

The Rutter Group California Practice Guide: Family Law

"What's New or Updated" 2026

The 2026 edition of the **Family Law** Practice Guide contains new and updated material on the following subjects, among others:

- Residency requirements
- Pseudonym use to protect identity
- Substitute service requirements
- Photographs for attempted service
- Renewal of DVPA restraining orders in contested cases
- Protected children
- Out-of-state conduct in evaluating circumstances for a DVRO or DVTRO
- Motion to seal civil harassment proceedings
- Enforceability of unwritten traditional surrogacy contracts
- Disposition of frozen embryos upon divorce
- Pregnancy and confinement costs reimbursement
- Sponsored immigrant income calculations in spousal support
- Separating half-siblings
- Fam.C. §3044 presumption effect on written custody agreements
- Quasi-judicial immunity for supervision visitation providers
- Reimbursement for breach of fiduciary duty as a marital property right
- Elimination of personal and dependency deductions
- California tax credit for dependents
- Sanctionable discovery misuse
- Amendments to CCP §632
- Superseding QDRO requirements for ERISA plans

Please refer to the “Update highlights and filing (PDF)” for a more comprehensive summary of the most significant developments in this edition where these topics are discussed in more detail.