# See you in court!

Starting a Civil Lawsuit in the Sacramento Superior Court

# Scope

- What this course is:
  - Basic overview of civil court process, in Sacramento County Superior Court.
  - Instructions on filing a simple breach of contract or personal injury case.
  - Hints on how to find additional information.
- What this course is <u>not</u>:
  - Exhaustive and detailed.
  - Instructions on specific details of more complicated cases.

# Scope

- Some topics not covered:
  - Filing lawsuits in federal courts.
  - Handling cases in Small Claims Court.
  - Handling cases in Family or Probate Court.
  - Handling criminal cases or traffic court cases.
  - Complex litigation and class action lawsuits.
  - In-depth litigation strategy

# Why file a lawsuit?

#### The Defendant has done something wrong:

- Contract Duties of each party are spelled out in the contract.
- Tort: Certain types of intentional or negligent behavior that causes harm (i.e. car accident, libel or slander, conversion of property, etc.) Duties are owed to everyone in society.
- Statutory claims: Some laws allow lawsuits to be filed to enforce them.

# Alternatives to Superior Court

- Settlement
- Mediation: neutral third party helps parties settle
- Arbitration: neutral third party decides the case
- Small Claims Court- Cases under \$7,500 for individuals, \$5,000 for businesses. Faster and less expensive, but not suitable for all types of cases.

### Who to sue?

- Who is responsible for the harm?
- In order to win a lawsuit, you must generally show that the person you are suing has done something wrong.
- If suing for an automobile accident, the driver and/or owner of the vehicle is sued, not the insurance company.

# Who to sue? (continued)

- Corporations, LLC's and Partnerships can be sued as an entity.
- Partners in a partnership can also be sued.
- Owners of sole proprietorships are sued as an individual DBA their business.
- If defendant has died: their probate estate can be sued, but this is only worthwhile if the estate has some value.

# Before you sue: The statute of limitations

- Lawsuits must be filed within a limited amount of time. This deadline is called the statute of limitations.
- The clock usually starts running from the date a contract was broken, or the date of injury.
- The clock stops when the lawsuit is filed.
- Some events or circumstnaces may delay or toll the statute of limitations.

## Common Statutes of Limitation

- Oral Contract: 2 Years
- Written Contract: 4 Years
- Personal Injury: 2 years
- Property Damage: 3 years
- Fraud: 3 years
- Government tort claims must typically be filed within 6 months

## Before you choose to sue...

- Do you need to comply with a claims statute?
  - Most governmental entities and employees are immune from lawsuit unless a claim was promptly filed pursuant to the Governmental Torts Claims Act (Gov. C. 810 et seq.)
    - 42 USC 1983 civil rights claims are a significant exception to the claim requirement, since they are based on Federal law.
  - Wrongful termination/Discrimination cases are first filed through the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (often concurrently with a claim through the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission)

## Before you choose to sue...

- Are you required to arbitrate your claim?
  - Many contracts have arbitration clauses requiring that claims under the contract must be arbitrated rather than brought to Court.
- Can you demand arbitration?
  - Some contracts allow either party to elect to arbitrate a claim, in which case you may choose to invoke arbitration
  - If you have a fee dispute with an attorney, if you act promptly, you have the right to demand fee dispute arbitration through the County Bar Association

# Before you choose to sue...

- Practical financial considerations:
  - How much money is involved? (And is a lawsuit worth the time and effort?)
  - Are any of the potential defendants worth anything? (Or are the alleged wrong acts covered by insurance?)
  - How much will it cost to prove my case? (Medical malpractice cases, for example, require expert witnesses, and will oftentimes cost \$60k to over \$100k to bring to trial.)

#### Where to File: Jurisdiction

Certain actions or circumstances give California Court's the power to hear a case. This is called having jurisdiction. The most common ways that California Court's have jurisdiction over an issue:

- Defendant lives or does business in California.
- Damage or injury occurred in California.
- Out-of-state business has significant contact with California

Please note that California has no jurisdiction over federal agencies, so any lawsuits against the federal government must be brought in federal court.

#### Where to File: Venue

Assuming that the court has jurisdiction, the filing party must determine which court or courts in California can hear the case. This is called venue. Some venues you can choose include the county where:

- One or more defendants reside
- The injury (tort) occurred or contract was entered into or was to be performed
- The contract states the lawsuit should be filed.
- The defendant corporation has its principal place of business
- Where partners or individual owners of defendant business live (this does not apply to shareholders of corporations)

### What forms do I need to fill out?

#### Mandatory:

- Civil Case Cover Sheet (CM-010)
- Summons (SUM-100)
- Complaint (will be discussed in more detail)

#### Optional:

- Application for Waiver of Court Fees and Costs (FW-001)
- Order on Application for Waiver of Court Fees and Costs (FW-003)
- Statement of Damages (CIV-050, for personal injury cases, lets the other side know the amount of damages requested.)
- Case Questionnaire (DISC-010, for limited cases claiming less than \$25,000, only)

# The Complaint: Overview

- Purpose of the complaint is to let the Defendant know what they're being sued for, and what relief is sought
- A Complaint must:
  - Identify the parties and their capacity
  - Have at least one cause of action
    - Each cause of action must allege specific facts sufficient to constitute each element of the cause of action
  - Identify the relief requested

### **Judicial Council Forms**

- Certain standardized forms are mandatory.
- Some optional forms exist to simplify common tasks.
- Forms are available through Sacramento Court website: <u>www.saccourt.ca.gov</u> or from <u>www.courts.ca.gov/forms/</u>

# The Contract Complaint

- Can draft a complaint on pleading paper; or
- Can use Judicial Council forms:
  - Complaint- Contract (PLD-C-001)
  - One or more cause of action attachments, commonly:
    - Breach of Contract (PLD-C-001(1))
    - Common Counts (PLD-C-001(2))
    - Fraud (PLD-C-001(3))
    - Can also use other cause of action attachments.

