



The State Bar Court of California

HON. RICHARD A. HONN
PRESIDING JUDGE
HON. MANJARI CHAWLA
SUPERVISING HEARING JUDGE

NOTICE TO ALL PARTIES

The Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California has approved the adoption of amendments to rules 5.17, 5.18, and 5.154 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California (Rules of Procedure) which become effective November 25, 2025. The amendments make permanent the changes that were adopted on an interim basis effective July 29, 2024, and make further non-substantive changes in these three rules.

The changes that now are made permanent allow parties to give notice of the intent to appear remotely at a trial or evidentiary hearing orally at the initial status conference, by oral stipulation at the initial status conference, or by written stipulation filed within 10 days after the court serves notice of the evidentiary hearing or trial. These options for giving notice of the intent to appear remotely are in addition to the provisions of the rule allowing parties to give notice in writing within 10 days after the court serves notice of the evidentiary hearing or trial. Further changes are made to clarify and update rules 5.17 and 5.18.

In addition, rules 5.17, 5.18 and 5.154 have been amended to replace references to specific names of forms with the language “the court-approved form located on the court’s website.”

A [supplement](#) to the Rules of Procedure with the amended rules is available on the State Bar Court website.