



Superior Court of California, County of Orange

Civil Court Reporter Pooling

Effective February 2, 2015, the following *Availability and Unavailability of Official Court Reporters Policy* is applicable to all unlimited civil courtrooms, including the civil complex courtrooms, as the Court shifts from one-to-one assignment of court reporters to civil courtrooms for all hearings to a system where court reporters are assigned to a courtroom as needed for trials and other matters in which oral evidence will be presented.

Approved: 
Alan Carlson
Chief Executive Officer and
Clerk of the Superior Court
DATED: January 30, 2015

POLICY OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE

TITLE: AVAILABILITY AND UNAVAILABILITY OF OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS

PURPOSE: To set forth the availability of court reporters for hearings in the courtrooms of the Superior Court of California, County of Orange.

POLICY: Effective February 2, 2015, official court reporters will be available from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM in felony criminal cases, family law, juvenile, and any other proceedings in which an official court reporter is mandated by law. Official court reporters will be available in unlimited civil cases only for trials and other matters in which oral evidence will be presented (“Evidentiary Hearings”); and in probate and mental health cases where a reporter is not mandated by law only for trials, other Evidentiary Hearings, and conservatorship and guardianship hearings. Pursuant to Government Code section 69957, the Orange County Superior Court may provide verbatim electronic recording services in infraction, misdemeanor, and limited jurisdiction civil matters, including unlawful detainees (California Rules of Court, rule 2.952).

A Court-Approved List of Official Reporters Pro Tempore (“List”), which includes names and contact information of reporters who can be privately retained and appointed as official court reporters pro tempore without stipulation of the parties, is posted on the court’s website. Alternatively, by stipulation, parties may privately retain a certified shorthand reporter not on the List to serve in a proceeding as an official court reporter pro tempore where an official court reporter is not available. In addition to the List, the court will also post on its public website the Policy for Inclusion on the List of Official Court Reporters Pro Tempore (“Policy for Inclusion on the List”).

Parties, including those with fee waivers, will be responsible for all fees and costs related to pro tempore court reporter services arranged under the foregoing provisions. (California Rules of Court, rule 2.956(c).)

The reporting notes of all certified shorthand reporters, including reporters who are privately retained, are the official records of the court and shall be kept by the reporter taking the notes in a place designated by the court, or, upon order of the court, delivered to the clerk of the court (Government Code § 69955(a)). The court’s policy for providing the court with electronic notes will be posted on the court’s website.

All forms, policies, and additional information will be available on the court’s website at www.occourts.org.