



The Mission of the Superior Court of California, County of Orange is to:
Serve the public by administering justice and resolving disputes under the law, thereby protecting the rights and liberties guaranteed by the constitutions of California and the United States.

Family Law E-filing

Introduction

Electronic Filing (e-Filing) is a different way of filing papers with the court. Instead of delivering or mailing a paper document to the clerk's office, the document is sent to the court electronically. The Orange County Superior Court has contracted with Odyssey eFileCA to provide for the electronic filing of documents which will allow users to easily open court cases and e-file documents for a new case or existing case anytime and from anywhere. Any electronically filed document received by the Court at midnight, or filed on a non-court day, will be deemed filed on the first court day after it is received.

On December 4, 2017, the Family Law Division will begin to accept e-filed documents on a permissive (optional) basis. During this permissive phase, documents may be presented for filing at the clerk's office or by mail or may be submitted electronically by all parties.

Effective January 1, 2018, pursuant to section 1010.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, rule 2.2539b)(2) of the California Rules of Court, and Orange County Local Rule 700.7, all papers filed by attorneys in family law proceedings, other than documents listed as an exception on the Court's Family Law e-filing website, **must be filed electronically**, unless the Court rules otherwise. For self-represented parties, there is no mandate, however they are encouraged to e-file.

Benefits

E-Filing eliminates the need for the court to enter data and scan documents after they have been accepted for filing. This enables the court to save additional time in processing a filing, and it gets the filed documents out to court staff far more quickly and effectively than paper documents filed at the window. Additional benefits to lawyers and litigants include:

- Attorneys save the cost of time, paper, file folders, labels, and document delivery services.
- E-filed documents are electronically available to the filing party almost immediately after being accepted by the Court.
- E-filed documents can be submitted to the court 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year.
- E-filed documents are text searchable when downloaded.