

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

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

8 IN RE:

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

13 } GENERAL ORDER #G026-028
14 } GENERAL ORDER OF THE
15 } PRESIDING JUDGE

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

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

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

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

29 Based on the above, the Court finds there is good cause to waive the limitations
30 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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15 Rod Cortez
16 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
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