

NOTICE TO ATTORNEYS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **April 16, 2025**

SUPERIOR COURT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY TO EXPAND ELECTRONIC SERVICE FOR FAMILY LAW CASE DOCUMENTS **STARTING MAY 1, 2025**

Beginning May 1, 2025, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County will implement electronic service (eService) to transmit, deliver, or serve required case documents in Family Law cases. This marks the next step in the Court's phased rollout of eService, which initially launched with appeals documents in Juvenile Dependency, Family Law, Probate, Mental Health, and Limited and Unlimited Civil cases. As of April 1, 2025, eService was extended to include all required case documents in Probate and Mental Health. Full implementation across all applicable case types is expected by July 1, 2025.

Key Details About the eService Policy

- **Mandatory for Attorneys:** All represented parties must accept eService.
- Optional for Self-Represented Litigants: Self-represented individuals may opt to receive electronic notices by submitting the required consent form.

eService enables attorneys and self-represented litigants to receive case documents from the Court electronically, enhancing case management and offering several advantages:

- Speed and Efficiency: Attorneys are automatically enrolled in eService, ensuring faster notifications and document delivery. Self-represented litigants who opt in will receive documents more quickly than through traditional mail.
- Convenience and Flexibility: Case documents can be securely accessed online from any location, as long as a current email address is maintained.
- Enhanced Security: Documents are delivered via secure links with multi-factor authentication maintain document integrity.
- Built-in Proof of Service: eService automatically generates proof of service for recipients.

What You Need to Know About eService

- Under California Rule of Court 2.251, electronic service is legally equivalent to service by mail, express mail, overnight delivery, or fax transmission.
- Attorneys are required to accept eService, while self-represented litigants may opt in by filing a Consent to Electronic Service and Notice of Electronic Service Address form. Recipients of

documents via eService from the Court are granted two additional court days to respond, as provided under Code of Civil Procedure (CCP) 101.6(a)(3) to respond.

For more detailed information on eService, please see below:

- 1. **Opting In**: Self-represented litigants may opt-in for eService by filing an <u>Consent to Electronic Service</u> and <u>Notice of Electronic Service Address (EFS-005-CV) form.</u>
- 2. **eService Lists**: The Court will maintain an eService list for each case type, including the email addresses of litigants who consent to eService.
- Maintaining eService Addresses: Any changes to an eService address must be promptly updated by the litigant or attorney to ensure seamless communication. Parties may submit a completed MC-040 form to update their email address of record at any time.
- 4. **Service Completion**: Rule 2.251 outlines that service by electronic notification is deemed complete per Code of Civil Procedure section 1010.6 when the electronic notification of service of the document is sent.
- 5. **Secure Access**: All eService notices from the Court will be sent from CourtNotify@lacourt.org and include a secure link to access served documents, with a time-sensitive code to ensure security. Access will require multi-factor authentication to ensure security and integrity.

Additional Resources:

The following resources are available to assist court users with the phased rollout of eService:

Video tutorial on eService.

For questions or technical assistance with eService, court users are encouraged to call 213-830-0400.

For information, visit the Court's website, <u>www.LACourt.org</u>, and follow the Court on X (<u>@LASuperiorCourt</u>) and Threads (<u>@LASuperiorCourt</u>).