

COURT-CLERGY CONFERENCE 2019

Topic: Small Claims Court

Speakers: Hon. Cindy Davis
Hon. Peter Doft

What are main points that the clergy should know about this subject?

- The diversity of cases that are heard in small claims court
- The usefulness of mediation in resolving disputes and the availability of community mediation

What are ways in which clergy can help their congregants?

- Help to temper expectations, and to accept the facts as they present themselves.
- Help organize documents/exhibits prior to appearing in small claims court. Bring copies for opponent and for the court.
- Helping in facilitating communications with the other side to the dispute.
- Be sensitive to anxiety issues

Three websites where clergy can go to learn more:

- <http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-smallclaims.htm>
- http://www.dca.ca.gov/publications/small_claims/index.shtml
- http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/portal/page?_pageid=55,1424399&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Contact names, phone numbers and email addresses if clergy have questions:

- San Diego Superior Court Small Claims Advisory Service: (858) 634-1777
- National Conflict Resolution Center: <http://www.ncrconline.com/mediation-conflict-resolution/community-services/community-mediation>