

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

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RELEASE DATE: June 28, 2021

SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT EXPANDS MANDATORY E-FILING TO CIVIL COMPLAINTS, PETITIONS AND PROBATE TRUSTS

SAN FRANCISCO) - Effective July 1, 2021, the San Francisco Superior Court is expanding its mandatory e-filing program to include additional new case filings in General Civil, and Probate Trusts and Estate Cases.

This will be the Court's second largest e-filing expansion since 2014 when it launched mandatory e-filing for Civil Subsequent Filings for all case types. Litigants may use any vendor listed on the Court's website, including File & ServeXpress, One Legal and Legal Connect to initiate a new complaint, or petition. Represented parties filing new cases in Asbestos, Cases designated Complex, Probate, for Trusts and Decedent's Estates, must e-file solely with File and ServeXpress. Please see the Electronic Filing information page on the Court's website for a complete list of approved vendors.

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“The Court is pleased to announce the expansion of its electronic information management initiative to now include asbestos, complex litigation, probate trust and estates, and the remaining civil complaints not included in the January 2021 expansion, to its e-filing program,” said Michael T. Yuen, Court Executive Office. “ We want to continue leveraging technology as we move through this very dynamic time in our history by implementing efficiencies that will last in the years to come. Our court has always adapted to changing times and we have demonstrated that through the implementation of technology in our court operations including the expansion of electronic filing.”

The Court is expanding its E-filing Program to include additional case types not included in the January 2021 expansion, with some exceptions. Small Claims, Unlawful Detainers, Civil Harassment, Name Changes, Probate Conservatorships and Guardianships, Judgments related to Sister State, Confession, Labor, and Summary will continue to be initiated in paper form. The additional case types below will be subject to mandatory e-filing for initiating filings effective July 1, 2021:

- Asbestos
- Complex Cases
- Contractual Arbitration
- Construction
- Injunctive Relief
- Declaratory Relief
- Intellectual Property
- Mass Tort
- Medical Malpractice
- Petitions
- Products Liability
- Quiet Title – McInerney

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- Securities/Investment
- Toxic Tort/Environment
- Writs of Mandate

Upon the Court's acceptance of a new filing, a case number is assigned, and filers will be notified by receiving a vendor receipt. E-filing will continue to be mandatory for all subsequent pleadings filed by an attorney, but not mandatory for self-represented litigants and non-parties. E-filing rules are contained in San Francisco Superior Court local rule 2.11.

The Civil e-filing expansion is a key element of the Court's Electronic Information Management (EIM) project, managed by Civil and Unified Family Court Chief Operations Officer Wayne Parinas, Civil Division Manager Diane Hakewill, and overseen by Court Executive Officer T. Michael Yuen.

This phase of the project is aligned with the Court's strategic plan to modernize court operations by leveraging technology to improve service to the public, expand access, save money and resources.

"The expansion of E-filing for civil complaints, petitions, and Probate Trust and Estate cases effective July 1, 2021, is due to the hard work and dedication of our staff," said Samuel K. Feng, the court's Presiding Judge. "I am so proud of this achievement. The success of the San Francisco Superior Court is because of our wonderful staff. I am forever grateful."