# Contract Complaint Declaration of Venue

- Some types of contract cases require a declaration of venue:
  - A statement sworn under penalty of perjury explaining why the court you are filing in is the appropriate court
  - Most commonly, this involves contracts for "an offer or provision of goods, services, loans or extensions of credit intended primarily for household use, other than an obligation described in 1212.10 or Section 2984.4 of the Civil Code..." CCP §395.
  - A verified (sworn) complaint will generally comply with this section, or a separate declaration of venue can be filed

# Optional Verification

Verification is a statement by a person with knowledge of the events in the lawsuit swearing that the facts in the complaint are true.

■ Defendant must verify their Answer if the Complaint demands more than \$1,000.

# Need more space?

- Most forms allow an attachment to be used instead of the small space below the item. Try:
  - Attachment to Judicial Council Form (MC-025)
  - Additional Page (MC-020)

	a Complete and and descript	FOR COURT USE ONLY
Paul Plaintiff 123 Anystreet Sacramento, CA 95814 TELEPHONE NO. 916-555-1212 ATTORNEY FOR (Mining): In Pro Per PERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS 720 Ninth Street MAILING ADDRESS: 720 Ninth Street CITY AND ZIP CODE. SACRAMENTO, CA 9581	FAX NO: acramento	FUR GUIRT USE UNLT
BRANCH NAME: Civil  CASE NAME: Plaintiff v. Defendant		
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET Unlimited (Amount demanded demanded is exceeds \$25,000 \$25,000 or less)	Complex Case Designation  Counter Joinder  Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)	CASE NUMBER:  JUDGE:  DEPT::
	nelow must be completed (see instructions	
Auto Tort Auto (22)  Auto (22)  Uninsured motorist (46)  Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort Asbestos (04) Product liability (24) Medical malpractice (45) Other PI/PD/WD (23)  Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort Business tort/unfair business practice (07) Civil rights (08) Defamation (13) Fraud (16) Intellectual property (19) Professional negligence (25) Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)  Employment Wrongful termination (36) Other employment (15)	Contract  Breach of contract/warranty (06) Rule 3.740 collections (09) Other collections (09) Insurance coverage (18) Other contract (37)  Real Property Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14) Wrongful eviction (33) Other real property (26) Unlawful Detainer Commercial (31) Residential (32) Drugs (38) Judicial Review Asset forfeiture (05) Petition re: arbitration award (11) Writ of mandate (02) Other judicial review (39)	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)  Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)  Construction defect (10)  Mass tort (40)  Securities litigation (28)  Environmental/Toxic tort (30)  Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)  Enforcement of Judgment  Enforcement of judgment (20)  Miscellaneous Civil Complaint  RICO (27)  Other complaint (not specified above) (42)  Miscellaneous Civil Petition  Partnership and corporate governance (21)  Other petition (not specified above) (43)
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under the Probate Code, Family Code, o in sanctions.  File this cover sheet in addition to any co	r Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rul over sheet required by local court rule. at seq. of the California Rules of Court, you	ig (except small claims cases or cases filed es of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all seet will be used for statistical purposes only

#### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Doug Defendant;

and DOES 1 to 10

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE) : FOR COURT USE ONLY (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee walver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de Californía (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selffhelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de Celifornia Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selffnelp/espanol/) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.

The name and address of the court			CASE NUMBER: Número del Caso):	
(El nombre y dirección de la corte el	s):			
Sacramento County Superior	Court			
Civil			5014	
720 Ninth Street		Sacramento, CA 9		
The name, address, and telephone	number of plaintiff's attorney, or pla	intiff without an attorne	y, is:	
(El nombre, la dirección y el número	de teléfono del abogado del dema	indante, o del demanda	inte que no tiene abogado, es).	
Paul Plaintiff				
123 Anystreet		Sacramento, CA 9	95814	
916-555-1212				0.000000
DATE:		Clerk, by		, Deput
(Fecha)		(Secretario)		(Adjunt
(For proof of service of this summor	as use Proof of Service of Summon	s (form POS-010).)		
(Para prueba de entrega de esta cit	ation use al formulario Proof of Ser	vice of Summons, (PO	S-010)).	
(Fara prueba de entrega de esta si	IOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVE	D: You are served	5.5%	
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	as the person sued under the	ne fictitious name of (st	pecify):	
4	as the person state and the			
	on behalf of (specify):			
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	under CCP 416.10 (cor	funct corporation)	CCP 416.70 (conse	
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Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California SUM-100 [Rev. January 1, 2004] Martin Dean's Essential Forms 13 SUMMONS

Code of Civil Procedure §§ 412.20, 485

Page 1 of 1

Form Approved for Optional Use
Judicial Council of California
PLO-C-001 [Rev. Jenuary 1, 2007]

FISENTIAL FORMS"

COMPLAINT - Contract

"If this form is used as a cross-complaint, plaintiff means cross-complainant and defendant means cross-defendant.

