

February 28, 2023

Notice to Attorneys and to All Interested Parties: Invitation to Comment on Proposed Amendments to Local Rules and Forms

As required by California Rules of Court, Rule 10.613(g), the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda hereby distributes for public comment the attached proposal to amend its local rule.

The proposal also may be viewed <u>here</u> or <u>here</u>. In addition, a hard copy of the proposal is available upon request by email at <u>pcomments@alameda.courts.ca.gov</u> or by phone at 510-891-6012.

Important dates:

- The last day to comment is April 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
- The proposed amendment takes effect upon approval of the Chair of the Judicial Council or on **July 1**, **2023**, whichever is sooner.

Text of Proposed Rules and Amendments: see attached.

Comments must be submitted in writing to:

Lisa Henderson Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 1225 Fallon Street, Room 209 Oakland, CA 94612

E-mail: pcomments@alameda.courts.ca.gov

Rule 5.11. Remote appearances

(a) Remote hearings.

Unless otherwise ordered by the court, parties and counsel may appear remotely at status conferences, family centered case resolution conferences, initial status conferences, trial-setting conferences, and settlement conferences. Instructions for remote court appearances are posted on the family law page of the court's website: [INSERT LINK HERE].

(b) In-person hearings.

All hearings not included in subdivision (a) will be conducted in person unless the court orders otherwise. Anyone seeking to appear remotely at a hearing must do the following before the hearing:

- (1) File and serve a *Notice of Remote Appearance* (form RA-010) and attach a short statement explaining the reason for the request to appear remotely;
- (2) File and serve a proposed *Order Regarding Remote Appearance* (form RA-020); and
- (3) Provide notice as follows:
 - (A) If the person seeking remote appearance received notice of the proceeding at least 15 court days before the hearing date, the person must file and serve the request and proposed order at least 10 court days before the proceeding.
 - (B) If the person seeking remote appearance received notice of the proceeding fewer than 15 court days before the hearing date, the person must file and serve the request and proposed order as soon as practicable.

(c) Objections.

Any objection to a remote appearance request under subdivision (b) must be filed and served the next court day after service of a notice of remote appearance or order permitting remote appearance, whichever occurs first. A person objecting to a remote appearance must file and serve an *Opposition to Remote Proceeding at Evidentiary Hearing or Trial* (form RA-015) and proposed *Order Regarding Remote Appearance* (form RA-020).

(d) Agreements.

If parties reach a full agreement on all issues to be addressed at the hearing under subdivision (b), a joint request for remote appearance and proposed order may be filed at any time before the hearing.

Rule 5.11 adopted effective July 1, 2023.