

1 SUPERIOR COURT  
2 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
247 West Third Street, Eleventh Floor  
3 San Bernardino, California 92415  
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8 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
9 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO**  
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11 IN RE:

12 COURT REPORTER AVAILABILITY  
13 POLICY FOR CIVIL AND PROBATE  
14 CASES  
15

) GENERAL ORDER #GO24-027

) GENERAL ORDER  
) OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE

16 Official court reporters are required for reporting all proceedings in felony  
17 criminal and juvenile cases. Court reporters are not statutorily required to be provided  
18 by the courts in civil, family law, probate, misdemeanor criminal, and traffic cases. With  
19 the exception of limited civil, misdemeanor and infraction cases, Government Code  
20 section 69957 prohibits the courts from providing electronic recording in civil, family law  
21 and probate courtrooms.

22 The Superior Court of San Bernardino County has been suffering from a severe  
23 lack of court reporters. Available court reporters are unable to routinely cover non-  
24 mandated case types, including civil and probate cases. Official court reporters are not  
25 normally available for reporting trials in unlimited cases. Official court reporters are also  
26 not normally available for reporting law and motion matters in unlimited jurisdiction  
27 cases, except as specifically listed on the court's website.  
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1           Consequently, parties to a civil or probate matter who want to memorialize a  
2 hearing or trial may arrange, at their own expense, for the presence of a court reporter  
3 given the likelihood under the present circumstances that the court will NOT be able to  
4 provide an official court reporter. (Gov. Code § 68086, subd. (d)(2) and Cal. Rules of  
5 Court, rule 2.956(c).) For trial, a party must comply with Cal. Rules of Court, rule  
6 2.956(b)(3).

7           To the extent an official court reporter is available to be assigned to a civil or  
8 probate matter, priority will be given in the following order, and the parties will be  
9 notified:

10           a) Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Conservatorship

11           The Court finds good cause to allow the parties and counsel in civil or probate  
12 cases desiring a court reporter's services for which the court does not make a court  
13 reporter available to arrange for the appointment of a privately retained certified  
14 shorthand reporter, who will be designated as the Official Court Reporter for the  
15 purposes of their trial. If an arrangement for a court reporter is made under this General  
16 Order, it is the responsibility of the arranging party or parties to pay the reporter's fees  
17 for attendance at the proceedings. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 2.956(c).)

18           This order is effective January 1, 2024, and supersedes all previous general  
19 orders entitled *Court Reporter Availability Policy for Civil and Probate Cases*, issued by  
20 previous Presiding Judges. This order shall remain in effect until December 31, 2025,  
21 or otherwise revoked.

22           Dated this 1st day of January, 2024

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26           \_\_\_\_\_  
27           Lisa M. Rogan  
28           Presiding Judge of the Superior Court