Code of Civil Procedure, § 425.12

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ESSENTIAL FORMS

Page 3

Form Approved for Optional Uses Judicial Council of Galifornia PLD-C-001(2) [Rev. January 1, 2007]

#### PERSONAL LOAN

This is an agreement for a personal loan to be issued by Paul Plaintiff, and to be repaid by Doug Defendant.

Paul Plaintiff and Doug Defendant agree to the following:

- 1. Paul Plaintiff will loan to Doug Defendant \$15,000.00 by cashier's check.
- 2. This loan shall accrue interest at a rate of 10% annually.
- Doug Defendant agrees to repay Paul Plaintiff by making 15 monthly payments of \$1,067.96 beginning on June 15, 2007, and each 15<sup>th</sup> of the month until paid in
- In the event that Doug Defendant fails to make his payment within thirty days of its due date, Paul Plaintiff shall be entitled to repayment of the entire outstanding balance, upon demand.

Dated: May 1, 2007

Borrower, Boug Defendan

Dated: May 1, 2007

Lender, Paul Plaintiff

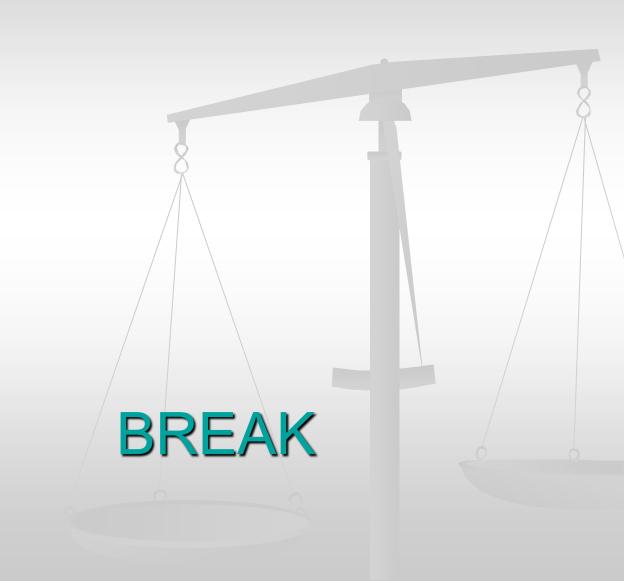
#### **EXHIBIT A**

	PLD-C-001(
RT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
CAUSE OF ACTION-Fr	raud
(number)	auu
ATTACHMENT TO Complaint Cross-Complaint	
(Use a separate cause of action form for each cause of action.)	
FR-1. Plaintiff (name):	
alleges that defendant (name):	
on or about (date): defrauded plaint	tiff as follows:
FR-2. Intentional or Negligent Misrepresentation  a. Defendant made representations of material fact as stated	d in Attachment FR-2.a as follows:
b. These representations were in fact false. The truth was	as stated in Attachment FR-2.b as follows:
c. When defendant made the representations,	
<ul> <li>defendant knew they were false, or</li> <li>defendant had no reasonable ground for believing the rep</li> </ul>	presentations were true.
d. Defendant made the representations with the intent to defraud a	and induce plaintiff to act as described in item
FR-5. At the time plaintiff acted, plaintiff did not know the repres- true. Plaintiff acted in justifiable reliance upon the truth of the re-	
FR-3. Concealment	epresentations.
a. Defendant concealed or suppressed material facts 🔲 as state	ed in Attachment FR-3.a as follows:
<ul> <li>b. Defendant concealed or suppressed material facts</li> <li>defendant was bound to disclose.</li> </ul>	
by telling plaintiff other facts to mislead plaintiff and prever suppressed facts.	nt plaintiff from discovering the concealed or
c. Defendant concealed or suppressed these facts with the intent	to defraud and induce plaintiff to act as de-
scribed in item FR-5. At the time plaintiff acted, plaintiff was una and would not have taken the action if plaintiff had known the fa	aware of the concealed or suppressed facts
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oved for Optional Use CAUSE OF ACTION-Fraud	Code of Civil Procedure, § 42

Form Approved for Optional Use.
Judicial Council of California
PLD-C-001(3) [Rev. January 1, 2007]

