



# Public Notice

## Superior Court of California, County of Kern

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC PORTAL ACCESS LIMITATIONS AND NEW PROCESS FOR NON-CRIMINAL DOCUMENT REQUESTS

Due to a significant security issue, the Court was required to discontinue remote public access to its civil electronic records. The Court's decision to discontinue such public access was based upon its primary responsibility "to preserve the integrity of its records, prevent the unauthorized use of information, and limit possible legal liability." See California Rules of Court (CRC), Rule 2.544. Remote access to electronic records is a privilege and not a right. See CRC Rule 2.545(a).

Going forward, civil court files may be inspected by the public in the office of the clerk using public computer terminals, in compliance with CRC Rule 2.400. CRC Rule 2.550(a) states that unless confidential or sealed by law, all court records are presumed open. Individuals can also register as a user in Odyssey. As a registered user, individuals are able to view upcoming hearings, minute orders, rejections, and the register of actions. Pursuant to Government Code 68106 and California Rules of Court, Rule 10.620, the Superior Court of California, County of Kern, is providing 60 days' notice of changes to facility access for two locations.

For Copy Requests on Non-Criminal case types, the Court has developed a procedure, which will streamline *Document Requests*. The procedure can be found on the Court's website under Division → [Family Law](#), [Probate](#), or [Civil and Small Claims](#), under the button for "Document Requests."

Certain case types will require the presentation of a photo identification card, unless you are the attorney of record. These cases include adoptions, abandonments, surrogacy, and paternity cases filed before January 1, 2023. Arrangements will need to be made to present the proper photo identification.

The Court appreciates the public's patience and its recognition of the Court's obligations to secure the civil case records.

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