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SUPERIOR COURT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY TO LAUNCH PATHWAY PILOT TO EXPEDITE PERSONAL INJURY (MOTOR VEHICLE) CASES IN SELECT DISTRICTS ON NOV. 12

Webinar for Attorneys on Dec. 3 Will Allow Attorneys to Hear More About the Pathway Pilot from Judges

On Nov. 12, the Court will launch in two Districts a new Pathway Pilot Program (Pathway Pilot) for processing unlimited civil personal injury (motor vehicle) cases. The Pathway Pilot uses a “pathway approach” to ease the Court’s backlog of civil cases and to move cases forward on a predictable schedule set by the Court at filing with free, easily accessible Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) resources and firm trial dates. The Pathway Pilot applies to cases filed on or after Nov. 12 in the Court’s [East](#) and [Northwest](#) Districts.

[General Order 2024-GEN-013-00](#) provides litigants, attorneys and judicial officers with a set of firm deadlines based on existing Rules of Court. The purpose of the deadlines is to allow attorneys and litigants to move cases expeditiously toward resolution with fewer required court appearances.

As the largest trial court in the nation, the Court is increasingly focused on improving caseload management practices to address a growing civil caseload. Since 2008, the Court has experienced a 48% increase in annual unlimited civil filings. In the last decade, unlimited civil caseloads nearly doubled from a court-wide average of 443 cases per unlimited civil courtroom in December 2014 to 847 in December 2023. In fact, these caseloads have increased by 9% just in the last six months.

Pathways Pilot Process

The pathway approach to caseload management enhances opportunities for attorney control of cases within the framework of deadlines required by the California Rules of Court and the Judicial Council Standards of Judicial Administration. The goal is to keep litigation costs reasonable by reducing court appearances where judicial intervention is not needed, by promoting effective decision-making by all parties, and by allowing easy access to free ADR resources. By reducing unnecessary appearances, the Pathway Pilot will provide judges with more time to devote to adjudication of cases.

Upon the filing of a complaint, the pathway outlines specific completion deadlines.

- **Proof of Service of the Summons and Complaint:** Must be filed within 60 calendar days of filing the complaint as required by the California Rules of Court.
- **Case Management Statement:** Must be completed and filed no later than 15 calendar days prior to the case management conference as required by the California Rules of Court.

- **Case Management Conference/Order to Show Cause Hearing:** Scheduled 120 calendar days after filing date. Appearance for the Case Management Conference is not required if the previous two deadlines are met.
- **Required Filing of Post Mediation Joint Report:** Deadline set 60 days before trial date.
- **Final Status Conference:** Scheduled approximately 10 court days before trial date.
- **Trial:** Scheduled approximately 14 months after filing date.

For complicated cases, attorneys may ask to adjust the timeline or request more judicial assistance.

The Pathway Pilot will launch in the East and Northwest Districts, in the following courtrooms:

- **Pomona Courthouse South:** Departments G, H, L and O.
- **West Covina Courthouse:** Department 6.
- **Van Nuys Courthouse East:** Departments A, B, T, U, W and 107.
- **Van Nuys Courthouse West:** Department O.

All cases will be referred to the Court's [ADR](#) Office. Attorneys or parties will be provided with a range of low-cost or no-cost ADR resources, including the Court's new [Mediation Volunteer Panel \(MVP\)](#), made up of expert mediators who volunteer three hours of their time to conduct a free mediation.

Following the launch of the Pathway Pilot, the Court will collect and analyze data on the success of moving cases through the program toward resolution to determine how well the program is working.

Webinar Details:

Attorneys are invited to join a webinar on the Pathway Pilot hosted by Court leadership on Tuesday, Dec. 3. Details of the Webinar can be found below:

- WHAT: Webinar to Provide Attorneys Information on the Pathway Pilot
- HOSTED BY: Presiding Judge Samantha P. Jessner, Presiding Judge-Elect Sergio C. Tapia and Executive Officer/Clerk of Court David W. Slayton. The webinar will also feature Judge Elanie Lu, Judge Curtis Kin, Judge Carolyn Kuhl, Judge Salvatore Sirna and Judge Virginia Keeney.
- WHEN: 12 – 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024
- HOW TO JOIN: [JOIN HERE \(Microsoft Teams\)](#)

For more information on the Court's current programs and services, follow the Court on X ([@LASuperiorCourt](#)), Instagram ([@LASuperiorCourt](#)), Threads ([@LASuperiorCourt](#)), or visit the Court's website, www.LACourt.org.