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What's New at the California Courts' Online Self-Help Center and Equal Access

November 2014

This newsletter is a summary of new and updated information on the [California Online Self-Help Center](#) and [Equal Access](#) site. It also highlights resources you can use to assist you in providing services to your self-help center customers.

Updates at Online Self-Help Center

- **Juvenile Dependency Court and You: A Guide for Parents** –The guide is currently available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#), and linked to within the Online Self-Help Center at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-childabuse.htm>.
- Reminder about [Families Change](#), which includes a free online parent education course – *Parenting After Separation* (PAS) – for divorcing or separating parents in California. Provides 3 hours of parent education addressing separation and divorce, children's developmental needs, and the family court process. Access through www.familieschange.ca.gov or directly at www.parenting.familieschange.ca.gov. Soon to be available in Spanish.
- Updated multilingual audio/video offerings:
 - [Audio Domestic Violence Information Sheets](#) (available in [Spanish](#))
 - "Resolve your dispute out of court" video series for:
 - [Small Claims](#) (available in [Spanish](#), [Russian](#) and [Vietnamese](#))
 - [Eviction](#) (available in [Spanish](#), [Russian](#) and [Vietnamese](#))
 - [Civil Harassment](#) (available in [Spanish](#) and [Vietnamese](#))
 - [Debt Collection](#) (available in [Spanish](#) and [Vietnamese](#))
 - [Orientation to Family Court Mediation and Child Custody Recommending Counseling](#) (with available Spanish captioning)
 - [Juvenile Dependency Court Orientation](#) (available in [Spanish](#))
 - [Juvenile Delinquency Court Orientation](#) (soon to be available in Spanish)

Form Charts by Topic:

- [Fee Waivers](#)
- [Divorce](#)
- [Domestic Violence](#)
- [Child Custody](#)
- [Name Change](#)

[California Courts' YouTube Channel](#) for judicial branch videos, self-help videos & more.

[Email your questions](#) to the Equal Access community.

We hope you find these tools of help. If you have other ideas for how you use the Online Self-Help Center while you provide services to your customers, let us know.

News on the Equal Access Project

- Given the enormous interest in, and appreciation for, Rhea Yoo's email to the listserv discussing service of process issues with Mexico, we created a Word document available at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/partners/documents/EA-CrossNatl-InfoResearchYoo-11-2014.docx> with the research prepared by Rhea and staff.
- Find other helpful information and materials by clicking on [Cross-National Issues](#).

We are continuing our efforts to revamp the [Instructional Materials](#) section of Equal Access. Thanks to your help, we have taken down outdated materials and have begun uploading those you have sent to us over the past few months. We are also still working on reorganizing the site to improve its usability. We will continue to provide more updates to you as we make more significant progress in this area. As always, if you have feedback you have not yet shared with us, please do

so. Finally, if there are any materials you would like assistance in developing or translating, or if you want to find out what other courts have done and cannot find the information on these sites, please feel free to contact bonnie.hough@jud.ca.gov.

Commission on the Future of California’s Court System Seeks Input on California Court System

Deadline to complete survey: December 5 SAN FRANCISCO—The [Commission on the Future of California’s Court System](#) created an [online survey](#) to seek broad input on recommendations to improve the California court system. The Commission is soliciting suggestions from the public, attorneys, judicial officers, court staff, law enforcement and all branch stakeholders on ways to make the California judicial branch more efficient and effective.

“The commission is particularly interested in identifying outdated laws, systems, or practices and proposals for new approaches, such as the use of technology, that will improve court services and save time and resources in the long term,” said Justice Carol A. Corrigan, an associate justice of the California Supreme Court and chair of the commission. “The goal of the survey is to ensure that we’re focused on today’s most pressing priorities. All ideas are welcome.”

The deadline to complete the [online survey](#) is Friday, December 5. Please refer any questions to FuturesCommission@jud.ca.gov.