



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
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San Diego Superior Court Begins E-Filing in Probate

Effective October 1, 2013, San Diego Superior Court will initiate E-filing in its Probate Division. Attorneys and the public will now be able to file documents with the Court without physically coming into the courthouse.

Documents may be filed electronically in probate cases where either: (1) the case is first initiated on or after October 1, 2013; or (2) the case is already pending as of September 30, 2013 and has been imaged by the court.

The movement to E-filing in some probate cases is another way the San Diego Superior Court is dealing with the budget reductions imposed over the past five years. Those cuts have resulted in the reductions of more than 170 court positions and the closing of several courtrooms. Probate Court Judge Julia Kelety says, "Our Probate Court is very pleased to offer electronic filing for court documents. It's a win-win situation for the court and our customers, because it allows the court to handle the paperwork more efficiently, while at the same time the people who use our court will benefit from the convenience of filing documents remotely. This is particularly critical since budget cuts forced the closure of the North County probate court."

For court users, benefits include not having to wait in line at the courthouse or leave documents in drop boxes afterhours. With E-filing, users are able to file through the designated

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vendor in a secure fashion, ensuring all documents related to the filing arrive at the court together. In addition, E-file users have the convenience of submitting documents to the court via their home or office computer, which means extra time to work on their documents without the worry of running to the court to make that 5:00pm deadline.

E-filing is governed by General Order No. 090513, In Re Procedures Regarding Electronic Filing and the court's Electronic Filing Requirements, both of which are available for viewing in the Probate section of the court website : <http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov> .

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