



# MEDIA ADVISORY

Release Number: 15

Date: June 9, 2010

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF  
CALIFORNIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE COURTS  
Public Information Office  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688  
[www.courtinfo.ca.gov](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov)

415-865-7740

Lynn Holton  
Public Information Officer

## Chief Justice Issues Order in Coordinated Toyota Cases

### *Trial to be held in Los Angeles*

San Francisco—Chief Justice Ronald M. George, chair of the Judicial Council of California, has issued an order authorizing Presiding Judge Tim McCoy, of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, to assign a judge of the LA Superior Court as the coordination trial judge in the coordinated Toyota cases. (*Judicial Council Coordinated Proceeding No. 4621.*)

The five-page order, which was sent to the Superior Court late yesterday afternoon, states:

“After considering the recommendation of the coordination motion judge and the standards set forth in rule 3.530(b) of the California Rules of Court, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles is hereby authorized to assign this matter to a judge of the court pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure 404.3 and rule 3.540 of the California Rules of Court to sit as coordination trial judge to hear and determine the coordinated actions, at the site or sites he or she finds appropriate. Immediately upon assignment, the coordination trial judge may exercise all the power over each coordinated action of a judge of the court in which that action is pending.”

Coordination allows two or more civil cases that share common questions of fact or law and that are pending in different counties to be joined in one court. There are 40 cases from various counties throughout the state joined in the current coordinated proceeding involving Toyota cases.

The Chief Justice’s order is attached. A fact sheet on Civil Case Coordination is posted on the California Web site at

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

**CHAIR, JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA**  
**455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102-3688**

Coordination Proceeding )  
Special Title (Rule 3.550) )  
)  
)  
**TOYOTA MOTOR CASES** ) **JUDICIAL COUNCIL**  
) **COORDINATION PROCEEDING**  
) **NO. 4621**  
)  
)  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**ORDER ASSIGNING COORDINATION TRIAL JUDGE**

Upon order of the coordination motion judge, the 40 actions listed below have been coordinated. (Code Civ. Proc., § 404.3.)

**COORDINATED ACTIONS**

<b><u>COURT</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER</u></b>	<b><u>SHORT TITLE</u></b>
Superior Court of California County of Contra Costa	C1000520	Fong v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Contra Costa	C1000681	Flores v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of El Dorado	PC20100224	Dreyer v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Kern	1500CV269506 SPC	Rodriguez v. County of Kern, et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC435986	Casco v. Toyota Motor North America, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	KC057888	Uno v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.

<b><u>COURT</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER</u></b>	<b><u>SHORT TITLE</u></b>
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC432706	Grant v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC420298	Hawatmeh v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.; Keyes Lexus
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC434646	Grainger v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	SC107584	Campbell v. Toyota Motor North America, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC431860	Lin v. Toyota Motor North America, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC432811	Abrams, v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC431250	Lytle v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	SC107169	Synn v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC435265	Edwards v. Toyota Motor Corporation, et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC438366	Craig v. Toyota Motor North America, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC428326	Hewitt v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC438370	Kunit v. Toyota Motor North America, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC438365	Sossikian v. Toyota Motor North America, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC435251	Berberian v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., et al.

<b><u>COURT</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER</u></b>	<b><u>SHORT TITLE</u></b>
Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles	BC432012	Pfohlman v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Orange	30200900126352	Kiss v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. et al.
Superior Court of California County of Orange	30201000352242	Schreiber and Whiffen v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Orange	30201000342998	Kennedy v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Orange	30201000352900 CUBTCXC	People of the State of California v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Orange	30200900333285	Esfandiari v. Toyota Motor North America, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Riverside	RIC10005735	Ornelas v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Riverside	RIC10006201	Diaz v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Riverside	RC10004041	Vasquez v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Sacramento	34201000070734	Walker v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of San Diego	37201000053388	Herman v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of San Diego	37201000086718 CUPLCTL	Saylor v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.

<b><u>COURT</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER</u></b>	<b><u>SHORT TITLE</u></b>
Superior Court of California County of San Diego	37201000075110 CUBCSC	Brown v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of San Diego	37201000065953 CUBCEC	Kimari v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of San Diego	37201000088622 CUNPCTL	Jex v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. et al.
Superior Court of California County of San Luis Obispo	CV090425	Ezal v. Martin Resorts, Inc.
Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara	109CV158872	Bates v. Toyota Motor Corporation, Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Stanislaus	651403	Gonzales v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Stanislaus	652113	Austin v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.
Superior Court of California County of Yolo	CV10356	Martinez-Gomez v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., et al.

The coordination motion judge has designated the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, as the reviewing court having appellate and writ jurisdiction. (Code Civ. Proc., § 404.2; Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.505(a).)

After considering the recommendation of the coordination motion judge and the standards set forth in rule 3.530(b) of the California Rules of Court, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles is hereby authorized to assign this matter to a judge of the court pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 404.3 and rule 3.540 of the California Rules of Court to sit as coordination trial judge to hear and determine the coordinated actions, at the site or sites he or she finds appropriate. Immediately upon assignment, the coordination trial judge may exercise all the powers over each coordinated action of a judge of the court in which that action is pending.

The coordination motion judge has recommended that those included actions seeking damages for alleged personal injury and wrongful death be managed separately from those asserting other forms of injury. The coordination trial judge may wish to consider this recommendation and should exercise his or her discretion to manage the coordination proceeding in the manner he or she finds will best promote efficiency and the ends of justice. (See Code Civ. Proc., § 128(a)(3); Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.541(b); see also *id.*, rule 3.400(a).)

Pursuant to rules 3.501 and 3.540 of the California Rules of Court, every paper filed in a coordinated action must be accompanied by proof of submission of a copy thereof to the coordination trial judge at the following address:

Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
of California, County of Los Angeles  
Stanley Mosk Courthouse  
111 North Hill Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Pursuant to rule 3.511 of the California Rules of Court, a copy of every paper required to be transmitted to the Chair of the Judicial Council must be sent to the following address:

Chair, Judicial Council of California  
Administrative Office of the Courts  
Attn: Appellate & Trial Court Judicial Services  
(Civil Case Coordination)  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688

Petitioner is directed to serve a copy of this order on (1) all parties to the included coordinated actions, and (2) the clerk of each court for filing in each included action, pursuant to rule 3.540(c) of the California Rules of Court.

Dated: *June 8, 2010*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Justice of California and  
Chair of the Judicial Council