



Superior Court of California County of Fresno

Policy pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 2.956

Effective May 1, 2023, official court reporters **will no longer** be available for Probate matters or Family Law matters, with few limited exceptions. Court reporters will no longer be routinely assigned to any Department in the B.F. Sisk Courthouse.

The Court will prioritize official court reporters for criminal felony cases, juvenile cases and statutorily mandated hearing types. Official court reporters are normally available for reporting all proceedings in criminal felony and juvenile cases.

Beginning May 1, 2023, official court reporters will not normally be available in family law and probate cases.

Official Court reporters will continue to routinely be provided for proceedings under the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act and for hearings and proceedings associated with declaring a minor free from parental custody. These matters are currently heard in Departments 202 and 303.

Official court reporters are not normally available for reporting in unlimited civil cases.

Official court reporters are not normally available to report matters in limited civil, misdemeanor, or infraction cases. Electronic Recording is the method used to create the official record in these proceedings. (Government Code 69957 and California Rules of Court, rules 2.952 and 2.956(c)).

The Court does not provide official court reporters for hearings in its Appellate Division.

If a party wishes to provide a court reporter for a hearing or trial, prior to the hearing or trial date, such party must file a statement with the Court requesting the presence of an official court reporter.

A party desiring a court reporter's services for a proceeding for which the Court does not make a court reporter available may arrange for the appointment of a court-approved official court reporter from a list maintained by the Court, or may, by stipulation, arrange for the appointment of a privately retained certified shorthand reporter. To obtain approval for an official court reporter from a list maintained by the Court submit an Order Appointing Court-Approved Reporter As Official Reporter Pro Tempore (form PGN-59). To request the appointment of a privately retained reporter submit a Stipulation and Order to Use Certified Shorthand Reporter (form PGN-63). If an arrangement for a court reporter is made under this paragraph, it is the responsibility of the arranging party or parties to pay the reporter's fee for attendance at the proceedings. The forms are available on the Fresno County Superior Court website: http://www.fresno.courts.ca.gov/court_reporter_info/.

A party who has received a fee waiver may request an official court reporter pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 2.956(c)(2). The request should be made by filing a

Request for Presence of a Court Reporter (form PCV-59). If the requesting party has not been granted a fee waiver, a completed Request to Waive Court Fees (form FW-001 or form FW-001-GC in guardianship or conservator cases) must be filed at the same time as the request for a court reporter. The party should file the request 10 calendar days before the proceeding for which a court reporter is desired, or as soon as practicable. The clerk will notify the requestor as soon as possible if an official court reporter will not be available on the date of the hearing as scheduled. Given the limited availability of official court reporters and the need to provide them in disciplines where a court reporter is mandated by statute, notice of the availability of a court reporter may not be given until the day of the trial or hearing and may result in a continuance of the matter if there is no court reporter available. The forms are available on the Fresno County Superior Court website: http://www.fresno.courts.ca.gov/court_reporter_info/.