Superior Court of California
County of Orange
Announcement

Public Information Office
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Orange County Superior Court to Expand Civil Unlimited Pilot Program for Resolving Discovery Disputes and Expediting Law and Motion Hearings

Santa Ana, CA – Starting September 14, 2026, the Orange County Superior Court will increase the size of its Dedicated Discovery Department Program with the addition of the following five departments:

C10 – Honorable Shawn S. Nelson
C11 – Honorable Jonathan S. Fish
C12 – Honorable Andre Manssourian
C21 – Honorable Craig E. Arthur
C33 – Honorable Sandy N. Leal

On June 30, 2025, the Court launched this new pilot program for its Civil Unlimited Panel to promptly resolve discovery motions and reduce law and motion hearing delays in the participating departments. The addition of these five departments expands the Dedicated Discovery Department Program to 20 Civil Unlimited Panel departments.

Program Overview:

The Dedicated Discovery Department Program is designed to streamline the resolution of discovery disputes and reduce calendar congestion in the participating departments by centralizing discovery motions in a single, dedicated department. On an expedited basis, all discovery motions filed in the participating departments are being set for an informal discovery conference in the dedicated discovery department with the Honorable Andre De La Cruz presiding. Only if the conference is unsuccessful, do the motions proceed to full briefing and a formal hearing in the discovery department. To date, very few motions have proceeded to a formal hearing.

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