See SENTIAL FORMS\*\*

ESSENTIAL FORMS\*\*



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ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Ba	r number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
Paul Plaintiff 123 Anystreet Sacramento, CA 95814 TELEPHONE NO: 916-555-1212	FAX NO.:	
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): In Pro Per	PA 110	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS 720 Ninth Street MAILING ADDRESS 720 Ninth Street CITY AND ZIP CODE SACTAMENTO, CA 958 BRANCH NAME: CIVIL		
CASE NAME: Plaintiff v. Defendant		
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET  Unlimited Limited (Amount (Amount	Complex Case Designation  Counter Joinder	CASE NUMBER:  JUDGE:
demanded demanded is	Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)	DEPT:
exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less)	below must be completed (see instructions	
Check one box below for the case type the	nat best describes this case:	
Auto Tort  Auto (22)  Uninsured motorist (46)  Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort  Asbestos (04)  Product liability (24)  Medical malpractice (45) Other PI/PD/WD (23)  Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort  Business torf/unfair business practice (0') Civil rights (08) Defamation (13) Fraud (16) Intellectual property (19) Professional negligence (25) Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)  Employment  Wrongful termination (36) Other employment (15)	Contract Breach of contract/warranty (06) Rule 3.740 collections (09) Other collections (09) Insurance coverage (18) Other contract (37)  Real Property Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14) Wrongful eviction (33) Other real property (28) Unlawful Detainer Commercial (31) Residential (32) Drugs (38)  Judicial Review Asset forfeiture (05) Petition re: arbitration award (11) Writ of mandate (02) Other judicial review (39)	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)  Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)  Construction defect (10)  Mass tort (40)  Securities litigation (28)  Environmental/Toxic tort (30)  Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)  Enforcement of Judgment  Enforcement of judgment (20)  Miscellaneous Civil Complaint  RICO (27)  Other complaint (not specified above) (42)  Miscellaneous Civil Petition  Partnership and corporate governance (21)  Other petition (not specified above) (43)
factors requiring exceptional judicial mar a. Large number of separately rep b. Extensive motion practice raisin issues that will be time-consumi c. Substantial amount of documen Remedies sought (check all that apply) Number of causes of action (specify): This case Is X is not	resented parties d. Large numbe g difficult or novel e. Coordination in other country	with related actions pending in one or more court ties, states, or countries, or in a federal court ostjudgment judicial supervision claratory or injunctive relief c.   punitive
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If this case is complex under rule 3.400     The parties to the action or proceedings.	et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you	u must serve a copy of this cover sheet on <b>all</b> eet will be used for statistical purposes only.  Page 1 or
Form Adopted for Mandatory Use udicinal Council of California Mortin Domis  God Mortin Domis	CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET	Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2,30, 3,220, 3,400-3,403, 3. Cal. Standards of Judicial Administration, std. 3.  www.courtinfo.ca.g.

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#### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Doug Defendant;

and DOES 1 to 10

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): Paul Plaintiff FOR COURT USE ONLY (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

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Sacramento County	Superior Court			
Civil		Sacramento, CA 95	R14	
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123 Anystreet		Sacramento, CA 95	814	
916-555-1212		oderaniento, orr ye		
DATE:		Clerk, by		, Deputy
(Fecha)		(Secretario)		(Adjunto
(For proof of service of t	his summons, use Proof of Service of S	Summons (form POS-010).)		
(Para prueba de entrega	de esta citatión use el formulario Pro	of of Service of Summons, (POS-	010)).	
	NOTICE TO THE PERSON	SERVED: You are served		
[SEAL]	<ol> <li>as an individual def</li> </ol>	fendant.		
	<ol><li>as the person sued</li></ol>	under the fictitious name of (spec	cify):	
	<ol> <li>an on behalf of (specifical)</li> </ol>	(y):	_	
		5.10 (corporation)	CCP 416.60 (minor)	
		3.20 (defunct corporation)	CCP 416.70 (conserv	
		6.40 (association or partnership)	CCP 416.90 (authorize	rea person)
	other (s			
1	4 by personal deliver	v on (date):		

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California SUM-100 [Rev. January 1, 2004] Martin Dean's Essential Forms TN SUMMONS

Code of Civil Procedure §§ 412.20, 465

Page 1 of 1

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HOME PARTY HIMME THE PARTY HAVE BEEN AND THE PARTY HAV	
Paul Plaintiff	
123 Anystreet	
Sacramento, CA 95814	
ELEPHONE NO.: 916-555-1212 FAX NO.(Optional):	
-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional):	
TTORNEY FOR (Name): In Pro Per	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF Sacramento	
STREET ADDRESS: 720 Ninth Street	
MAILING ADDRESS: 720 Ninth Street	
CITY AND ZIP CODE Sacramento, CA 95814	
BRANCH NAME. Civil	_
PLAINTIFF: Paul Plaintiff	
DEFENDANT: Doug Defendant	
DOES 1 TO 10	
COMPLAINT-Personal Injury, Property Damage, Wrongful Death	1
AMENDED (Number):	
Type (check all that apply):   ▼ MOTOR VEHICLE	
1 1 Open 1 June 2 June	
Personal Injury Other Damages (specify):	
Jurisdiction (check all that apply):	CASE NUMBER:
ACTION IS A LIMITED CIVIL CASE	
Amount demanded does not exceed \$10,000	
exceeds \$10,000, but does not exceed \$25,000	
ACTION IS AN UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE (exceeds \$25,000)	
	1
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ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint	
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☐ ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint ☐ from limited to unlimited ☐ from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff	
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint from limited to unlimited from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Doug Defendant	
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint from limited to unlimited from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Doug Defendant  This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of	pages: 4
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<ul> <li>a.</li></ul>	<ul> <li>a.  X at least one defendant now resides in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>b.  The principal place of business of a defendant corporation or unincorporated association is in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>c.  X injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>d.  other (specify):</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>a.</li></ul>	<ul> <li>a.  X at least one defendant now resides in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>b.  The principal place of business of a defendant corporation or unincorporated association is in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>c.  X injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>d.  other (specify):</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>a.</li></ul>	<ul> <li>a.  X at least one defendant now resides in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>b.  The principal place of business of a defendant corporation or unincorporated association is in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>c.  X injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area.</li> <li>d.  other (specify):</li> </ul>	
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c.  injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area.  d. other (specify):  9. Plaintiff is required to comply with a claims statute, and a. has complied with applicable claims statutes, or	c.  injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area.  d.  other (specify):	
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<ol> <li>Plaintiff is required to comply with a claims statute, and</li> <li>a. has complied with applicable claims statutes, or</li> </ol>		
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a. has complied with applicable claims statutes, or	Dept. 1971 - and for dept. 1971 - and for a second with a claims statute and	
a. has complied with applicable claims statutes, or	9. Plaintiff is required to comply with a claims statute, and	
b.  is excused from complying because (specify):	a. has complied with applicable claims statutes, or	
	b. is excused from complying because (specify):	

