



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Cameras in California Courts: Rule 980 Renumbered as Rule 1.150

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WHAT: Rule 980 of the California Rules of Court—known as the “cameras” rule—has been renumbered as rule 1.150 effective January 1, 2007. The change was made as a result of reorganization and renumbering of the entire California Rules of Court.

Rule 1.150, which remains identical to rule 980, specifies the conditions under which electronic media coverage is permitted in state courtrooms. The rule provides that judges must review requests to bring electronic recording and photography equipment into court, considering 18 factors that balance the interests of the court, the public, and the news media. Judges have had the discretion to permit cameras in state courts since the rule became permanent in 1984.

WHY: The rules reorganization, approved by the Judicial Council at a public meeting on June 30, 2006, makes the California Rules of Court clearer, better organized, and easier to read. It involved a reordering and renumbering of the rules and the Standards of Judicial Administration. The project is part of a larger, historic effort to make California law more accessible and understandable to the public. The cameras in court forms remain unchanged.

LINKS:

Rule 1.150, California Rules of Court:

http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules/index.cfm?title=one&linkid=rule1_150

Cameras in Court Form:

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms/documents/mc500.pdf>

History of Cameras in Court:

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/reference/documents/factsheets/camerasc.pdf>

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