



# The State Bar Court of California

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

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## NOTICE TO ALL PARTIES

The Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California has approved the interim adoption of amendments to rules 5.17 and 5.18 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California (Rules of Procedure) which become effective July 29, 2024.

The changes 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 new options for giving notice of the intent to appear remotely are in addition to the existing 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.

In addition, various changes are made to clarify and update rules 5.17 and 5.18, including the following:

- In paragraphs 5.17(A) and 5.18(D), the requirement for a party who non-electronically serves notice of intent to appear in person or remotely to also give notice by telephone or in person is eliminated.
- In paragraph 5.17(C), the judge will have discretion to order a remote appearance or reschedule a hearing regardless of whether the judge is scheduled to conduct another in-person proceeding in a different venue on that date.
- In paragraph 5.18(A), the reference to witnesses being required to appear in person at trials and evidentiary hearings is deleted. References to witnesses elsewhere in the rule are also deleted.

A [supplement](#) to the Rules of Procedure with the amended rules, is available on the State Bar Court website. The changes to rules 5.17 and 5.18 will be circulated for public comment and will be considered by the State Bar Board of Trustees for permanent adoption.