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## eNEWS | JULY 2021

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ken Hastings | CALSPRO President

It's the middle of summer and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has predicted that this will be a "hotter than usual" summer. So why am I about to mention winter? Take a quick trip with me, follow along and trust me, you'll see. "If my family had a favorite holiday, it would obviously be Christmas." Now, take the words "my family" and replace it with CALSPRO. Then take the word "Christmas" and replace it with Annual Conference. Aah! Now you see where I'm going with this. CALSPRO is family and Christmas is the CALSPRO Annual Conference. I mean, just Look at all the similarities.

Both days are:

- 1) Spent remembering and honoring loved ones
- 2) Where we reflect on the past, live in the present and look forward to the future
- 3) About getting together and celebrating
- 4) When you get presents (well, at CALSPRO you receive awards and win silent auction items instead)!

But let's continue to move along in our trip. "I'm so excited, and I just can't hide it," said The Pointer Sisters back in 1982. Nu Shooz sang, "I can't wait" back in 1983. I was about eight years old then and don't remember much. However, I do remember that I was with family. Now in 2021, I'm so excited and I just can't hide it! I can't wait! I'm going to be with my CALSPRO family again!

Four years ago, we were all together in Rancho Mirage at the Omni Rancho Las Palmas. At the time, by some accounts, "It was the best conference in the past ten years." Now, here we ARE again! All together again! But this time, the world is a much different place. Most of us haven't seen each other in almost two years. COVID-19 has changed everything.

Masks are still around, and social distancing is still a thing. But hey! This is our Christmas. We can't let COVID-19 keep us down forever. Our family is going to be together again! Jenny Blevins has assured me that we will be taking the proper precautions. We will see a different conference room layout to accommodate guidelines. In other words, we will be sitting further apart. There will still be plenty of educational opportunities and speakers to learn from -- lots of things to do and people to see. So, not everything has changed.

You know, I just thought of something. One of my family's traditions is to open one present on Christmas Eve. Well, with that in mind, I'm going to give you a little present right now. Here you go! On July 12th, Governor Newsom signed the State of California's budget. Why is that a present? Because it includes \$1.2 billion in new funding for the judicial branch. What does that mean for us? First, it shows that Sacramento knows there is a need in the judicial system. Second, it shows that it acknowledges it must get people back to work in the judicial system. Third, it shows that it recognizes that the judicial system needs to get back up to speed quickly as it sees a potential flood of new cases as well as a substantial case backlog looming.

Chief Justice, Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye said,

*“Courts at all levels have made unprecedented efforts to keep our doors open for Californians amid a global health crisis, and this budget represents a much-needed investment in the judicial branch. It restores previous funding cuts....”*

In the end, these should all be good signs for us. You could say that the light can be seen at the end of the tunnel. And I hope so. For my family's sake. I'm looking forward to getting back to “normal” and back together.

Stay safe and stay healthy my friends.



Ken Hastings | CALSPro President

## Save the Date...



**Details to Come.**

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 8-10, 2021 | Rancho Mirage

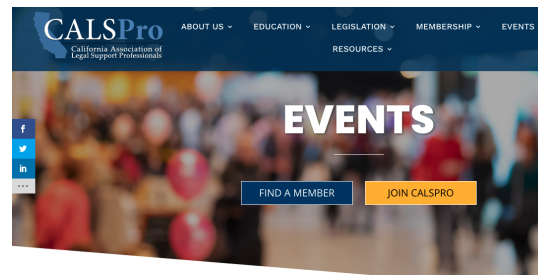
*By Jackie Janney, Conference Chair*

CALSPro Conference is coming! Have you cleared your calendar yet? If not, you need to! Be sure to save the date. The Conference this year will be held October 8-10 in Southern California.

Come join us as CALSPro celebrates in person at the beautiful Omni Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa. October is quickly approaching, and the conference committee has been busy planning a fun filled weekend for you. We will have our annual business meeting as well as some exciting, informative speakers this year. We hope you bring the whole family as the property has lots to do including a family-friendly water park, hot tub, sandy beach and lazy river. Don't forget to take advantage of our many sponsorship opportunities as well as joining us for the annual Jack C. Janney Memorial golf tournament.

If you have never attended a CALSPro conference, please make plans to do so this year. It is a great opportunity to network with fellow CALSPro members and get involved in the industry with so many likeminded businessmen and women. Make sure to register early so you can take advantage of the early bird special. The special will be available until September 1. We hope to see you there!





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## Check out our new website!

CALSPPro is proud to announce the launch of its new redesigned website! The website has been upgraded to be modern, more robust, mobile friendly, and offer members many enhanced features and new user capabilities.

