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October 2025 News Alert

Dear Panel Members,

See below for some important updates!

Pending Legislation

October 12, 2025 is the last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before September 12th and in the Governor's possession on or after September 12th. (Cal. Const., art. IV, § 10, subd. (b)(1).) Bills signed within this time period will take effect on January 1, 2026. (Cal. Const., art. IV, § 8, subd. (c).)

Several bills may be helpful to watch, including:

1. Additional revision to the Racial Justice Act in [Assembly Bill No. 1071](#) and [Senate Bill No. 734](#).
2. Revision of post-conviction discovery under Penal Code section 1054.9 in [Assembly Bill No. 1036](#)
3. Reduction in permissible length of probation term for most minors in [Assembly Bill No. 1376](#),
4. Amendment to CARE court procedure in [Senate Bill No. 27](#)
5. Amendment to stalking in Penal Code section 646.9 in [Senate Bill No. 221](#)
6. Expansion of circumstances under which sexual intercourse of spouse constitutes rape within the meaning of Penal Code section 261 in [Senate Bill No. 258](#)
7. Amendment of immigration advice to be given at time of guilty plea in Penal Code section 1016.5 in [Senate Bill No. 281](#)
8. Codification of principle that purpose of criminal sentencing is to reduce recidivism, encourage normalization and dynamic security in CDCR in [Senate Bill No. 551](#)
9. Slight expansion of Penal Code section 290 registration in [Senate Bill No. 680](#)

Note that the Governor has already signed [Senate Bill No. 627](#), which provides local and federal law enforcement agencies operating in California shall not wear facial coverings. Assistant Homeland Security Secretary Tricia

McLaughlin has issued a [press release on 09/22/2025](#) stating the agency will not follow the new law.

MCLE Opportunities

FDAPs Annual Seminar

October 10th from 9:00 to 4:00 p.m. | In-Person

Location: Oakland Endowment Center

This year's seminar will have criminal and dependency break out sessions, including:

- Recent Legal Developments in Criminal, Juvenile, and Civil Commitment Law;
- Looking Back and Moving Forward: Some Nagging Issues in Criminal Law that are Ripe for Revisiting;
- Who, What, Where, When, Why & How: Practical Approaches to Investigating and Presenting Successful Habeas Petitions;
- Using Checklists to Enhance Your Dependency Practice; and
- Redefining the Win in Dependency Appeals.

Joint sessions include:

- Appellate Claims Related to Expert Testimony;
- Ethics Roundup and Brush Up; and
- A conversation with Justice Monique Langhorne Wilson and Justice Charles A. Smiley, both of the First Appellate District, Division One.

Approximately 5.50 hours of MCLE credit, including appellate and criminal specialization, will be provided.

[Register for FDAP Seminar](#)

CACJ 2025 Appellate Practice Seminar

Navigating Change: Emerging Law, Evolving Tools, and Effective Advocacy in Criminal Appeals

October 25th | Remote

Join CACJ for the 2025 Appellate Seminar—a dynamic program designed for defense attorneys navigating today’s rapidly evolving appellate terrain. This year’s lineup tackles critical changes in resentencing law, explores new strategies for 1172.6 and implied malice appeals, and addresses key procedural challenges like Batson/Wheeler under Penal Code 237.1. From legislative updates to ethical AI integration in your legal practice, and from persuasive writing to post-conviction insights, this seminar blends the foundational with the forward-thinking. Whether you’re refining your arguments or responding to seismic legal shifts, you’ll gain the tools to advocate more powerfully and effectively. CACJ looks forward to seeing you virtually in October for a series of sessions that promise to be both educational and inspiring.

Register for CACJ Seminar



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Appellate Defenders, Inc. 555 W. Beech Street Suite 300 San Diego, CA
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