

AMENDMENT TO THE CALIFORNIA RULES OF COURT
Adopted by the Judicial Council on May 17, 2024, effective July 1, 2024

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1 Title 10. Judicial Administration Rules

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3 Division 4. Trial Court Administration

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5 Chapter 1. General Rules on Trial Court Management

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8 **Rule 10.635. Limited situations in which a judicial officer may preside remotely**
9 **from a location other than a courtroom**

10
11 **(a) Purpose**

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13 This rule prescribes when, in limited situations and in the interest of justice, a
14 judicial officer may use remote technology to effectuate their own participation in a
15 proceeding from a location other than a courtroom.

16
17 **(b) Application**

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19 (1) This rule applies when a judicial officer presiding from a location other than
20 a courtroom uses remote technology to effectuate their own participation in
21 the proceeding.

22
23 (2) This rule does not apply when a judicial officer presides in person over a
24 proceeding convened in a location other than a court facility, even if another
25 participant appears remotely.

26
27 (3) This rule applies to all civil cases subject to Code of Civil Procedure section
28 367.75.

29
30 (4) Nothing in this rule limits a judicial officer from engaging in any other
31 judicial functions, duties, or actions authorized by law to be performed in a
32 location other than a courtroom.

33
34 **(c) Definitions**

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36 As used in this rule:

37
38 (1) “Court facility” has the same meaning as that provided in Government Code
39 section 70301(d).

40
41 (2) The following terms have the same meaning as those provided in rule
42 3.672(c):

1 (A) “Proceeding.”

2
3 (B) “Remote proceeding.”

4
5 (C) “Remote technology.”

6
7 **(d) Location of a judicial officer within a court facility**

8
9 A judicial officer may preside remotely from a location within a court facility other
10 than a courtroom only if doing so is in the interest of justice, the presiding judge
11 approves, and either:

12
13 (1) No parties are appearing in person at the proceeding; or

14
15 (2) No courtrooms are available in the court facility.

16
17 **(e) Location of a judicial officer outside a court facility**

18
19 A judicial officer may not preside remotely from a location outside a court facility
20 unless doing so is in the interest of justice, the presiding judge approves, and

21
22 (1) The judicial officer cannot safely access or preside from a court facility
23 because of hazardous conditions, including those resulting from:

24
25 (A) Natural disaster;

26
27 (B) Severe weather;

28
29 (C) Public emergency;

30
31 (D) Facilities failure;

32
33 (E) Security threats; or

34
35 (F) Other extraordinary circumstances as determined by the presiding
36 judge; or

37
38 (2) Presiding remotely in a matter is essential to prevent a significant delay that
39 would substantially prejudice the litigants.

40
41 *Rule 10.635 adopted effective July 1, 2024.*