CAUSE OF ACTION - Motor Vehicle

Code of Civil Procedure § 425.12 www.courtinfo.ca.gov

**AMOUNT** 

- DO NOT FILE WITH THE COURT -

LINI ESS YOU ARE APPLYING FOR A DEFAULT JUDGMENT UNDER CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE § 585 -

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name and Address)	TELEPHONE NO.:	FOR COURT USE ONLY
	916-555-1212	
Paul Plaintiff		
123 Anystreet		
Sacramento, CA 95814		
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): In Pro Per		
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF S	acramento	
STREET ADDRESS: 720 Ninth Street		
MAILING ADDRESS: 720 Ninth Street		
CITY AND ZIP CODE: Sacramento, CA 95814		
BRANCH NAME CIVIL		-
PLAINTIFF: Paul Plaintiff		
DEFENDANT Doug Defendant		
STATEMENT OF DAMA	AGES	CASE NUMBER:
(Personal Injury or Wrongf		
(Personal injury of wrong)	ui Deatii)	

To (name of one defendant only): Doug Defendant Plaintiff (name of one plaintiff only): Paul Plaintiff seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:

	AWOUNT
General damages     a. X Pain, suffering, and inconvenience	\$ 250,000.00
b. Emotional distress	
c. Loss of consortium	
d. Loss of society and companionship (wrongful death actions only)	\$
e. Dther (specify)	\$. <u></u>
f. Other (specify)	
a. Continued on Attachment 1.g.	
Special damages a. Medical expenses (to date)	\$ 9,452.86
b. X Future medical expenses (present value)	
c. 🗶 Loss of earnings (to date)	
d. X Loss of future earning capacity (present value)	
e. X Property damage.	\$\$,700.00
f.  Funeral expenses (wrongful death actions only)	\$
g.   Future contributions (present value) (wrongful death actions only)	
h.  Value of personal service, advice, or training (wrongful death actions only)	
i. Other (specify)	
j. Other (specify)	5
k. Continued on Attachment 2.k.	
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME) (SIGNATURE OF	PLAINTIFF OR ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF).
(Proof of service on reverse)	Code of Civil Procedure SS 421 11, 425.1

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES

(Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)

Code of Civil Procedure, §§ 421.11, 425.115 www.courtinfo.ca.gav

ESSENTIAL FORMS"

Damage, Wrongful Death

HORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
	LANGE HUNDER
laintiff v. Defendant	
First CAUSE OF ACTION - Premises Liabili	ty Page 4
ATTACHMENT TO XX Complaint Cross-Complaint (Use a separate cause of action form for each cause of action.)	
Prem.L-1. Plaintiff (name): Paul Plaintiff alleges the acts of defendants were the legal (proximate) cause of damages to On (date): June 18, 2008 plaintiff was injured on the following plaintiff was injured on the	to plaintiff. lowing premises in the following
fashion (description of premises and circumstances of injury): Paul Plaintiff was a customer at Doug Defendant's business, Sm store. While shopping, the shelving unit next to Paul Plaintiff to pinning him to the ground, breaking his right arm, spine, and two	oppled, falling on top of Paul Plaintiff,
Prem.L-2. Count One-Negligence The defendants who negligently owned, mathe described premises were (names):  Doug Defendant	nintained, managed and operated
X Does1 to10	
Prem.L-3. Count Two-Willful Failure to Warn [Civil Code section 846] The demaliciously failed to guard or warn against a dangerous condition (names): Doug Defendant	fendant owners who willfully or on, use, structure, or activity were.
Does 1 to 10  Plaintiff, a recreational user, was an invited guest a paying	ing guest.
Prem.L-4. Count Three-Dangerous Condition of Public Property The defension which a dangerous condition existed were (names):	dants who owned public property on
a. The defendant public entity had actual construction condition in sufficient time prior to the injury to he b. The condition was created by employees of the defendant prior to the d	ave corrected it.
Prem.L-5. a. Allegations about Other Defendants The defendants who were to defendants and acted within the scope of the agency were (names).	the agents and employees of the other
b. Does to	the reasons for their liability are

	n.	

TTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
PI PI	
Paul Plaintiff	
123 Anystreet	
Sacramento, CA 95814	
FAX NO. (Optional) :	
-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional):	
ATTORNEY FOR (Nama): In Pro Per	<u> </u>
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF Sacramento	
STREET ADDRESS: 720 Ninth Street	
MAILING ADDRESS: 720 Ninth Street	
CITY AND ZIP CODE: Sacramento, CA 95814	
BRANCH NAME: Civil	
PLAINTIFF: Paul Plaintiff	
DEFENDANT: Super-Happy, Inc.; Mega-Big-Mart, Inc.;	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
X DOES 1 TO 50	
COMPLAINT-Personal Injury, Property Damage, Wrongful Death	
AMENDED (Number):	
Type (check all that apply):	
MOTOR VEHICLE OTHER (specify): Product Liability	
Property Damage Wrongful Death	
Personal Injury Other Damages (specify):	
Jurisdiction (check all that apply):	CASE NUMBER:
ACTION IS A LIMITED CIVIL CASE	
Amount demanded  does not exceed \$10,000	
exceeds \$10,000, but does not exceed \$25,000	
ACTION IS AN UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE (exceeds \$25,000)	
ACTION TO AN ONE INTEREST OF THE CONTRACT OF T	
ACTION IS DECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint	
■ ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint	
<ul> <li>ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint</li> <li>from limited to unlimited</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>         ☐ ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint         ☐ from limited to unlimited         ☐ from unlimited to limited     </li> </ul>	
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint from limited to unlimited from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff	
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint from limited to unlimited from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff	Mari-Bia-Most, Inc.
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint from limited to unlimited from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.	c., Mega-Big-Mort, Inc.,
□ ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint □ from limited to unlimited □ from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.	
□ ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint □ from limited to unlimited □ from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.	
□ ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint □ from limited to unlimited □ from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.  And DOES 1-50  This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of the constant of the constant of the constant of the following number of the constant of the constant of the following number of the constant of t	
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□ ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint □ from limited to unlimited □ from unlimited to limited □ from unlimited to limited □ Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc. □ and □ 0€5   -50 □ This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of Each plaintiff named above is a competent adult □ except plaintiff (name):	
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint  from limited to unlimited  from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.  ANA DOES 1-50  This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of the super-Happy including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of the super-Happy including attachment and exhibits, consists of the following number of the super-Happy including including name in the super-Happy including number of the super-Happy including name in the super-Happy including number of the super-Happy including number of the super-Happy including name in the super-Happy including number of the super-Happy including	
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ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint  from limited to unlimited  from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.  and personal personal plaintiff (name):  This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number to Each plaintiff named above is a competent adult  a. except plaintiff (name):  (1) a corporation qualified to do business in California  (2) an unincorporated entity (describe):  (3) a public entity (describe):  (4) a minor an adult  (a) for whom a guardian or conservator of the estate or a guardian or conservator of the estate or a guardian or conservator.	of pages:
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint  from limited to unlimited  from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.  and personal person	of pages:
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint  from limited to unlimited  from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.  and personal personal plaintiff (name):  Each plaintiff named above is a competent adult  a. except plaintiff (name):  (1) a corporation qualified to do business in California  (2) an unincorporated entity (describe):  (3) a public entity (describe):  (4) a minor an adult  (a) for whom a guardian or conservator of the estate or a guardian.	of pages:
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint  from limited to unlimited  from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Inc.  and personal person	of pages:
ACTION IS RECLASSIFIED by this amended complaint  from limited to unlimited  from unlimited to limited  Plaintiff (name or names): Paul Plaintiff  alleges causes of action against defendant (name or names): Super-Happy, Ind  and DOES 1-50  This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of Each plaintiff (name):  (1) □ a corporation qualified to do business in California  (2) □ an unincorporated entity (describe):  (3) □ a public entity (describe):  (4) □ a minor □ an adult  (a) □ for whom a guardian or conservator of the estate or a guardian other (specify):  (5) □ other (specify):  b. □ except plaintiff (name):	of pages:
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PLD-PI-001 [Rev. January 1, 2007]

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	The following causes of action are attached and the statements above apply	to each (each complaint must have one or more	)
10.	causes of action attached):	parties to the state of the sta	
	a. Motor Vehicle		
	b. General Negligence		
	c. Intentional Tort		
	d. X Products Liability		
	e. Premises Liability f. Other (specify):		
	1. Calci (specify)		
11.	Plaintiff has suffered		
	a.		
	b. I loss of use of property c. I hospital and medical expenses		
	d. 🛭 general damage		
	e. property damage		
	f. Ioss of earning capacity		
	g. other damage (specify):		
40	☐ The damages claimed for wrongful death and the relationships of plair	ntiff to the deceased are	
12.	a. Iisted in Attachment 12.		
	b. as follows:		
	The relief sought in this complaint is within the jurisdiction of this court.		
13.	The relief sought in this complaint is within the jurisdiction of this sector		
	Plaintiff prays for judgment for costs of suit; for such relief as is fair, just,	and equitable; and for	
14	a. (1) Compensatory damages	2000 Sittle Site Site Site Site Site Site Site Sit	
	(2) X punitive damages		
	The amount of damages is (in cases for personal injury or wrongful de-	eath, you must check (1)):	
	(1) X according to proof		
	(2) in the amount of: \$		
15	5.  The paragraphs of this complaint alleged on information and belief ar	re as follows (specify paragraph numbers):	
		/ / //	
		/ // /// .	
		1 11/11/11	
	ate: 5/1/2008	1 Mull & Mules Al	
D		way / will way	
	aul Plaintiff (TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF OR ATTOKNEY)	

		PLD-PI-001(5)
ORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:	
aintiff v. Super-Happy, Inc.		
First CAUSE OF ACTION- Prod	ucts Liability	Page 4
(number)  ATTACHMENT TO		
Plaintiff (name): Paul Plaintiff		
Prod. L-1. On or about (date): June 18, 2007 Super-Happy Widget Weaver Model WW-501	ff was injured by the followin	g product:
Prod. L-2. Each of the defendants knew the product would be purchased product was defective when it left the control of each defended being used in the manner intended by the defendants.	defendants as involving a s	une of injury was
readily apparent. Adequate warnings of the danger were r Prod. L-3. Plaintiff was a  purchaser of the product. bystander to the use of the product.	not given.  user of the product.  other (specify):	
PLAINTIFF'S INJURY WAS THE LEGAL (PROXIMATE) RESULT OF THE Prod. L-4. Count One-Strict liability of the following defendants with a. manufactured or assembled the product (names Super-Happy, Inc.	no	
b. X designed and manufactured component parts sur	pplied to the manufacturer	(names):
c. X Does to 50	_	
Prod. L-5. Count Two-Negligence of the following defendants who Super-Happy, Inc.; Mega-Big-Mart, Inc.	o owed a duty to plaintiff (n	ames) :
Prod. L-6. \(\times\) Count Three-Breach of warranty by the following defe Super-Happy, Inc.	endants (names):	
a.		
Prod. L-7. The defendants who are liable to plaintiffs for other reliable in Attachment-Prod. L-7 as follows:	easons and the reasons fo	ir the liability are
		Page 1 of
		Code of Civil Procedure, § 425.1: www.courtinfa.ca.gov

#### VERIFICATION

I, Paul Plaintiff, have read the foregoing Complaint-Contract, and know its contents.

