

# STEPS IN THE APPEALS PROCESS

## FILE IN SUPERIOR COURT

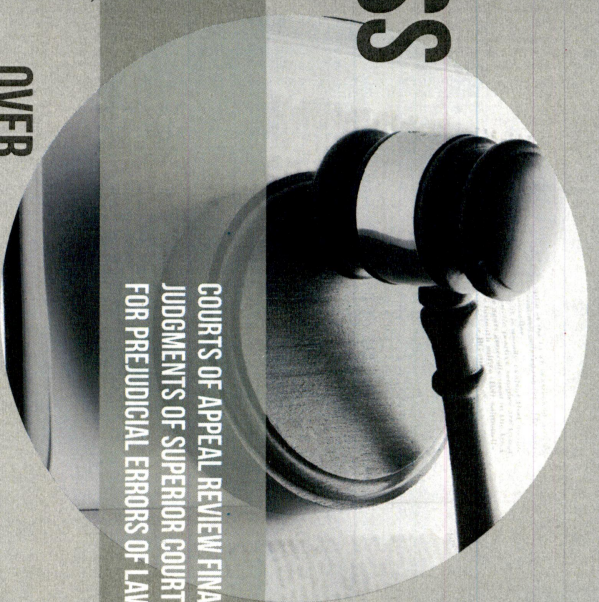
- Superior court decision is made.
- Losing party files notice of appeal with superior court.
- Losing party files designation of record.

## FILE IN COURT OF APPEAL

- Losing party files case information statement.
- Superior court record is submitted to Court of Appeal.
- Both appellant and respondent submit written briefs presenting their legal arguments.
- Case is placed on calendar and assigned to a panel of three Court of Appeal Justices.
- Panel of Justices review superior court record, written briefs, and applicable law and precedent.
- Oral argument is heard, unless waived by litigants.
- Opinion is written and filed.
- Petition for Rehearing
- Losing party may ask Court of Appeal to rehear case.

## FILE IN CALIFORNIA SUPERIOR COURT

- Petition for Review
- The losing party may file a petition for review with the California Supreme Court, which grants review in 4 to 5 percent of cases each year.

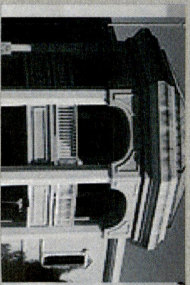


COURTS OF APPEAL REVIEW FINAL JUDGMENTS OF SUPERIOR COURTS FOR PREJUDICIAL ERRORS OF LAW.

OVER  
**5,000**  
APPELLATE OPINIONS ARE  
FILED EACH YEAR

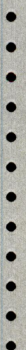


**LOS ANGELES**  
Divisions 1-5, 7 and 8 are located in Los Angeles, and handle all matters arising from the Los Angeles Superior Court.



**VENTURA**  
Division 6 is located in Ventura and handles all matters from the Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Superior Courts.

## NOTICE TO LITIGANTS



**1** In a civil case, the appellate must present both an adequate record on appeal and an adequate appellant's opening brief.

**2** An adequate Appellant's Opening Brief must present identifiable, recognizable issues and support them with understandable arguments that (a) cite the record on appeal and (b) cite pertinent legal authorities.

**3** An appellant waives or forfeits any issue not coherently presented in the Appellant's Opening Brief.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SELF-HELP RESOURCES AND THE LATEST NEWS VISIT OUR WEBSITE.

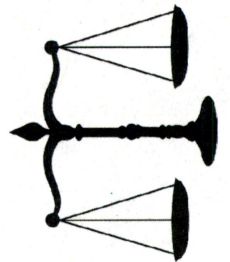


# WHAT IS AN APPEAL?



AN APPEAL IS NOT A RETRIAL.  
APPEALS ARE A SEARCH FOR HARMFUL  
LEGAL ERROR.

- What is harmful legal error?  
To begin an appeal you must find a LEGAL error made by the trial court. Arguing over FACTS won't get you anywhere. We don't hold hearings or call witnesses, so the Court of Appeal isn't set up for fact finding. We take the facts as the trial court found them.
- What about the HARMFUL part?  
You must be able to show that the error hurt your chances at trial. Some kinds of error are considered harmful regardless of the outcome--usually error that involves constitutional rights.



3,700+  
WRIT PETITIONS  
ARE DISPOSED OF YEARLY.

## CONTACT INFO

### DIVISIONS 1-5, 7 AND 8

Ronald Reagan State Building  
300 S. Spring Street  
2nd Floor, North Tower  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Phone: (213) 830-7000 - (9:00-4:30)



Connect with us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/2d.ca](http://www.facebook.com/2d.ca)

# CALIFORNIA COURT OF APPEAL 2ND APPELLATE DISTRICT

## DIVISION 6

Court Place  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
Ventura, CA 93001  
Phone: (805) 641-4700 - (9:00-4:30)

[WWW.COURTS.CA.GOV/2DCA](http://WWW.COURTS.CA.GOV/2DCA)

## GUIDE TO THE APPEALS PROCESS