

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

OCT 14 2022

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KINGS

NOCONA SOBOLESKI, CLERK OF COURT SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF KINGS

DEPUTY

ORDER RE: WAIVER OF LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN CAL. R. CT., 2.818(b))))	No. 2	022 – 18
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California Rules of Court, rule 2.818, subdivision (b) states in regards to the court's utilization of temporary judges:

In addition to being disqualified as provided in (a), an attorney may not serve as a court-appointed temporary judge: [¶] (1) If the attorney, in any type of case, is appearing on the same day in the same courthouse as an attorney or as a party; [¶] (2)If the attorney, in the same type of case, is presently a party to any action or proceeding in the court; or [¶] (3) If, in a family law or unlawful detainer case, one party is self-represented and the other party is represented by an attorney or is an attorney.

California Rules of Court, rule 2.818, subdivision (b) also provides that, "[f]or good cause, the presiding judge may waive the limitations established in this subdivision."

Budget restrictions and staff shortages have impacted the Kings County Superior Court for a number of years. Left unaddressed, the same is likely to result in a substantial delay in the processing and resolution of traffic/infraction and small claims cases pending before the court which may unintentionally prejudice the parties to such cases. In addition, the court has been informed of a recent previously unforeseen need to secure judicial assistance with the handling of certain types of family law matters. In order to address such issues, the court has made the decision to utilize and expand its use of qualified temporary judges. To date, however, the Kings County Superior Court has only received a minimal number of applications from attorneys who are both qualified to serve in the temporary judge capacity, and able to accommodate the schedule of the court while still meeting the administrative and client-based needs of their own legal practices.

As to Virgil Wayne Hardcastle (SBN 74520) ("temporary judge volunteer") specifically, the court is further of the opinion that the same offer a level of professional experience, expertise, familiarity, and public confidence within the areas of law to be presided over by them, that their service as temporary judges is invaluable to the court and to the public which the court serves.

Based upon the foregoing, and finding good cause for the same, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

- 1. The limitation set forth in California Rules of Court, rule 2.818, subdivision (b)(1) is waived as to the designated temporary judge volunteers.
- Nothing contained herein shall impact any other duty, obligation or limitation on service set forth in the California Rule of Courts as to any attorney acting in the role of a temporary judge for the Kings County Superior Court.
- 3. The Kings County Superior Court, including the undersigned, retains the right to amend, expand, or delete this Order as necessary and appropriate to its management and oversight of its temporary judge program and those individuals serving in such capacity.

Dated: Otlar 14, 2022

Michael J. Reinhart, Presiding Judge Kings County Superior Court