I am a party to this action. The matters stated in the foregoing document are true of my own knowledge except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

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

Dated May 1, 2008

Paul Plaintiff

# The Personal Injury/Property Damage Complaint

- Can hand-draft a complaint on pleading paper, or
- Can use Judicial Council forms:
  - Complaint- Personal Injury, Property Damage, Wrongful Death (PLD-PI-001)
  - One or more cause of action attachments, commonly:
    - Motor Vehicle (PLD-PI-001(1))
    - General Negligence (PLD-PI-001(2))
    - Intentional Tort (PLD-PI-001(3))
    - Premises Liability (PLD-PI-001(4))
    - Products Liability (PLD-PI-001(5))
    - Other causes of action may also be attached.
  - Optional Exemplary Damages Attachment (PLD-PI-001(6)) if alleging that extra damages should be awarded based upon malice, fraud or oppression)

## Filing your lawsuit in court

### Bring to court:

- The original (unstapled), plus three copies (each stapled) of the documents listed below. The court will keep the original and a copy, and will then return two copies to you.
  - Civil Case Cover Sheet (CM-010)
  - Summons (SUM-100)
  - Complaint (PLD-C-001 or PLD-PI-001 or typed, plus all attached documents)
  - Application for Waiver of Court Fees and Costs (FW-001), or appropriate filing fee
  - Order on Application for Waiver of Court Fees and Costs (FW-003), or appropriate filing fee
  - Statement of Damages (CIV-050), if applicable
  - Declaration of Venue, if applicable.

"All papers presented for filing must be prepunched in the standard two-hole position."

## Serving the defendant

- The purpose of service is to make sure the defendant knows that he/she/it is being sued
- Service can be done by anyone who is over the age of 18, who is not a party to the case. You cannot serve the papers yourself
- Generally, this is done by personal service

## What to serve

- Summons
- Complaint
- Statement of Damages (if applicable)
- ADR Packet (provided by the Court)
- Case Management Order, or Notice to File Case Management Statement (provided by the Court)
- Anything else that you received from the Court at the time you filed your complaint
- Defendant does not get a copy of your fee waiver forms
- Each court may have different requirements

## Who to serve?

- Individual defendants, serve the defendant
- Corporations or LLC, serve agent for service. This information can be found using the Secretary of State's website business portal: <a href="http://kepler.sos.ca.gov/list.html">http://kepler.sos.ca.gov/list.html</a>
- Others may require research. CEB Action Guide Handling Service of Process (Serving Summons in Civil Proceedings) by Jonathan U. Lee and Mark D. Lipton may be useful in determining the appropriate person to serve

## Personal service

- Someone over the age of 18 who is not a party to the case hands the Summons, Complaint, and other papers to the Defendant
- Server completes and signs the Proof of Service of Summons, which is then filed with the Court.
- The defendant does not need to sign
- The defendant does not need to accept, but faceto-face contact is necessary, plus a description of the nature of the papers

## Substituted Service

- Can be done only if personal service is attempted but fails
- Papers are left with an adult household member at the Defendant's house, or with a person in charge of the Defendant's place of work
- Generally, at least three reasonable attempts at personal service on different days and times must be made, and documented by a declaration of dilligence
- For service on individuals, a copy must also be mailed to the defendant at that address
- Extends the time to answer the complaint by ten days
- See CCP §415.20

## Other methods of service

- Acknowledgement of receipt (good for a cooperative defendant, but has several nuances that can lead to service being improper)
- Other methods may be available as a last resort, but are best avoided
- Use of the sheriff or a professional process server is highly recommended for service of the Summons and Complaint

## File Proof of Service of Summons

- The person who performed service completes the Proof of Service of Summons (POS-010) form
- File the original and two copies of the Proof of Service of Summons

## What's next?

- The defendant has 30 days to serve and file an Answer or other responsive pleading (40 days if served by substituted service). Common responsive pleadings:
  - Answer
  - General Denial
  - Demurrer

## If there is no response

- You may request a default against the defendant
  - Prevents the defendant from taking any further action in the case
  - On contract cases, where the amount is included in the pleadings, clerk can enter judgment
  - On other cases, you must "prove up" the damages by submitting evidence to the court

## The defendant has answered

- The case goes on
- Lawsuits are like a football game, it is up to each party to push the case along until the case is ready for arbitration or trial
- Most of a lawsuit is done without court involvement through the process of discovery

## The defendant has filed a demurrer

- Default cannot be filed if a demurrer is pending
- Procedural motion- alleges that there is a defect in your complaint
- Assumes, for the sake of argument, that everything in the complaint is true
- Review your complaint to see if the defendant is correct
  - If your complaint can be fixed, can file a first amended complaint to resolve the issue
  - Typically the Court will grant leave to amend the complaint if the plaintiff can show that the errors alleged can be fixed

