

Title 3. Civil Rules

Chapter 2. Limited and Unlimited Civil Cases

Rule 3.131. Assignment of temporary judges to hear civil causes

(a) Assignment of temporary judge

The presiding judge may assign a temporary judge, who may be a commissioner, to hear limited civil cases and collection cases.

(b) Notice of Assignment

The court will provide notice that a cause is assigned to a temporary judge in a manner permitted by California Rules of Court, rule 2.816.

(c) Stipulation to temporary judge

No stipulation to a temporary judge is required for a party whose default has been entered and who is therefore not a party litigant.

A party shall be deemed to have stipulated to a temporary judge for a cause if that party:

- (1) files a written stipulation that the cause may be heard by a temporary judge; or
- (2) appears at a hearing on the cause, fails to object to the cause being heard by a temporary judge before the temporary judge begins the proceeding, and participates in the cause; or
- (3) files their first pleading in the cause and fails to file a written Notice of Non-Stipulation to a temporary judge within 30 days of notice of assignment of the cause to a temporary judge.

Rule 3.131 adopted effective January 1, 2024