



**Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

March 16, 2022

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 [here](#) or [here](#). In addition, a hard copy of the proposal is available upon request by email at pcomments@alameda.courts.ca.gov or by phone at 510-891-6012.

Important dates:

- The last day to comment is **May 2, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.**
- The proposed amendment takes effect upon approval of the Chair of the Judicial Council or on **July 1, 2022**, whichever is sooner.

Text of Proposed Rules and Amendments: *see attached.*

Comments must be submitted in writing to:

Andrew Taylor
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
1225 Fallon Street, Room 209
Oakland, CA 94612
E-mail: pcomments@alameda.courts.ca.gov

Title 7. Probate Rules

Chapter 1. General Provisions

Rule 7.2.1 Electronic filing and service in mental health cases

(a) Application and effective dates

The court adopts electronic filing (e-filing) and service in all mental health and mental health appellate proceedings as follows:

- (1) Effective November 14, 2022, any party may agree to participate in e-filing using a court-approved e-filing service provider (EFSP). An agreement to participate in e-filing is also an agreement to serve and accept service electronically.
- (2) Effective January 1, 2023, e-filing is required for all represented parties. Counsel must e-file using a court-approved EFSP and, except as otherwise required by law, must serve and accept service electronically.
- (3) The effective dates in (1) and (2) may be postponed by the court as posted on the court's e-filing website at the link in (b).

(b) Technical requirements

E-filed documents must be in a searchable PDF format. Additional technical requirements and a list of court-approved EFSPs are posted on the court's e-filing website:

<http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/Pages.aspx/Civil-e-filing>.

(c) Exceptions

The following documents may not be e-filed:

- (1) Bench warrants;
- (2) Subpoenaed documents;
- (3) Bonds;
- (4) Undertakings; and
- (5) Any other documents required by law to contain an original signature or to be filed in original form.

(d) Confidentiality

Unless otherwise ordered by the court, all e-filed documents are confidential.

Rule 7.2.1 proposed effective July 1, 2022.