



Judicial Council of California

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April 24, 2026.

Subject Text

Meeting materials
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File #: 21-164, Version: 1

Title

Rules and Forms | Appellate Procedure: Electronic Signatures (Action Required)

Summary

The Appellate Advisory Committee recommends amending two rules of court governing electronic filing in the appellate courts to permit the use of electronic signatures and make other updates. The trial court electronic filing rules have been amended several times recently, including to allow electronic signatures. Several similar amendments for the parallel appellate rules are now being proposed to foster modern e-business practices, promote consistency in the rules and efficiency among stipulating parties, and reduce unnecessary transmission of paper documents. The rules would be amended to authorize the use of electronic signatures on electronic documents filed with the court, add new definitions, update several existing definitions, improve clarity, and eliminate redundancies.

Recommendation

The Appellate Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2022:

1. Amend rule 8.70 of the California Rules of Court to clarify several definitions, add two new definitions, and add advisory committee comments for further clarification.
2. Amend rule 8.75 to add provisions for using electronic signatures on documents filed with the court and add advisory committee comments for clarification.