



Video Chapters

This video will guide you through the Small Claims process and provide important information to help resolve your case. The instructional video includes narrations and subtitles in English, Spanish, and Russian.

Chapter One:
Introduction to the Court

Chapter Two:
The Small Claims Process

Chapter Three:
Mediation Services

Chapter Four:
The Small Claims Court Advisory Services

Chapter Five:
Services at the Sacramento Superior Court

Chapter Six:
Conclusion and Resources

The video is available at your local courthouse, or it can be viewed online at:

www.saccourt.ca.gov/small-claims/resolving-small-claims-cases.aspx

If your organization would like a copy of this video, please contact the court.

Free assistance is available to help you with your Small Claims case. The Carol Miller Justice Center has Small Claims advisory services available. Advisors can cover the information seen in the video and printed in this brochure in greater detail. They can help you with your case.

For more information contact your local Small Claims court.



On the Web at:
www.saccourt.ca.gov

Carol Miller Justice Center
Small Claims Unit Room 200
301 Bicentennial Circle
Sacramento, CA 95826

Small Claims Unit
(916) 875-7746

Small Claims Advisors:
(916) 875-7846

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www.courts.ca.gov/programs



CALIFORNIA COURTS
THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF CALIFORNIA

Resolving Your Small Claims Case in Sacramento County



A companion reference guide
for the instructional video



General Information

The information below can help you to learn more about your Small Claims Case:

You can find out about the Small Claims advisory services available in every county by asking your local court or law library, or by visiting:

<https://www.saccourt.ca.gov/small-claims/small-claims.aspx>

You can find the forms you need to fill out and file on the California Courts' website at:

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/forms.htm?filter=SC>

For more information about alternative dispute resolution programs go to www.courts.ca.gov/programs-adr.htm



Local Assistance is Available

The Sacramento Superior Court's website provides additional information and resources. To find out more, please visit:

www.saccourt.ca.gov

Your Small Claims Case

Small Claims courts deal with many types of cases involving \$10,000 (Corporations, partnerships, public entities, and other businesses are limited to \$5,000) or less. For example, you can have a Small Claims case about damage to property, security deposits, or disputes about a payment for services provided.

Out instructional DVD entitles. "Resolving Your Small Claims Case in Sacramento County" is offered in English, Spanish, and Russian. It will help you understand the Small Claims process. You will learn about:

- The basic process of a Small Claims case
- Finding the correct forms to file and how to get help filling them out
- Filing forms and paying fees
- What to expect when you go to court and what happens after your hearing
- The Small Claims advisory services available at the Sacramento Superior Court
- Other resources and organizations that can assist you in your Small Claims case
- The benefits of mediation as an alternative to going to court

Because the Small Claims process can be complicated, in addition to watching the instructional DVD, we urge you to talk to a Small Claims advisor. Contact information can be found on the court's website at www.saccourt.ca.gov.

The Benefits of Mediation

Mediation is where you and the other party meet with a trained, neutral person, called a mediator, in order to try to settle your case. Mediation can be a good alternative to a court trial because of its potential of reaching a quicker settlement, obtaining a better outcome, and is less expensive. In mediation, the mediator will not force you or the other party to reach an agreement.

Mediation involves give and take from both parties. You may not get everything you want or think you deserve in a mediated agreement however; mediation can be helpful to both you and the opposing party in settling your case. Whether you decide to resolve your dispute, and how you resolve it, is up to you. If you cannot come to an agreement, you can still go to trial and have a judge decide your case. There is nothing to lose by using mediation however there is much to gain. In mediation, everyone works together to reach an agreement. If an agreement is made, the mediator places that agreement into writing.

If you and the other party agree to mediate, both parties can go to mediation at any time throughout the Small Claims or Eviction process. You can contact the court for more information on how to set up a mediation appointment at (916)-875-7846.