



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Supreme Court Committee Seeks New Comments on Publication Proposal

### *Publication of Court of Appeal Opinions Would Be Encouraged Under Revised Proposal*

San Francisco—The Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules for Publication of Court of Appeal Opinions is seeking public comments concerning a new revised proposed rule amendment that would encourage publication of appellate opinions that meet the criteria specified in related court rules.

The newly recommended revisions to Rule 976 of the California Rules of Court were drafted by the committee following consideration of comments to a proposal and report on the rule circulated for comment last year by the 13-member committee.

The revised recommendations would remove the presumption against publication of Court of Appeal opinions that do not meet the criteria for publication, and would insert language stating that opinions meeting the criteria should be published.

“The committee believes this newly proposed change will further encourage the publication of decisions that meet the stated criteria, thereby contributing to the development of the law and increasing public confidence in the appellate process,” the committee states in its invitation to comment.

It added, “The committee also believes that the proposed change will not result in the publication of an overwhelming number of cases that are only marginally helpful to the bench and bar.”

Chaired by Supreme Court Justice Kathryn M. Werdegar, the committee was appointed last year by the Supreme Court to determine whether the criteria or procedures for publication of Court of Appeal opinions should be modified.

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The committee's original draft report, including extensive background information considered by the committee in forming its recommendations, is available online at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/invitationstocomment/documents/report-1005.pdf>. After comments are received on the new proposed rule revisions, the committee will submit its final report and recommendations to the Supreme Court.

The new invitation to comment, containing the text of the proposed revisions, is available on the California Courts Web site at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/invitationstocomment/>. A hard copy of the proposed revisions may be requested by contacting Mr. Clifford Alumno at the address below.

Comments are due by Friday, April 28, 2006. Comments may be submitted online at the Internet address above, or in writing, to:

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