



# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

CENTRAL COURTHOUSE  
220 W. BROADWAY  
PO BOX 122724  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92112-2724

**NOTICE**  
**August 14, 2013**

### DEPARTMENT 45 CENTRAL DIVISION, FAMILY LAW

#### CHANGES IN VENUE AND PROCEDURES FOR LITIGATING CUSTODY, VISITATION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ISSUES IN "DF" CASE FILES

**1. Effective August 19, 2013, Department 45 will be designated a Family Law Independent Calendar Department.**

▶ Department 45 has previously been the designated department for hearing custody, visitation and domestic violence issues in DF case files\* where the parents live in the venues for the Central, East and South County Divisions.

▶ Beginning August 19, 2013, all requests for orders for custody, visitation and domestic violence matters will be filed and heard in the court that is the proper venue based on the court's zip code filing list.\*\*

**2. Effective August 19, 2013, there will no longer be a designated department in North County to hear custody, visitation and domestic violence matters.**

▶ Department 19 has been the designated department for hearing custody, visitation and domestic violence issues in DF case files where venue is proper in North County.

▶ These matters will now be randomly assigned to a North County Independent Calendar Department as an assignment for all purposes.

**3. Beginning Monday, August 19, 2013:**

▶ The party filing the first RFO for custody and visitation, in which both parents have become parties to an active DF case, must submit the completed *Family Support Division Venue Declaration* (Form SDSC FSD-001)\*\* at the time the RFO is filed.

▶ Similarly, the party filing the first request for a domestic violence restraining order, where there is a related DF case involving the same parties, must submit the completed venue declaration form at the time the restraining order papers are filed.

▶ Assignments to the proper venue will be based on the information in the venue declaration.

**Note:** The venue declaration is required only for the *first* RFO and the *first* request for a restraining order filed on or after August 19, 2013.

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\*DF case files are cases initiated by the Department of Child Support Services and heard in the Family Support Division.

\*\*Both the zip code filing list and the venue declaration form can be found on the court's website at [www.sdcourt.ca.gov](http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov) or from the court's business office.