



**Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

September 18, 2025

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 **November 3, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**
- The proposed amendment takes effect upon approval of the Chair of the Judicial Council or on **January 1, 2026**, whichever is sooner.

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

Comments must be submitted in writing to:

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

Title 5. Family and Juvenile Rules

Division 1. Family Rules

Chapter 1. General Provisions

Rule 5.75. Child custody recommending counseling

(a) Complaints regarding child custody recommending counselors

- (1) A person having a complaint regarding the professional conduct of a child custody recommending counselor may make the complaint orally or in writing with the Family Court Services Program Supervisor no later than 20 days after discovering the conduct giving rise to the complaint. The program supervisor will review the matter, confer with the child custody recommending counselor, and resolve the complaint directly with the person making the complaint.
- (2) If the person making the complaint is not satisfied with the response of the Family Court Services Program Supervisor, he or she may appeal the program supervisor's action in writing to the Bureau Chief of the Families & Children's Bureau within 30 days after receipt of the program supervisor's response. The Bureau Chief will acknowledge receipt of the appeal to the person who made the complaint in writing. The Bureau Chief may refer the complaint to an internal committee for review and recommendation or respond to the appeal without such referral. The response of the Bureau Chief on appeal will be provided to the person making the complaint in writing.
- (3) If the person making the complaint is not satisfied with the response of the Bureau Chief, he or she may appeal in writing to the Court Executive Officer within 30 days of receiving the response from the bureau chief. The action of the Court Executive Officer on the appeal will be provided to the person making the complaint in writing and will be final.

(b) Ex parte communications with child custody recommending counselors

There must be no ex parte communications between any court appointed child custody recommending counselor and any attorney or party involved in the case except as provided in Family Code section 216. No attorney or party to the action may provide the child custody recommending counselor with documents about the case without first giving the other party, and minor's counsel if any, a copy of the documents.

(c) Testimony of child custody recommending counselor

A subpoena requiring the appearance of a child custody recommending counselor at deposition or trial must be hand delivered to Family Court Services at least ten days before the appearance date with the witness fee required by Government Code section 68097.2.

Rule 5.75 proposed amended effective January 1, 2026; last amended January 1, 2012; adopted as rules 11.3.4 and 11.4.7 effective May 19, 1998; previously amended effective January 1, 2004, July 1, 2006, and January 1, 2007; previously amended and renumbered to Rule 5.75 effective January 1, 2008.