff typically serves during normal business hours. Check with the sheriff's office for the exact times.)

Address: _____ ☐ Home ☐ Business

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Gate code or special instructions: _____

Best time to serve at this address *(example: 8 a.m.–noon)*: _____

☐ Check here if the person is in jail or prison *(give name of facility)*: _____

Alternate address (optional)

(If the person cannot be found at the address listed above, some sheriffs may try a second address if it's in the same county. If you have a second address for the person you want served, complete the section below.)

Address: _____ ☐ Home ☐ Business

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Gate code or special instructions: _____

Best time to serve at this address *(example: 8 a.m.–noon)*: _____

5 Information About Your Request

- a. What type of court papers are you giving the sheriff to serve *(examples: summons, restraining order, eviction, small claims, bank levy, or writ of attachment)*?

- b. List all forms or court papers you want served on the person in **(3)** a. *(optional)*.

(Note: You can list each form by its form number (example: FL-100, SC-100). If there is no form number, give the title of the document. The court may have ordered you to serve certain papers. Look at the court's order and list all forms required. If you do not know which papers you need to serve, ask a lawyer, or contact your local self-help center for free information.)

- c. Is there a court hearing (court date)?

☐ I don't know

☐ No

☐ Yes *(if yes, give date of hearing)*: _____

CONFIDENTIAL

This is not a court form. Do not file with the court.



5

d. Is there a deadline for service?

☐ I don't know☐ No☐ Yes (if yes, give deadline): _____

e. Has the court allowed you to serve your court papers in another way besides personal service (example: substituted service)?

☐ I don't know☐ No☐ Yes (if yes, include a copy of the order allowing another type of service)

f. Is there any other information you want or need to give to the sheriff to serve your court papers?

☐ No☐ Yes (if yes, give information below):

6

Enforcement of Writ or Levy

If you want the sheriff to enforce a writ or levy, you must complete form SER-001A, *Special Instructions for Writs and Levies—Attachment*, and turn it in with this form.

(Only complete this section if you want the sheriff to enforce a writ or levy.)

Do you want the sheriff to both serve your court papers and act as levying officer?

☐ Yes☐ No. I only want the sheriff to act as levying officer. A registered process server has or will serve my papers.**Your Signature** (party asking for service, or their lawyer)

Date: _____

Type or print your name



Sign your name (may be electronic)

CONFIDENTIAL**This is not a court form. Do not file with the court.**

Your Next Steps

- Find out if you need to pay a fee for service by asking the court's self-help center, a lawyer, or the sheriff's office. Here are some situations where you **do not** need to pay for service:
 - If you have a fee waiver in your case (fee waiver granted by a judge on form FW-003 or FW-005).
 - If you are serving a domestic violence, elder abuse, or gun violence restraining order.
 - If you have a civil harassment, workplace violence, or school violence restraining order based on a credible threat of violence or stalking.
- Give this form and a copy of all the court papers you need served to the sheriff or marshal, including a copy of a fee waiver (if you have one). **You can turn in your papers in person or send them electronically.**
- You should get a form back from the sheriff.
 - If the sheriff was able to serve your court papers, you should receive a form (called a proof of service). **Make sure you get a copy from the sheriff and file it with the court.** Note that if there is a court stamp at the top right corner of the first page, it has already been filed and you do not need to file it with the court.
 - If the sheriff was unable to serve your court papers, you should receive a form (sometimes called declaration of due diligence) that tells you that service was unsuccessful and will give details about when the sheriff tried to serve the person. If the sheriff was unable to serve your papers, you can ask a lawyer or court's self-help center about your next steps.
- To find your local court self-help center, go to selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/. Self-help center staff will not act as your lawyer but may be able to give you information to help you decide what to do in your case. Services are free.

To Sheriff or Marshal

- This form is confidential and must not be made public.
- Any papers submitted with this form should be served and listed on the applicable proof of service form.
- Note that (5) b is optional and may help to identify documents that should have been submitted but were not received by your office.
- Under Government Code section 26666.2, once you've received a completed copy of this form and forms for service, you must attempt service unless:
 - Any order submitted does not have a judge's signature or other representation of a judge's signature; clerk's endorsement; or court stamp, seal, or other court endorsement; or
 - A court case number is not listed on the order, summons, or other notice.

CONFIDENTIAL

This is not a court form. Do not file with the court.