

CALIFORNIA LAW REVISION COMMISSION

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NEWS RELEASE
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Trial Court Unification: Publication of Legal Notice

Request for Public Comment

The California Law Revision Commission seeks public comment on its proposal to revise laws calling for the publication of notice in a judicial district.

Originally, judicial districts were created for the purposes of judicial elections or court business. The Legislature also made use of these districts in notice publication statutes to target notices to a local community. Over time, courts consolidated and the corresponding judicial districts became larger.

Nearly fifty years ago, the Legislature enacted a statute to preserve the localness of notice as courts consolidated. Upon consolidation, this statute preserved the component judicial districts solely for notice publication purposes. The statute was later amended to similarly preserve judicial districts when the trial courts unified. Currently, all of the "judicial districts" used for notice publication are former districts, which are no longer actively maintained.

Based on the Commission's research and public input, the judicial district notice publication requirements are posing practical challenges. This revised tentative recommendation is intended to resolve the perceived problems. Specifically, the revised tentative recommendation proposes the following changes:

- Redesignate the districts used for publishing legal notice as "public notice districts."
- Codify simplified "public notice district" descriptions, which are based on the areas comprising the former judicial districts.
- Authorize a newspaper certified to publish notice in a particular judicial district to publish notice in the successor public notice district.

The revised tentative recommendation is available from the California Law Revision Commission, 4000 Middlefield Road, Room D-2, Palo Alto, CA 94303-4739. The tentative recommendation is also available on the Commission's website (www.clrc.ca.gov) through the pull-down "Reports" menu.

The Commission often substantially revises its recommendations in response to public comment. To receive timely consideration, comments should be submitted to the Commission by **September 1, 2015**.
