IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING REMOTE MANDATORY SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE (MSC)

Your case has been ordered to a MSC to be heard by Judge Robert S. Wada. You should proceed to the following website for registering to appear remotely by LA Court Connect at https://www.lacourt.org/lacc/ if you have not already done so.

Quick reference guides for using LACourtConnect have been posted at: https://www.lacourt.org/lacc/assets/pdf/LACCQuickReference.pdf as well as in the attorney portal at www.lacourt.org under the Safe For You News Center link.

For Judge Wada, you will schedule the remote appearance at Stanley Mosk Courthouse – Department MSC 250A, on the date and time of the MSC as was assigned by the Courtroom where your case is being heard.

The remote MSC will be conducted in its entirety on the court's videoconference platform LACourtConnect. Participation in this MSC is limited to persons authorized by the MSC Judge. All conversations must be held in such a way that they cannot be overheard by other persons not approved by the MSC Judge to participate in the video or audio conference. The participants shall identify themselves by name and identify by name the person to whom they are speaking. RECORDING OF ANY PORTION OF THE MSC IS PROHIBITED. To do so constitutes a violation of California law.

You must comply with <u>California Rules of Court 3.1380</u>. Among other things, it requires each party to "lodge" with the Court *and serve on each party no later than five court days before the initial date set for the MSC, a Mandatory Settlement Conference Statement*. The statement must be "lodged" with the Court by delivering the statement to the clerk in Department 4, Room 217/2nd Floor. Alternatively, the Mandatory Settlement Conference Statement, in PDF format, may be e-mailed to SMCprobateMSC@LACourt.org.

Trial counsel, parties, and persons with full authority to settle must be available at the conference, unless excused by Judge Wada for good cause.

Please note that your case has not been ordered to mediation. The rules of evidence differ between statements made in connection with a MSC and a mediation. Judge Wada will not communicate with the trial judge about the substance of the case or of settlement discussions, unless a settlement is reached. Please keep in mind that a party is under no compulsion to settle or accept a particular settlement. No sanction will be imposed if a party does not settle or settle in a particular way.

If your matter settles or any administrative matters arise before the scheduled MSC hearing date, let us know that fact by e-mail at SMCprobateMSC@LACourt.org. All e-mail communications must include a "Carbon Copy" (Cc) to all counsel and any parties in pro per.

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