



Judicial Council of California

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February 20, 2026.

Subject Text

Meeting materials
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File #: 22-202, Version: 1

Title

Rules and Forms | Telephone Appearances: Conforming Rules of Court to Senate Bill 233 (Action Required)

Summary

In consultation with the chairs of the Judicial Council's internal committees and representative members of the Chief Justice's Ad Hoc Workgroup on Post-Pandemic Initiatives, Judicial Council staff recommend amending three rules of court to conform them to statutory changes that will become effective January 1, 2023. Senate Bill 233 (Stats. 2022, ch. 979) repeals statutes that, among other provisions, required the Judicial Council to set specified uniform, statewide fees for telephone appearances and enter into one or more master agreements with a vendor to provide telephone appearances. The proposed amendments to the rules would make them consistent with these statutory changes and will also maintain legal authority for telephone appearance fees that do not to exceed the cost of providing this service.

Recommendation

Judicial Council staff recommend that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2023, amend California Rules of Court, rules 3.55, 3.670, and 10.815 to be consistent with SB 233 and to maintain legal authority for telephone appearance fees that do not exceed the cost of providing the service pending any further action the Legislature may take.