



Judicial Council of California

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January 19, 2024

Subject Text

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Title

Rules and Forms | Family and Juvenile Law: Implementation of Assembly Bill 2495 (Action Required)

Summary

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends amending one rule of the California Rules of Court and revising five forms to conform with recent statutory changes enacted by Assembly Bill 2495 (Patterson; Stats. 2022, ch. 159) regarding various topics related to adoptions, including when to display a child's preadoption name on the adoption request and order forms, procedures for filing a postadoption contact order, and venue for adoption requests. The committee also recommends technical changes to the forms to correct errors and respond to partner and stakeholder feedback.

Recommendation

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2024:

1. Amend California Rules of Court, rule 5.451 to delete provisions of the rule that restate statutory text and retain sections that provide court operations information and guidance.
2. Revise *How to Adopt a Child in California* (form ADOPT-050-INFO) to clarify and make more legally precise the explanation of the required steps in a stepparent adoption to confirm parentage and to make technical revisions primarily to conform to Judicial Council style;
3. Revise *Adoption Request* (form ADOPT-200) to respond to new legislation and to make technical revisions primarily to conform to Judicial Council style;
4. Revise *Adoption Order* (form ADOPT-215) to respond to new legislation and to make technical revisions primarily to conform to Judicial Council style;
5. Revise *Contact After Adoption Agreement* (form ADOPT-310) to correct an erroneous code citation, to reconfigure a table to make it more accessible, and to make technical revisions primarily to conform to Judicial Council style; and
6. Revise *Request for Appointment of Confidential Intermediary* (form ADOPT-330) to correct an erroneous phone number and make technical revisions primarily to conform to Judicial Council style.