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

January 2016

Happy New Year!! Welcome to this first newsletter of 2016. In it you will find 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

- **Eviction** – The [Eviction](#) section of our Online Self-Help Center has just been re-designed to improve usability and make it more accessible to self-represented litigants, [landlords](#) and [tenants](#), looking for information and help with unlawful detainer cases, and related information and resources. If your websites link to these pages directly, please make sure your links reflect the updated URLs. The Spanish pages have been redesigned as well if you prefer to direct court users directly to the Spanish site.
- **Gun Violence Restraining Orders** – In response to the legislative changes effective January 1, 2016, we have created a new section on the website addressing firearms restraining orders. The Spanish pages have not yet been finalized; we will let you know as soon as those are available. In the meantime, visit the new section or link to it from your court websites if desired.
- **Juvenile Delinquency Court Orientation Video** – This video provides an orientation for parents and children to the Juvenile Delinquency Court System, now also available in [Spanish](#) as well. You can also find it linked to within the Online Self-Help Center at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-delinquency.htm>.
- **Traffic Amnesty Program**. For those of you who provide assistance with infractions (traffic and others), including providing resources, be aware that, effective October 1, 2015 (and running through March 31, 2017), there is an amnesty program for unpaid traffic and non-traffic tickets. Find out more at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/trafficamnesty.htm> (also in [Spanish](#)). Court users can also view an informational video in [English](#).

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.

Requests for Language Access Materials

The Judicial Council's Language Access Plan has entered its implementation phase. We would like to collect any informational materials, videos, brochures or other tools that you may have developed to serve your court or agency's Limited-English Proficient populations (including systems you may have created to support your staff in being more linguistically accessible). Whether they are materials we can adapt for the self-help website to provide multi-lingual information, or samples and templates for the Equal Access site that we can post for use by other colleagues, please send them to Bonnie.Hough@jud.ca.gov.

News on the Equal Access Project

After some complications with the web content editor, a new and improved system will allow us to continue our efforts to revamp the [Instructional Materials](#) section of Equal Access, as well as other sections.

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 contact Bonnie.Hough@jud.ca.gov.**