

Local Rules of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda

Title 5. Family Rules

Chapter 1. General Provisions

Rule 5.46. Emergency rule re settlement conferences in Department 504 during COVID-19 crisis

~~During the COVID-19 crisis, those matters calendared in Department 504 for settlement conferences will be heard remotely on the calendared date via BlueJeans unless the Court grants a continuance upon proper request by one or both of the parties.~~

A settlement conference date may be obtained by any of the following methods:

- (1) By oral request in court during any hearing or status conference;
- (2) Jointly by completing local form ALA FL-045 and the Settlement Conference Referral Form, and submitting them to the home department via email, mail, or filing window/drop box; or
- (3) By the Court scheduling the settlement conference directly in D-504's calendar if the request is approved.

~~Prior to the settlement conference, the Court will email a BlueJeans invitation to counsel, which counsel should forward to their clients and experts.~~

Any request for a settlement conference must indicate whether the requesting party intends to appear remotely at the settlement conference.

Settlement conference statements and other pleadings in conformity with the Family Code, California Rules of Court, and Local Rule 5.45 shall be ~~delivered~~ emailed to the Court as an attachment ~~copying to an email and open copied to~~ all parties and counsel, or ~~by~~ must be served ~~ing~~ on the other party ~~and~~ /counsel and ~~filed~~ ~~ing it~~ with the Court.

Any agreements reached as a result of the settlement conference will be recited on the record if a court reporter is available. Should a court reporter be unavailable, the Court will direct either party's counsel to prepare the agreement and circulate it to all parties, counsel and the Court.

All other rules and protocols pertaining to D-504 settlement conferences that are not inconsistent with this rule shall remain in full force and effect.

Rule 5.46 amended effective January 1, 2022; previously amended July 10, 2020; adopted effective April 20, 2020.