

CALSP^{ro} E-NEWS

California Association of
Legal Support Professionals

MARCH 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello CALSP^{ro} members,

Well, last newsletter I started out by letting you know that several members had contracted COVID-19 and to keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Since then, I myself contracted the virus and

I can tell you from firsthand experience that COVID-19 is no fun. As of today, I am all clear and have been back to work since Monday the 22nd of March. It took about 3 weeks from beginning to end to recover. As a country, we are not out of the woods yet and so I implore you to keep following your social distancing guidelines.

Now, I do not know about you, but for me, I am starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Workflow seems to be trending in an upward direction. I hope that is the case for all of you as well. With the eviction moratorium set to expire on June 30, 2021 things should be shaping up for us to get back to "our new-normal." Small claims have resumed in most courts, although with some significant changes in many counties. For example, some jurisdictions are requiring evidence to be sent to the defendant prior to the hearing in cases where the parties appear via video or telephonically. Speaking of video or telephone hearings, while it is not necessarily new to the court system, it is newer to some counties for use during civil matters.

With these changes in place and new ones surely to come, I would encourage you to start looking at ways to stand out from the pack. In the coming weeks and months, attorneys and pro-pers alike will begin to start looking for help with facilitating their service of process needs. Now is the time to prepare for those interactions. If you are not already familiar with the latest C.C.P. and rule of court changes, please

"One of the most difficult things everyone has to learn is that for your entire life you must keep fighting and adjusting if you hope to survive. No matter who you are or what your position is you must keep fighting for whatever it is you desire to achieve."

– George Allen – NFL Head Coach and
NFL Hall of Fame Inductee

This is a good time to mention several events for legal support professionals. CALSP^{ro} members tend to keep their ears open for opportunities to continue their professional education.

Below are a few updates to the local and national calendar:

- CCPS Workshop – 4/24/2021
- NAPPS Annual Conference – 4/29/2021
"CANCELLED"
- CALSP^{ro} CCPS Workshop – 6/26/2021
- CALSP^{ro} 53rd Annual Conference – Rancho Mirage, CA – 10/8/2021 "STILL SCHEDULED"

As I researched dates for upcoming events, I noticed the lack of calendared events for other associations. This further highlights CALSP^{ro}'s dedication to our state, members and the legal support industry. CALSP^{ro}, despite the challenges that COVID-19 has presented, continues to preserve, promote and protect our legal support industry.

Stay safe and stay healthy my friends,

Best regards,

Ken Hastings
President@calspro.org
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visit: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/3025.htm> for new and amended rules.

Not only are we facing these changes, but our professional landscape has changed. Many of the companies that you have been working with over the years may no longer be in business as a casualty of the COVID-19 era. Reaching out to CALSPro members to establish new relationships and rates now could certainly impact the profitability and efficiency of your company in the near future. Check out: <https://calspro.org/member-search/> for more information.



EDUCATION

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CCPS Workshop
April 24, 2021 | 9:00am - 12:00pm

CCPS Workshop
June 26, 2021 | 9:00am - 12:00pm

CCPS Workshop
August 28, 2021 | 9:00am - 12:00pm

CCPS Workshop (Conference)
October 10, 2021 | 9:00am - 12:00pm

COURT NEWS



Reduced Court Services

Under **Government Code section 68106**, courts must provide written notice to the public and to the Judicial Council at least 60 days before putting into effect a plan to reduce costs by closing courtrooms or clerks' offices or reducing clerks' office hours. The council must post all such notices on this Internet site

within 15 days of receiving them. This page contains all notices that the council has received from courts pursuant to section 68106.

Please note, however, that the page does not provide complete information for individual courts. For current information about a specific superior court, the number and location of its courtrooms, its hours of operation, and any upcoming changes, please consult the court's website. A **list of court websites** is available.

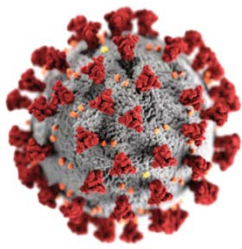
Notice Period in effect (Change not yet implemented)

Superior Court	Date Notice Received	Notice to the Judicial Council
Calaveras	11.3.2020	CLICK HERE FOR NOTICE
Fresno	9.9.2020	CLICK HERE FOR NOTICE
Glenn	10.16.2020	CLICK HERE FOR NOTICE

For more information on individual counties, please visit <https://www.courts.ca.gov/12973.htm>

[Can Employers Require COVID-19 Vaccinations?](#)

Written by Rachel Chaples, Communications Coordinator at Tristar Software



COVID-19 vaccines are becoming more accessible nationwide. At this point, 29.4% of Californians have already been administered their first dose. Many businesses are wondering if they can require employees to get vaccinated, and what the legal ramifications are if employment is withheld or

withdrawn from unvaccinated Americans.

Currently, the vaccine is being distributed under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) and has not been licensed by the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Without a license by the FDA, it is illegal to require vaccination. State law prohibits actions against an employee who is protected under federal law. Any organization that requires a COVID-19 vaccination is risking a lawsuit.

In December 2020, the FDA began clinical trials for Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna. The trial period will last two years and determine if these vaccines are effective and safe. It is completely legal for employers to encourage vaccination and/or provide paid time off for immunization appointments. However, companies must be careful to not coerce or pressure staff who decline the vaccine for personal, health or religious reasons.

Last week, California health officials declared citizens ages 50 and up eligible for vaccination on April 1st, 2021. All Californians ages 16 and older can receive the COVID-19 vaccine as early as April 15th, 2021. It is important to note, groups with appointment priority differs based on the county you reside in.

SOURCES

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