

1 SUPERIOR COURT  
2 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
247 West Third Street, Eleventh Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0302

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5 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
6 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO**  
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8 IN RE:

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10 WAIVING LIMITATIONS FOR  
11 TEMPORARY JUDGES IN FAMILY LAW,  
12 PROBATE, UNLAWFUL DETAINER,  
13 SMALL CLAIMS, AND TRAFFIC CASES

} GENERAL ORDER #G026-028

} GENERAL ORDER OF THE  
PRESIDING JUDGE

14 The County of San Bernardino is geographically large and diverse. The Superior  
15 Court of San Bernardino County operates numerous courthouses, many of which serve  
16 geographically distant and relatively small populations.

17 The Superior Court of San Bernardino County is and historically has been  
18 understaffed as to judicial officers. The Court currently has one of the highest caseloads  
19 per judge ratio in the state.

20 In order to deal with its ever-increasing caseload and to serve the public, the  
21 Superior Court has historically heavily relied on attorneys serving as temporary judges.  
22 This is especially true in volume calendars such as probate, family law, unlawful  
23 detainers, small claims and traffic.

24 The limitations of California Rules of Court, rule 2.818(b) would place undue  
25 hardship on the court's ability to recruit sufficient numbers of temporary judges to  
26 adequately serve the public.


27 Based on the above, the Court finds there is good cause to waive the limitations  
28 in Rule 2.818(b)(1)-(3). This waiver applies to all matters heard by temporary judges in

1 San Bernardino County. The waiver under Rule 2.818(b)(1) is conditional. An attorney  
2 appointed as a temporary judge may only appear as an attorney or as a party on the  
3 same day in the same courthouse if the attorney's temporary judge assignment has  
4 concluded for that day.

5 This waiver is subject to the other grounds for limitation or disqualification as set  
6 forth in the California Code of Judicial Ethics, California Rules of Court, rule 2.818(c)(2),  
7 and California Code of Civil Procedure, sections 170.1 *et seq.*

8 This Order is effective January 1, 2026, and supersedes all previous general  
9 orders entitled *General Order Waiving Limitations for Temporary Judges in Family Law,*  
10 *Probate, Unlawful Detainer, Small Claims, and Traffic Cases*, issued by previous  
11 Presiding Judges. This order shall remain in effect until December 31, 2027.

12 Dated this 1st day of January, 2026

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16 Rod Cortez  
17 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
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