

Introduction to the 2025 Edition of the California Civil Courtroom Handbook & Desktop Reference

The 2025 edition of the California Civil Courtroom Handbook and Desktop Reference has been updated to reflect the most recent case law, statutes, and rules of court.

Highlights of the 2025 edition include:

- Amended Code of Civil Procedure section 437c, now providing, among other things, increased notice and briefing periods for summary judgment/adjudication motions, now requiring at least 81 days notice must be given on such motions, with opposition due 20 days before the hearing, and any reply due 11 days before the hearing.
- *City of Los Angeles v. PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP*, where the California Supreme Court held a court is not limited to imposing sanctions for each individual violation of the rules governing depositions or other methods of discovery, but rather under the general sanctions provisions of the Civil Discovery Act, Code of Civil Procedure sections 2023.010 and 2023.030, has the authority to impose sanctions for a party's "pattern of discovery abuse."
- *Quach v. California Commerce Club, Inc.*, where the California Supreme Court held that when a party is aware of its right to compel arbitration, but instead intentionally chooses to relinquish or abandon that right and instead defend itself in court, the party may be deemed to have waived its right to arbitration—no showing of prejudice from any delay in seeking to compel arbitration is required.
- *California Capital Insurance Company v. Hoehn*, where the California Supreme Court held there is no time limit to bring a motion for relief from a default judgment in the original action on the ground a judgment, though valid on its face, is void for lack of proper service (disapproving *Rogers v. Silverman* and *Trackman v. Kenney*)
- *Estrada v. Royalty Carpet Mills, Inc.*, where the California Supreme Court held a trial court possesses only a narrow inherent authority to dismiss claims based on limited circumstances (e.g., cases involving a failure to prosecute, frivolous claims, or egregious misconduct).