

## **Superior Court of California County of Riverside**

**Effective July 5, 2023:** pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 3.672(e), the court adopts amendments to the following Local Rules:

- Local Rule 3132, *Appearing Remotely at Non-Evidentiary Hearings*;
- Local Rule 5161, *Remote Appearances at Non-Evidentiary Hearings in Family Law Cases*; and
- Local Rule 7010, *Appearing Remotely at Non-Evidentiary Hearings*.

### **RULE 3132 APPEARING REMOTELY AT NON-EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS**

Unless an in-person appearance is expressly ordered by the court or otherwise required by law, attorneys and self-represented parties are encouraged to appear at non-evidentiary hearings via remote technology rather than in person. By doing so, those persons will be deemed to have requested a remote appearance. No written request to appear remotely is necessary.

Persons intending to appear remotely shall notify all opposing parties of their intention before the hearing. That notice may be given informally, including by telephone, email, or text message. No advance notice to the court of the intention to appear remotely is required prior to the date of the hearing.

If for any reason the court denies the request to allow a remote appearance, the hearing shall be continued to a date at which the parties will be ordered to appear in person.

This rule applies to all general civil cases as defined in California Rules of Court, rule 1.6(4), and to all non-evidentiary hearings in those cases. Non-evidentiary hearings are those in which oral testimony will not be received, such as (a) hearings on motions, demurrers, and ex parte applications; (b) case management proceedings such as case management conferences, status conferences, trial setting conferences, and trial readiness conferences; and (c) hearings in response to orders to show cause other than those for contempt.

This rule shall be in effect until January 1, 2026. Local Rules 3131 and 3321 are suspended until that date.

### **RULE 5161 REMOTE APPEARANCES AT NON-EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS IN FAMILY LAW CASES**

Unless an in-person appearance is expressly ordered by the court or otherwise required by law, attorneys and self-represented litigants intending to appear remotely shall notify all opposing parties of their intention before the hearing. That notice may be given

informally, including by telephone, email or text message. No advance notice to the court of the intention to appear remotely is required prior to the date of the hearing.

If for any reason the court determines that an in-person appearance is required, the hearing may be continued to a date at which the parties will be ordered to appear in person.

This rule applies to all non-evidentiary hearings in cases brought under the Family Code. Non-evidentiary hearings are those in which oral testimony will not be received, such as (a) hearings on motions, request for orders and ex-parte applications; (b) case management proceedings such as case status conferences, mandatory settlement conferences and trial readiness conferences; and (c) hearings in response to orders to show cause other than those for contempt.

This rule shall be in effect until January 1, 2026. Local Rule 5160 is suspended until that date.

**RULE 7010  
APPEARING REMOTELY AT NON-EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS**

This rule only applies to non-evidentiary hearings. Non-evidentiary hearings are those in which oral testimony will not be received, such as petitions with no filed or oral objections and no deficiencies or questions in the probate notes. Evidentiary hearings, for which remote appearances are not permitted, include those for an Elder Abuse Restraining Order, Temporary Conservatorship, Temporary Guardianship, Report of Sale, or appearances required by Probate Code 1825, 1851.5, 1860.5, 1863, 1893, 2250.4, or 3141.

Unless an in-person appearance is expressly ordered by the court or otherwise required by law, attorneys and self-represented parties are encouraged to appear at hearings via remote technology rather than in person. By doing so, those persons will be deemed to have requested a remote appearance. No written request to appear remotely is necessary.

Persons intending to appear remotely shall notify all opposing parties of their intention before the hearing. That notice may be given informally, including by telephone, email, or text message. No advance notice to the court of the intention to appear remotely is required prior to the date of the hearing.

If for any reason the court denies the request to allow a remote appearance, the hearing shall be continued to a date at which the parties will be ordered to appear in person.

This rule shall be in effect until January 1, 2026.

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