

Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles County of San Diego County of San Bernardino County of Riverside County of Imperial County of Orange

Administrative Order re: Adoption of Southern California Inter-County Transfer Protocol

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

Pursuant to the mandate of subdivision (d), section 202, Welfare and Institutions Code, "to improve system performance in a vigorous and ongoing manner", commencing April 8, 2013, the Presiding Judges of the Juvenile Courts, of the Superior Courts, for the counties of Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside, Imperial and Orange, met and developed a protocol for the transfer of juvenile dependency and delinquency cases from one county to another in Southern California.

The Juvenile Presiding Judges unanimously agreed that an inter-county transfer protocol must contain provisions:

- a. To ensure that a transfer of jurisdiction is in the best interests of the minor;
- b. For confirming the residence of the parent or legal guardian in the proposed receiving county;
- c. For ensuring that the level of services required by the minor and/or family can be met in the proposed receiving county;
- To provide for the expeditious and efficient transfer of cases in order to reduce any interruption of services to the minor and/or family, and permit the timely conduct of statutorily mandated hearings;

- To set a transfer-in hearing in the receiving court, by the sending court, in order to
 expedite bringing the minor and family under the jurisdiction and supervision of the
 receiving court, and ordering the appearance of the minor and/or family in the
 receiving court;
- f. To expedite the preparation and transfer of the Court's file from the sending county to the receiving county.

Concurrent with the development of an inter-county transfer protocol, the participating Juvenile Courts implemented a system for the secure electronic transfer of case files amongst the participating counties called "eCase eXchange, developed by the Riverside Superior Court. By providing for the instantaneous electronic exchange of case files, eCase eXchange results in considerable time and cost savings over the traditional mailing by U.S. Postal Service. In the development of an inter-county transfer protocol, the Juvenile Presiding Judges incorporated the increased time and efficiencies gained by eCase eXchange, including by modifying the timelines for the setting of transfer-in hearings, stated in Rule 5.612, in order to reduce delays in bringing the parties under the jurisdiction of the receiving county and in the provision of services.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- The Southern California Inter-county Transfer Protocol, attached hereto, is adopted by the Juvenile Courts, of the Superior Courts, for the counties of Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside, Imperial, and Orange, and shall be applicable to the transfer of any dependency, delinquency and/or non-minor dependent cases between each county.
- 2. All parties, attorneys, agencies, and organizations appearing before the Southern California Juvenile Courts shall comply with the provisions of the Southern California Inter-county Transfer Protocol.
- 3. In the event that the provisions of the Southern California Inter-County Transfer Protocol conflicts with the California Rules of Court, regarding the timelines and setting of transfer-in hearings, including Rule 5.612, the provisions of the Transfer Protocol shall control.
- 4. This Administrative Order officially adopts the Southern California Inter-County Transfer Protocol effective forthwith. This Order shall continue unless modified by a later Administrative Order. Revisions to the protocol shall be addressed as outlined in chapter one, section D.
- 5. This order may be executed in subparts.

Date: 08/24/15

Michael I. Levanas Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court County of Los Angeles Re: Administrative Order re: Adoption of Southern California Inter-County Transfer Protocol Page 3

Date: 08/03/15 Carolyn M. Caietti Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court County of San Diego Date: 08/11/15 Christopher B. Marshall Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court County of San Bernardino Date: 08/05/15 Jacqueline C. Jackson Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court County of Riverside Date: 08/25/15 William D. Quan Judge of the Juvenile Court County of Imperial Date: 08/03/15 Maria D. Hernandez Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court

County of Orange