## Sacramento Co. Public Law Library

- Open to the Public
- All CA counties have a law library Business & Professions Code 6300 et seq.
- Funded by Sacramento Superior Court civil filing fees
- 609 9<sup>th</sup> St., Sacramento: downtown, 1 block from the courthouse

## What's available in the law library? PRIMARY sources

### Statutes

- West and Deering's Annotated CA Codes
- Annotated U.S. Codes

## Regulations

- CA Code of Regulations
- Code of Federal Regulations

### Case law

- California Reporters and Digests
- Federal Reporters and Digests

## What's available in the law library? SECONDARY sources

- Encyclopedias
  - California Jurisprudence, Am Jur, C.J.S.
- Treatises
  - Summary of California Law, Corbin on Contracts
- ALR (American Law Reports)
- Practice guides
- Form books
- Self-Help books
- Law Review articles

# What's available in the law library? ELECTRONIC sources



The Sacramento County Public Law Library provides public computer and Internet access for the purpose of researching the law. The Law Library provides patrons with free access to a number of online and CD-ROM legal resources. Publishers' licensing restrictions prohibit the use of these databases through the Library's website, but they are available at all public computers in the Library and our wireless network. Please ask at the Reference Desk if you need assistance getting started with your research.

#### WestlawNext

WestlawNext provides access to state and federal primary and secondary materials. To search using terms and connectors, first choose a database, then click on "Advanced Search" on the top right of the screen.

#### Onl AW

OnLAW provides online access to over 90 CEB titles. Use OnLAW to search for legal commentary and analysis or access attorney-drafted forms.

#### Matthew Bender CD

The Matthew Bender CD provides online access to Matthew Bender titles such as California Forms of Pleading and Practice and California Points and Authorities. Please double-click the "Matthew Bender CD" icon on the desktop to access this database. Not available via Wi-Fi.

#### HeinOnline

HeinOnline includes current and historical law review articles, Restatements of the Law, and historical volumes of the Federal Register, the Code of Federal Regulations, international treaties, and more.

#### Nolo Ebooks

Nolo Ebooks provides access to electronic versions of do-it-yourself legal books from Nolo Press.

#### Other Electronic Resources

These resources require a password. Please ask a Librarian to log you in to use these materials. Not available via Wi-Fi.

- Cal-OSHA Reporter
- California Daily Opinion Service
- Daily Journal
- Forecite
- James Forms Library
- Law Journal Press

#### Microsoft Word

Templates are available for blank pleading paper, as well as for use in the Sacramento Superior Court and the US District Court, Eastern District of California

Pleading Paper formatted for Sacramento County Superior Court Pleading Paper formatted for US District Court, Eastern District of California Blank Pleading Paper (without a caption) Blank Document (no pleading numbers)

#### Search the Online Catalog

Use the Online Catalog to look for materials in the Library's collection.

#### QuickStart

QuickStart allows you to simultaneously search our collection and those of many other libraries worldwide using WorldCat.

#### **Guideline Child Support Calculator**

Family Court Commissioners now use the State of California's Guideline Child Support Calculator to determine the amount of child support to be ordered in a case. If you prefer to use XSpouse or XArrears, please double-click the icons on the desktop to get started with those programs.

#### **View Sacramento Superior Court Files**

Civil and Probate case files may be accessed using your name or case number. Searching by case number is free and does not require registration. You must register to access your case documents. Registration is free. Payment is required to access documents and purchase name searches

#### Search Legal Websites

This link will take you away from the Law Library's website. Internet access is provided for the purpose of researching the law. By accessing the Internet, you agree to comply with the Law Library's <a href="Computer and Internet">Computer and Internet</a> Use Policy.

## What's available in the law library? HUMAN Resources

"Find a human being." — Bob Berring,
Professor of Law and former Dean of the Law Library at
UC Berkeley School of Law, Boalt Hall

## How to contact the law librarians here:

- In person
- By phone 874-6012
- Email reference@saclaw.org

## Some useful resources: books

- Win Your Lawsuit (CA) (KFC968 .Z9 D86)
- How to Win Your Personal Injury Claim (KF1257 .Z9M37)
- Represent Yourself in Court (KF8841 .B47)
- California Forms of Pleading and Practice (KFC1010 .A65C3)
- CACI forms: California jury instructions (KFC1047 .A7 S872)

## Legal Research on the Web

## **Primary Sources**

- Use "Online Resources" at <u>www.saclaw.org</u> as a starting point to link to free online:
  - Codes
  - Regulations
  - Cases



## Some useful resources: websites

- <u>www.saccourt.ca.gov:</u> local rules and forms, case status info, info on motions & hearings
- www.courts.ca.gov/forms: all statewide pre-printed forms
   (Judicial Council forms)
- www.scselfservice.org/: Santa Clara Court's self-help website has detailed info and links to forms. Most info applies anywhere in CA. English, Spanish and Vietnamese.
- www.courts.ca.gov/jury/civiljuryinstructions/index.htm: online access to CACI jury instructions.
- <u>saclaw.org/pleading-paper-sacramento</u>:
   Saclaw's pre-formatted pleading paper

# Sacramento County Superior Court



## Court forms



# Santa Clara Court's self-help info



## Jury Instructions

www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jury/civiljuryinstructions/index.htm

## Pleading paper

saclaw.org/pleadingpaper-sacramento

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