

ANSWERING A PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR WRONGFUL DEATH COMPLAINT

SELF-HELP FORM PACKET



SHC-CIV-05 (Rev. 07/27/2021)

Self-Help Services can review your completed forms before you file them with the Court. To request review of your completed forms:

1. Complete the attached forms in black ink.
2. Scan your completed forms and save as a single PDF file.
3. Go to www.occourts.org/self-help (click the blue button labeled *Click Here to Contact Self-Help Services*), attach the PDF, and complete the online request form. Make sure to select CIVIL as the case type on the form.

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (<i>NAME AND ADDRESS</i>): TELEPHONE NO.: ATTORNEY FOR (<i>NAME</i>):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
Insert name of court, judicial district or branch court, if any, and post office and street address:	
PLAINTIFF:	
DEFENDANT:	
ANSWER—Personal Injury, Property Damage, Wrongful Death <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLAINT OF (<i>name</i>): <input type="checkbox"/> CROSS-COMPLAINT OF (<i>name</i>):	CASE NUMBER:

1. This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of pages: _____

DEFENDANT OR CROSS-DEFENDANT (*name*):

2. Generally **denies** each allegation of the unverified complaint or cross-complaint.

3. a. DENIES each allegation of the following numbered paragraphs:

b. ADMITS each allegation of the following numbered paragraphs:

c. DENIES, ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, each allegation of the following numbered paragraphs:

d. DENIES, BECAUSE OF LACK OF SUFFICIENT INFORMATION OR BELIEF TO ANSWER, each allegation of the following numbered paragraphs:

e. ADMITS the following allegations and generally denies all other allegations:

SHORT TITLE:

CASE NUMBER:

ANSWER—Personal Injury, Property Damage, Wrongful Deathf. DENIES the following allegations and admits all other allegations:g. Other (*specify*):**AFFIRMATIVELY ALLEGES AS A DEFENSE**4. The comparative fault of plaintiff or cross-complainant (*name*):
as follows:5. The expiration of the Statute of Limitations as follows:6. Other (*specify*):

7. DEFENDANT OR CROSS - DEFENDANT PRAYS

For costs of suit and that plaintiff or cross-complainant take nothing.

 Other (*specify*):_____
(Type or print name)_____
(Signature of party or attorney)

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY <i>(Name, State Bar number, and address):</i> TELEPHONE NO.: _____ FAX NO. <i>(Optional):</i> _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>(Optional):</i> _____ ATTORNEY FOR <i>(Name):</i> _____	FOR COURT USE ONLY
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:	
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT:	
PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL—CIVIL	CASE NUMBER: _____

(Do not use this Proof of Service to show service of a Summons and Complaint.)

1. I am over 18 years of age and **not a party to this action**. I am a resident of or employed in the county where the mailing took place.
2. My residence or business address is:

3. On *(date):* _____ I mailed from *(city and state):* _____
 the following **documents** *(specify):*

The documents are listed in the *Attachment to Proof of Service by First-Class Mail—Civil (Documents Served)* (form POS-030(D)).

4. I served the documents by enclosing them in an envelope and *(check one)*:
 - a. **depositing** the sealed envelope with the United States Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid.
 - b. **placing** the envelope for collection and mailing following our ordinary business practices. I am readily familiar with this business's practice for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing. On the same day that correspondence is placed for collection and mailing, it is deposited in the ordinary course of business with the United States Postal Service in a sealed envelope with postage fully prepaid.
5. The envelope was addressed and mailed as follows:
 - a. **Name** of person served:
 - b. **Address** of person served:

The name and address of each person to whom I mailed the documents is listed in the *Attachment to Proof of Service by First-Class Mail—Civil (Persons Served)* (POS-030(P)).

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date:

 (TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM)

 (SIGNATURE OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM)

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL—CIVIL

(This information sheet is not part of the Proof of Service and does not need to be copied, served, or filed.)

NOTE: This form should **not** be used for proof of service of a summons and complaint. For that purpose, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).

Use these instructions to complete the Proof of Service by First-Class Mail—Civil (form POS-030).

A person over 18 years of age must serve the documents. There are two main ways to serve documents: (1) by personal delivery and (2) by mail. Certain documents must be personally served. You must determine whether personal service is required for a document. Use the *Proof of Personal Service—Civil* (form POS-020) if the documents were personally served.

The person who served the documents by mail must complete a proof of service form for the documents served. **You cannot serve documents if you are a party to the action.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PERSON WHO SERVED THE DOCUMENTS

The proof of service should be printed or typed. If you have Internet access, a fillable version of the Proof of Service form is available at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms.

Complete the top section of the proof of service form as follows:

First box, left side: In this box print the name, address, and telephone number of the person for whom you served the documents.

Second box, left side: Print the name of the county in which the legal action is filed and the court's address in this box. The address for the court should be the same as on the documents that you served.

Third box, left side: Print the names of the Petitioner/Plaintiff and Respondent/Defendant in this box. Use the same names as are on the documents that you served.

First box, top of form, right side: Leave this box blank for the court's use.

Second box, right side: Print the case number in this box. The case number should be the same as the case number on the documents that you served.

Complete items 1–5 as follows:

1. You are stating that you are over the age of 18 and that you are not a party to this action. You are also stating that you either live in or are employed in the county where the mailing took place.
2. Print your home or business address.
3. Provide the date and place of the mailing and list the name of each document that you mailed. If you need more space to list the documents, check the box in item 3, complete the *Attachment to Proof of Service by First-Class Mail—Civil (Documents Served)* (form POS-030(D)), and attach it to form POS-030.
4. For item 4:

Check box a if you personally put the documents in the regular U.S. mail.
Check box b if you put the documents in the mail at your place of business.
5. Provide the name and address of each person to whom you mailed the documents. If you mailed the documents to more than one person, check the box in item 5, complete the *Attachment to Proof of Service by First-Class Mail—Civil (Persons Served)* (form POS-030(P)), and attach it to form POS-030.

At the bottom, fill in the date on which you signed the form, print your name, and sign the form. By signing, you are stating under penalty of perjury that all the information you have provided on form POS-030 is true and correct.