



Judicial Council of California

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January 19, 2024

Subject Text

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Title

Civil Cases: Continued Suspension of Case Management Rules (Action Required)

Summary

The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends that a statewide rule of court on civil case management be amended to further extend the period during which courts have discretion to exempt certain types or categories of civil cases from the mandatory case management rules. The 2013 amendments to rule 3.720 were intended to help courts better address the state's fiscal crisis by decreasing the time spent by court staff and judicial officers in filing case management statements, setting and holding individual case management conferences, and performing other actions required by the case management rules. In light of the continuing fiscal crisis, the Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends a four-year extension of the discretion to grant such exemptions.

Recommendation

The Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council amend rule 3.720 of the California Rules of Court, effective January 1, 2016, to extend until January 1, 2020, the period during which courts, by local rule, may exempt certain categories of general civil cases from the mandatory case management rules.