Please visit the new site at: [www.calspro.org](http://www.calspro.org)

Upgrades Include:

1. Members can update their membership information and upload a photo
2. Join CALSPPro online with submission of payment
3. Sign up and pay for continuing education seminars and conferences
4. Pay membership fees and auto renewals
5. Enhanced banner ads on all website pages
6. Website is mobile responsive on smartphones and tablets
7. Website is dynamic with fast loading speeds
8. Provides upgrade for SEO search capabilities

A big THANK YOU to all involved to ensure success of this project, in particular Michael Kern, Michael Cochran and Daniel Lavados. Great teamwork! Thank you for your contributions and donations. This new membership benefit will help the association and its members in countless ways, and we are all so excited about the new CALSPPro website!

## Interested in Becoming A CCPS?

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Saturday, August 28, 2021

WEBINAR: 9am - 12pm | EXAM: 12:30pm - 2:00pm

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## The Legal Industry is Using Technology More Than Ever

As we adjust to changes spurred by the epidemic

*By Rachel Chaples | Communications Coordinator | Tristar Software*

California courts and county recorders have greatly increased electronic filings with the onset of COVID-19. This change has pushed old school attorney service companies into the modern era. For those new to eFiling, hearing that your local courthouse has mandated eFile only cases can cause a headache, but luckily, eFiling takes less than five minutes! eRecording is often quicker than that, as it is a simpler process. E-filing streamlines document processing and reduces opportunities for human error.

A big COVID-19 change that is likely to remain is our industry's increasing use of eService. Amendments to original eService rules took effect on April 17, 2020. Now any party represented by counsel MUST accept electronic service of a notice or document that could be served by mail, express mail, overnight delivery, or fax. Before serving a party by eService, the serving party must verify the correct electronic service address. This order will remain effective until 90 days after our Governor declares the COVID-19 state of emergency has lifted, or until revised or repealed by the Judicial Council.

To make workdays go smoothly in our contact reduced era, I suggest utilizing your Customer Relationship Management System (CRM is usually a part of your process serving software). Our workdays are requiring us to become more software dependent than ever. We have virtual meetings, scheduled phone calls, dozens of emails to send and online submissions to make. Despite quicker filing times, when something goes wrong with a filing it can take longer to receive a human answer. It is a good rule of thumb to set follow-up reminders and jot down important notes in CRM as they come.

An ongoing challenge caused by the pandemic is massive case backlogs from court closures. This means reaching a clerk by phone in certain counties is nearly impossible. Calling a courthouse, selecting multiple numbers only to be disconnected is frustrating to say the least. My recommendation is to first check the court website to see if there is an "Ask a Question" widget. These are becoming more and more common as telephone numbers are removed from websites. As we adapt to an industry with less in-person interaction, we may find that some questions truly do not require a phone call and time previously spent at the courthouse can be used elsewhere.

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## Important Dates:

### **Upcoming California Judicial Holidays for the Remainder of 2021:**

09/06/2021: Labor Day

10/11/2021: Columbus Day

11/11/2021: Veteran's Day

11/25/2021: Thanksgiving Day

11/26/2021: Day after Thanksgiving

12/24/2021: Christmas Day

12/31/2021: New Year's Day (2022)



**Planned eFiling Implementations (Subject to Change):**

08/09/2021: Tehama County - Permissive Civil, Family, and Probate

08/16/2021: Santa Cruz County - DCSS Expansion

09/01/2021: Riverside County - Mandatory Unlimited Civil, including Complex, Limited Civil, Unlawful Detainers and Small Claims

10/25/2021: Los Angeles County - Family Phase I

11/15/2021: Yolo County – Permissive DCSS

**Counties Currently Offering eFiling:**

Butte County, Calaveras County, Fresno County, Kern County, Kings County, Los Angeles County, Mendocino County, Merced County, Monterey County, Napa County, Orange County, Placer County, Riverside County, San Diego County, San Francisco County, San Luis Obispo County, San Mateo County, Santa Barbara County, Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, Sonoma County, Stanislaus County, Sutter County, Yolo County and Yuba County

**California Counties Available for eRecording:**

Butte County, Calaveras County, Fresno County, Kern County, Kings County, Los Angeles County, Mendocino County, Merced County, Monterey County, Napa County, Orange County, Placer County, Riverside County, San Diego County, San Francisco County, San Luis Obispo County, San Mateo County, Santa Barbara County, Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, Sonoma County, Stanislaus County, Sutter County, Yolo County and Yuba County

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[info@calspro.org](mailto:info@calspro.org)

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