



Judicial Council of California

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January 19, 2024

Subject Text

Meeting materials
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File #: 23-068, Version: 1

Title

Rules and Forms | Jury Instructions: Public Access and Publication (Action Required)

Summary

The Rules Committee recommends revising California Rules of Court, rule 2.1050, to remove any implicit references to copyright and to express the council's continued interest in both free public access to its civil and criminal jury instructions and having publishers accurately publish the instructions, properly attribute the council as the source of the instructions, and not claim copyright in them. This proposal originated with a suggestion from a nonprofit organization after a change in copyright law that impacts government bodies.

Recommendation

The Rules Committee recommends that the council, effective April 1, 2023, amend rule 2.1050 to remove references to "permission to publish" and "royalties," which may imply copyright in the *Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instructions* and *Judicial Council of California Criminal Jury Instructions*, and to express the council's continued interest in both free public access to its civil and criminal jury instructions and having publishers accurately publish the instructions, properly attribute the council as the source of the instructions, and not claim copyright in them.