



NEWS RELEASE

Release Number: 53

Release Date: June 30, 2006

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

415-865-7740

Lynn Holton
Public Information Officer

Judicial Council Approves Major Reorganization of Rules of Court

Goal Is to Make California Law Clearer, Accessible

San Francisco—At a public meeting today, the Judicial Council of California approved a major reorganization of the California Rules of Court, a group of more than 1,000 rules and 47 standards of judicial administration that govern state court policy and procedure.

The reorganization, effective January 1, 2007, involves a major restructuring, reordering, and renumbering of the rules and standards to make them clearer, better organized, and easier to read.

“The changes to the California Rules of Court are part of a larger, historic effort to make the law clearer, more accessible, and user-friendly,” said Chief Justice Ronald M. George, chair of the 28-member council, the administrative policymaking body of state courts.

“This major rules reorganization joins the ranks of other successful efforts to improve public understanding of the courts, such as the Judicial Council’s plain English jury instructions and plain-language court forms for self-represented litigants,” the Chief Justice continued.

To review the complete report, please visit the California Courts Web site at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jc/documents/reports/063006Item5.pdf>.

In other actions, the council:

New Courthouse Selection: Authorized the Administrative Office of the Courts to proceed with the site selection process for new courthouse projects for the Superior Courts of Plumas/Sierra and Mono counties.

Jury Instructions: Approved the publication of revisions to the Judicial Council’s Civil Jury Instructions. The revisions are designed to improve clarity and accuracy.

The council also heard status reports on the need for additional funding for new courthouse facilities, and an update on recent equity funding for the trial courts.

Today's meeting may be heard on an archived audiocast on the California Courts Web site at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jc/>. The council's complete agenda is online at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jc/documents/age063006.pdf>.

The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.

#