



Superior Court of the State of California

Stephanie Cameron
Court Executive Officer/
Jury Commissioner

COUNTY OF TULARE
ADMINISTRATION
221 S. Mooney Blvd., Room 303
Visalia, California 93291
Telephone: (559) 730-5000
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**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF RULES
AND INVITATION TO COMMENT**

(Pursuant to CRC, rule 10.613)

April 1, 2022

To: State Bar of California
Attorney General, State of California
Local Bar Associations – Tulare, Kings, Kern, Fresno, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Inyo, Mono, Mariposa, Tuolumne, Merced, Madera, Stanislaus, San Benito and Monterey Counties
Office of the District Attorney – Tulare, Kings, Kern, Fresno, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Inyo, Mono, Mariposa, Tuolumne, Merced, Madera, Stanislaus, San Benito and Monterey Counties
Office of the County Counsel – Tulare, Kings, Kern, Fresno, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Inyo, Mono, Mariposa, Tuolumne, Merced, Madera, Stanislaus, San Benito and Monterey Counties
Office of the Public Defender – Tulare, Kings, Kern, Fresno, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Inyo, Mono, Mariposa, Tuolumne, Merced, Madera, Stanislaus, San Benito and Monterey Counties
Contracted Defense Counsel of Tulare County
All Other Interested Parties

Please take notice, the judges of the Tulare County Superior Court will adopt additions and/or amendments to their Local Rules of Court, to become effective on July 1, 2022.

Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 10.613, all rules proposed for adoption and/or amendment will be posted on the Court's website for review. The Court's website is www.tularesuperiorcourt.ca.gov. Additionally, hard copies of the proposed rules will be available for review at the Clerk's office of each division of the Tulare County Superior Court.

The Court invites comments regarding the proposed rule changes. Comments must be received on or before **May 13, 2022**. Comments and proposed changes to the rules should be addressed as follows:

Matt Amaro, Trial Court Judicial Attorney
Tulare County Superior Court, 221 South Mooney Blvd., Room 303, Visalia, CA 93291

Thank you for assisting in improving the effectiveness of our local court rules.

Stephanie Cameron
Court Executive Officer/Jury Commissioner
Superior Court of California - County of Tulare

Hours of operation

[Amended] Rule 100 – Hours of Operation; Coin Will Not Be Accepted For Payment

The clerks' offices and telephone lines will remain open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily, excluding weekends and holidays. Drop boxes are installed in each court location except the Juvenile court to facilitate deposit of papers and fines after 4:00 p.m. and before 5:00 p.m. The documents placed in the drop box before 5:00 p.m. will be file stamped on the date deposited in the drop box. Where the court has permitted electronic filing of documents, and where the electronic confirmation from the court shows that a document was electronically filed after 5:00 P.M. of any business day, such document will be deemed to have been filed on the next court day. (Code of Civil Procedure section 1010.6(a)(3) and (a)(4). California Rules of Court, rule 2.259(a)(1) and (a)(2). Notwithstanding the foregoing, petitions for domestic violence restraining orders may be

(Revised 07/01/2022)

Elimination of Bias

[New] Rule 118 – Elimination of Bias

The court in conjunction with the Tulare County Bar Association (TCBA) shall establish a Committee on the Elimination of Bias. The court and TCBA shall adopt the procedures, goals and guidelines contained within standard 10.20 of title 10 of the Standards of Judicial Administration set forth in the California Rules of Court. The purpose of the committee is to assist the court in maintaining a courthouse environment free of bias and the appearance of bias. The court will ensure that the public can easily access existing information about how to make a complaint regarding bias in court interactions based on a protected classification. The Committee will sponsor or support educational programs designed to eliminate unconscious or explicit bias within the court and legal communities. (07/01/2022)

Electronic submission of petitions in DVRO cases

[New] Rule 936 – Electronic submission of petitions for domestic violence restraining orders

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in these rules, petitions for domestic violence restraining orders and any filings related to those petitions may be submitted electronically during and after normal business hours. The deadlines applicable to any action taken by the court with respect to a petition filed directly with the court shall apply to any action taken with respect to a petition submitted electronically.

Instructions for electronic filings permitted under this rule are available on the court's website at <https://www.tulare.courts.ca.gov/online-services/efiling>.

Members of the public may contact the clerk's office at (559) 730-5000, option 4, to obtain information about electronic filing permitted under this rule. The telephone number shall be staffed during regular business hours. Court staff shall respond to all telephonic inquiries within one business day.

Remote Appearances in Family Law and DV hearings

[New- Judge James] Rule 937 – Remote Appearances at Family Law Hearings, Including Petitions for Domestic Violence Restraining Orders

- (a) In accordance with Family Code section 6308, a party or witness may appear remotely at all hearings on a petition for a domestic violence restraining order.
- (b) In all other family law hearings, a party or witness may appear remotely unless the court exercises its discretion to order a personal appearance pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.672(d).
- (d) Instructions for remote appearances permitted under this rule are available at the court's website at: <https://www.tulare.courts.ca.gov/online-services/request-remote-hearings>.
- (e) In all other respects, California Rule of Court 3.672 shall govern remote appearances in family law matters.
- (f) Members of the public may obtain assistance regarding remote appearances by calling (559) 738-2330. This telephone number shall be staffed 30 minutes before the start of the court session at which the hearing will take place, and during the court session. (07/01/2022)

New Website Language

1. Updates to remote appearance page (<https://www.tulare.courts.ca.gov/online-services/request-remote-hearings>):

[New section] New local rule relating to remote appearances in Family Law and Domestic Violence Cases

Effective , 2022, the court has adopted a new rule relating to remote appearances in family law and domestic violence cases. (See Tulare County Superior Court local rule 937). You can review the court's local rules [here](#).

[Revised section] Civil and Family Law Litigants

Parties and witnesses in civil and family law cases may appear remotely to the extent permitted by, and in accordance with, California Rule of Court 3.672 and Code of Civil Procedure section 367.75.

[New section] Notice of intent to appear remotely

In addition to submitting a request to appear remotely using the [form](#) on this page, you must give notice to the court and all others entitled to receive notice, as provided under California Rule of Court 3.672 and Code of Civil Procedure section 367.75. You should review California Rule of Court 3.672 and Code of Civil Procedure section 367.75 concerning the manner in which notice must be provided and the amount of notice required for your remote appearance.

[New section] **Assistance by telephone with remote appearances**

Assistance regarding scheduled remote appearances is available by calling (559) 738-2330.

2. **Additions to <https://www.tulare.courts.ca.gov/divisions/family-law>, under “How to Get a Domestic Violence Restraining Order”:**

Can I submit my request for domestic violence restraining order online?

Yes. You can find instructions for efilng documents with the court, including petitions for domestic violence restraining orders, [here](#). You can also obtain information about electronic filing from your Electronic Filing Service Provider, or by calling the clerk’s office at (559) 730-5000, option 4.

Can I appear remotely at the hearing on my petition for a domestic violence restraining order?

Yes. You can find instructions for remote appearances [here](#). You can call (559) 738-2330 to obtain assistance regarding your remote appearance. This telephone number is staffed before and during court sessions. You should call this number if you are having difficulty with a scheduled remote appearance.