



The State Bar Court *of California*

HON. W. KEARSE MCGILL
ACTING PRESIDING JUDGE
HON. CYNTHIA VALENZUELA
SUPERVISING HEARING JUDGE

GENERAL NOTICE RE IN-PERSON AND REMOTE COURT EVENTS

Effective April 4, 2022, and Until Further Notice

Effective April 4, 2022, the State Bar adopted Rules 5.17 and 5.18 and amended Rule 5.154 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California.

The court encourages all court participants to review these [Rules](#) in their entirety.

Zoom Court Appearance Requirements:

General Requirements:

- Appropriate conduct and attire are expected and required. Remote proceedings will be recorded pursuant to rule 5.14 of the Rules of Procedure.
- The recording, broadcasting, or photographing (including “screen-shots” or other visual copying) of a remote court proceeding is strictly prohibited pursuant to rule 5.16 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar, unless authorized by the court.
- All participants and other individuals granted remote access to court proceedings are expected to follow all instructions by the court and to not disrupt proceedings in any manner.
- Public court proceedings that are conducted wholly or partially as remote may be accessed by the public through Zoom. Public remote court proceedings are posted to the State Bar Court [website](#) and in the [Current Notices](#) section by the end of day Friday for the following week. Any changes are posted as soon as possible.

Participant Requirements:

- Participants will be provided with Zoom access information to the court proceeding, including information to join by video or telephone. This Zoom access information should not be shared with anyone.
- Participants should access the Zoom court proceeding at least 10 minutes before the scheduled start time. Participants will initially be placed into "waiting rooms" and will then be admitted to the proceeding by the Court Specialist.
- Throughout the proceeding, participants should speak one at a time and pause prior to speaking in case there is any audio/video lag. Participants should mute themselves when not speaking in order to avoid any potential background noise.

- If a participant is experiencing technical difficulties, that participant should contact the court via email using the assigned judge's courtroom email address.

Zoom Video Appearances:

- Zoom video appearances require sufficient internet speed and connectivity to stream video, a device capable of capturing and displaying a clear audio and visual stream, and limited background noise and distraction. It is the sole responsibility of a participant appearing by Zoom to ensure the above criteria are met.
- Participants shall not use virtual backgrounds; however, a participant may blur their background.
- The court retains full discretion to terminate a Zoom proceeding, and may continue or reschedule the proceeding for another date and time, or require the participant to appear in person, due to delay or other concern due to disruption, noise, misconduct, a communication problem, a technical problem, other issue, or in the interest of justice.
- If a participant is not connected at the time of the scheduled proceeding, the court may consider it a failure to appear at the proceeding.

Zoom Telephonic Appearances:

- Zoom telephonic appearances require sufficient connectivity, and limited background noise and distraction. It is the sole responsibility of a participant appearing by telephone to ensure the above criteria are met.
- The court retains full discretion to terminate a telephonic proceeding, and may continue or reschedule the proceeding for another date and time, or require the participant to appear in person, due to delay or other concern due to disruption, noise, misconduct, a communication problem, a technical problem, other issue, or in the interest of justice.
- If a participant is not connected at the time of the scheduled proceeding, the court may consider it a failure to appear at the proceeding.

In-Person Court Appearance Requirements:

- To continue to protect the health of court users and in compliance with the State Bar's building policies, all persons entering a State Bar building will be asked to provide proof of vaccination. Upon sufficient proof of vaccination, an individual is not required to wear a face covering but may continue to do so at their own discretion.

- Any individual who is unvaccinated or does not provide proof of vaccination, must wear a face covering¹ over both the nose and mouth in the State Bar building and throughout the in-person court proceeding. Individuals who decline or refuse to wear a face mask without Building Management exempting them from the mask requirement will be denied entry to the State Bar building and the State Bar Court courtrooms. An individual who removes their face mask will be reminded to wear the mask. If the individual refuses to comply with the face mask requirements, the individual may be denied services, may have their court proceeding rescheduled or converted to a remote proceeding, and/or will be asked to leave the State Bar Court courtrooms and the State Bar building. If the individual refuses to leave, security will be contacted.

¹ “Face covering” includes only a well-fitting medical-grade mask, such as a surgical mask or an N95 or KN95 respirator mask (with no vent). If an individual does not have an approved face covering when entering the State Bar building, the individual will be provided with one.