NEWS RELEASE

Superior Court of California County of Alameda

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Court Announces End of Fax Filing; Temporary Inability to Access or File Documents

Superior Court of Alameda County will shut down eCourt to update and transition new case types into the electronic case management system.

Oakland, Calif. – August 23, 2023 – eCourt, the Superior Court of Alameda County's case management system, will be temporarily offline during the next two weekends as the Court works to install an update and transition family law, probate, mental health and adoption case types into the system.

The eCourt update and transition of new case types into the system will impact access to all case types except criminal, juvenile and traffic over the next two weekends as follows:

eCourt (Civil Unlimited, Limited and Appeals) will be inaccessible from:

- Friday August 25 at 7 p.m. to Sunday, August 27 at 11:59 p.m. and
- Friday, September 1 at 7 p.m. to Tuesday, September 5 at 8 a.m.

Family Law, Probate, Mental Health and Adoption Case Impacts:

- Thursday, August 31 at Noon
 - Fax filing permanently terminated.
- Thursday, August 31 at Noon to Friday, September 1 at 2 p.m.
 - Case access and filings are limited to Courthouse terminals. DomainWeb is permanently taken offline.
- Friday, September 1 at 2 p.m. to Tuesday, September 5 at 8 a.m.
 - Filings and access to case documents unavailable

As of Tuesday, September 5, DomainWeb will no longer be used, and all family law, probate, mental health and adoption case filings will join civil case documents in eCourt. These cases will be accessible through the Court's eCourt public portal here: <u>https://eportal.alameda.courts.ca.gov</u>

The transition will provide all users a more streamlined approach to filing, scheduling, reviewing and monitoring the development of cases in the court system. Among the significant changes will be electronic filing of most documents related to a case, an online court reservation system, elimination of fax filing and a modern interface that provides easier access to case files.

(Please note: A limited number of documents such as wills, bench warrants, subpoenaed documents, and bonds, cannot be electronically filed. These documents will have to continue to be submitted as a hard copy in person, at a courthouse drop box or by mail. Please review the Court's local rules for specific exemptions. Local rules for each area of law can be found here: https://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/general-information/local-rules-forms).

Once family law, probate, mental health and adoption cases are transitioned to eCourt, attorneys will be encouraged to begin e-filing, but mandatory usage will not occur until October 23, 2023. Litigants representing themselves can continue to visit the courthouse to file case documents but are also encouraged to e-file.

Attorneys filing and accessing civil and appeals cases are already required to e-file and have been utilizing the eCourt case management system since 2021.

For more information about e-filing and eCourt, visit <u>https://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/online-services/e-filing</u>.

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